



Agenda Date: 12/5/2006
Agenda Placement: 6F

NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Christine Secheli for Steven Lederer - Director
Environmental Management
REPORT BY: Christine Secheli, Environmental Health Manager, 253-4471
SUBJECT: Activity Pool Guidance Policy for Napa County

RECOMMENDATION

Director of Environmental Management requests the Board adopt the Activity Pool Guidance Policy.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Current State regulations for public swimming pools do not address interactive water fountains or activity pools. Strict interpretation and enforcement of the existing laws would preclude the construction of these types of pools in California. Napa County currently has several proposals pending for the construction of activity pools which, without this policy, cannot be approved for construction.

The California Department of Health Services has been working with the California Conference of Directors of Environmental Health (CCDEH) Community Health Committee and the Bay Area Swimming Pool Information Sharing Committee for the last several years on a revision of the public swimming pool regulations (Health and Safety Code Division 2.5, Chapter 3 and California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Chapter 20 and Title 24, Chapter 31B). Based on current information available and the status of the current regulations it will still be several months to get the proposed regulations to the Office of Administrative Law, and perhaps much longer to full adoption.

In an effort to allow activity pools in Napa County at this time, the Department of Environmental Management has prepared an Activity Pool Guidance Policy for Board approval. This policy has been formulated by using the current CCDEH Recreational Water Park Guidelines and input from industry professionals and the engineer from the Town of Yountville.

FISCAL IMPACT

Is there a Fiscal Impact? No

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The proposed action is not a project as defined by 14 California Code of Regulations 15378 (State CEQA Guidelines) and therefore CEQA is not applicable.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

An Activity Pool is a special purpose pool which features recreational water activities incorporating one or more of the following: ladders, climbable bars, ropes, chutes, bubblers, fountains or similar devices. These types of pools have become increasingly popular at water parks throughout California.

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The California Department of Health Services has been working with the California Conference of Directors of Environmental Health (CCDEH) Community Health Committee and the Bay Area Swimming Pool Information Sharing Committee for the last several years on a revision of the public swimming pool regulations (Health and Safety Code Division 2.5, Chapter 3 and California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Chapter 20 and Title 24, Chapter 31B). Based on current information available and the status of the current regulations it will still be several months to get the proposed regulations to the Office of Administrative Law, and perhaps several more months to get the Guidelines approved.

In an effort to allow activity pools in Napa County at this time, the Department of Environmental Management has prepared an Activity Pool Guidance Policy for Board approval. This policy has been formulated by using the current CCDEH Recreational Water Park Guidelines and input from industry professionals and the engineer from the Town of Yountville.

The Department of Environmental Management has developed a policy for Board approval that will allow Napa County to permit and approve these types of activity pools and at the same time continue to protect public health and safety. This policy will be effective only until such time as there are State regulations addressing such pools.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

A . Activity Pool Guidance Policy

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Andrew Carey