



Lake County
*Health Department
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Lake County Health Department

Proposed Swimming Facility Ordinance Cost Analysis

October 1, 2012

Background Information

On August 14, 2012, Governor Quinn signed amendments to the Illinois Swimming Facilities Act that will become effective on January 1, 2013. A significant part of the amendments was the establishment of a schedule of fees that the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) will assess in order to cover costs associated with conducting the program. IDPH will assess license fees for for-profit facilities on a tiered structure based on the surface area of the pool. All swimming features (e.g., slides, lazy rivers) will be charged regardless of the feature type or its size. In addition, IDPH will be charging a fee for each permit renewal inspection. For many facilities, these changes will result in significantly higher fees.

In Lake County, the IDPH currently issues operating licenses, but the Lake County Health Department (LCHD) conducts the required inspections at swimming facilities and receives no funding from IDPH for doing so. As a result of the law change, however, it is now more feasible for local health departments to adopt their own swimming facility ordinances, allowing them to conduct both a licensing and inspection program, and to establish their own schedule of fees. The LCHD has decided to pursue this option, as it will keep both the licensing and inspections of swimming facilities on a local level, and will allow us to establish a simplified fee schedule. The fees that we are proposing will directly fund the LCHD swimming facility program and are set based on the costs of running the program.

Our plan is that, beginning in 2013, LCHD will issue an operational license to all swimming facilities in Lake County which will take the place of the IDPH operational license and fees. The annual license will be effective from May 1 - April 30. In addition, all swimming facilities fees will be assessed solely on the number of features, not on a tiered fee structure based on surface area, nor will there be any additional charges for additional. These changes will result in a simpler process, accurate record keeping and a faster turnaround for receiving an operational license. Any alterations to the facilities will still require an IDPH permit.

Number of Swimming Facilities in Lake County		
<i>Type</i>	<i>Facilities</i>	<i>Features</i>
Outdoor	176	364
Indoor	90	172
Total	266	536

We will also be able to provide better service, with eight fully certified and trained inspectors to help ensure the safe operation of swimming facilities by providing a detailed, thorough inspection. Additionally, in April and May of 2013, LCHD will begin hosting annual free training sessions for swimming facility staff. These annual training sessions will review the basics of pool maintenance, allow for professional collaboration and answer any lingering suction-entrapment or Americans with Disabilities Act compliance questions.

Fee Structure

The Lake County Health Department fees were designed to offset all costs.

Lake County Fees

	Seasonal ¹ (Outdoor)	Annual ² (Indoor)
Operational License Fee	\$ 200	\$ 300
Additional Feature License Fee ³ (per feature)	\$ 50	\$ 50

¹ Seasonal Facility means any swimming facility that operates for 6 months or less during the permit year.

² Annual Facility means any swimming facility that is in operation for more than 6 months during the permit year.

³ Examples of features include: spa, lazy river, slides, etc.

Local County Comparison

County	Fee Type			
	Inspection	Additional Feature (each)	Sample Analysis	Reinspection
Cook County	\$ 150	\$ 75	\$ -	\$ 75
DuPage County	\$ 225	\$ 75	\$ -	\$ -
Will County	\$ 200	\$ 50 (+\$50 flat fee)	\$ 20	\$ -
Average	\$ 192	\$ 67		

Swimming Facility License Fee Examples

County	Pool Type			
	Outdoor		Indoor	
	Swimming Pool	Swimming Pool + Spa	Swimming Pool	Swimming Pool + Spa
Cook County	\$ 150	\$ 225	\$ 150	\$ 225
DuPage County	\$ 225	\$ 300	\$ 225	\$ 300
Will County	\$ 220	\$ 340	\$ 220	\$ 340
Lake	\$ 200	\$ 250	\$ 300	\$ 350

Comparison of IDPH Fees and Proposed LCHD Fees

For Profit Facilities

Service	IDPH Fee	LCHD Fee	
		Annual	Seasonal
License Renewal	\$ 400	\$ 300	\$ 200
Additional Feature License	\$ 150	\$ 50	\$ 50
Inspection Fee (Per Feature)	\$ 100	\$ -	\$ -

Not For Profit Facilities (excluding governmental units and schools)

Service	IDPH Fee	LCHD Fee	
		Annual	Seasonal
License Renewal	\$ -	\$ 300	\$ 200
Additional Feature License	\$ 75	\$ 50	\$ 50
Inspection Fee (Per Feature)	\$ 100	\$ -	\$ -

Not For Profit Facilities (governmental units and schools)

Service	IDPH Fee	LCHD Fee	
		Annual	Seasonal
License Renewal	\$ -	\$ 300	\$ 200
Additional Feature License	\$ -	\$ 50	\$ 50
Inspection Fee (Per Feature)	\$ 100	\$ -	\$ -

EXAMPLES: assumes 1500 sq. ft. pool; 1500 sq. ft. pool + spa or therapy pool

For Profit Facilities

Service	IDPH Fee	LCHD Fee	LCHD vs. IDPH
ANNUAL 1500 sq ft pool license & inspection	\$ 500	\$ 300	(\$200)
ANNUAL 1500 sq ft pool + spa license & inspection	\$ 750	\$ 350	(\$400)
SEASONAL 1500 sq ft pool license & inspection	\$ 500	\$ 200	(\$300)
SEASONAL 1500 sq ft pool + spa license & inspection	\$ 750	\$ 250	(\$500)

Not For Profit Facilities (excluding governmental units and schools)

Service	IDPH Fee	LCHD Fee	LCHD vs. IDPH
ANNUAL 1500 sq ft pool license & inspection	\$ 100	\$ 300	\$200
ANNUAL 1500 sq ft pool + spa license & inspection	\$ 275	\$ 350	\$75
SEASONAL 1500 sq ft pool license & inspection	\$ 100	\$ 200	\$100
SEASONAL 1500 sq ft pool + spa license & inspection	\$ 275	\$ 250	(\$25)

Not For Profit Facilities (governmental units and schools)

Service	IDPH Fee	LCHD Fee	LCHD vs. IDPH
ANNUAL 1500 sq ft pool license & inspection	\$ 100	\$ 300	\$200
ANNUAL 1500 sq ft pool + spa license & inspection	\$ 200	\$ 350	\$150
SEASONAL 1500 sq ft pool license & inspection	\$ 100	\$ 200	\$100
SEASONAL 1500 sq ft pool + spa license & inspection	\$ 200	\$ 250	\$50