



# 2021 Uniform Swimming Pool, Spa and Hot Tub Code®

## TRUSTED

*"It has been a privilege to work on the USPSHTC. Having a single code that addresses the issues regarding the construction of pools, spas and hot tubs in coordination with plumbing, solar, building and other model codes and standards provides a large benefit not just to the contractor/installer but the code officials and all entities that may be involved. The USPSHTC is a one stop document at its best."*

**Arnie Rodio**  
Pace Setter Plumbing, Corp.

*"The Uniform Swimming Pool, Spa and Hot Tub Code (USPSHTC) has been developed to help aquatic professionals charged with the important and complex tasks of designing, operating or maintaining swimming pools and spas understand how to use best practices to properly select and size equipment, operate a safe facility, and circulate, filter, and chemically treat recreational water."*

*The revised and updated Code provides guidance so operators can maintain proper water chemistry and water quality, assure the absence of pathogenic organisms, and prevent disease transmission and the spread of recreational water illness to pool users."*

**Alison Osinski, Ph.D.**  
Aquatic Consulting Services

Since it was founded in 1926, The International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials (IAPMO) has provided jurisdictions everywhere with a plumbing code that helps protect the health and safety of each and every citizen. That code is now the basis for plumbing codes around the globe that offer protection to populations worldwide. In 1966, a group of code administrators, inspectors, mechanical engineers, swimming pool contractors and equipment suppliers recognized the need for requirements for the installation and maintenance of swimming pools. IAPMO joined the efforts of this group and together they worked to publish the Uniform Swimming Pool Code in 1967.

## GLOBAL

World Headquarters – Ontario, California – USA

- Abu Dhabi
- Argentina
- Australia
- Canada
- China
- Germany
- India
- Indonesia
- Mexico
- USA



[www.iapmo.org](http://www.iapmo.org) | 909.472.4100

AN AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARD  
IAPMO/ANSI USPSHTC 1 – 2021



## AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARD

The *Uniform Swimming Pool, Spa, and Hot Tub Code*®

(USPSHTC) is an American

National Standard that

enhances the safety and sanitation of swimming pool, spa, and hot tub systems.

The USPSHTC governs the installation and inspection

of swimming pool, spa, and hot tub systems as a means of promoting the public's health, safety and welfare.

The USPSHTC is developed using IAPMO's American National Standard Institute

(ANSI) accredited consensus-development procedures. This process, which ensures due

process, openness and balance, brings together volunteers representing a variety of viewpoints

and interests to achieve true consensus on

swimming pool, spa, and hot tub practices — each with a voice and a vote.



## PROVISIONS

Our mission is to provide

guidance on how local

and state officials can make

their health department,

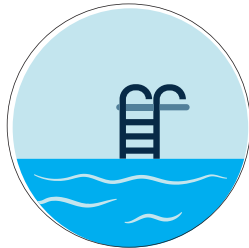
pool or aquatic program

more data-driven and

knowledge-based, while

reducing the risk to

waterborne diseases and injuries and promoting healthy aquatic and recreational water experiences.



The USPSHTC establishes minimum regulations for public and private swimming pools, spas, hot tubs, natatoriums, aquatic facilities, recreational water parks, water slides, wave pools and interactive water play venues.

Key provisions of the 2021 USPSHTC and changes from the 2018 edition include:

- Additional requirements for flood resistant design and construction for flood hazard areas
- New design and installation requirements for both manual and electrically powered pool lifts for accessibility
- New requirements for slip-resistant walkway surfaces, including a new appendix for sample calculations (Appendix C)
- New design and installation requirements for islands (including island markers), lazy rivers and bridges
- New design requirements for vanishing edge pools, including methods for determining catch basin volume and minimum operating level
- New requirements for decks and drain covers
- New and updated ventilation requirements for indoor aquatic facilities, including design parameters for humidity, exhaust air, supply air and return air
- New requirements for turnover times and maximum bather load per day
- Modifications to installation and design requirements for ladders, steps and stairs
- New design and installation requirements for handrails
- Updates to signage requirements at entrances to swimming pools and at specific locations
- New requirements for entrapment prevention and suction outlets.
- New requirements for interactive aquatic play equipment
- New Appendix A – Method for Determining Latent Evaporation Loads of Natatoriums
- New Appendix B – Standard Water Temperatures for Indoor Aquatic Facilities

## CREDIBILITY

In 2009, the American National Standards Institute (ANSI)

formally designated

the *Uniform Swimming Pool, Spa and Hot Tub Code*®

as an American National

Standard. It joins the

*Uniform Plumbing Code*® (UPC),

*Uniform Mechanical Code*® (UMC)

and the *Uniform Solar Energy Code*® (now known as the *Uniform Solar, Hydronics and Geothermal Code*™ (USHGC) as the only codes of their kind

to earn this prestigious designation.



## CORRELATES

With all other Uniform Codes and other industry standard provisions for:

- Waterborne illness prevention
- Proper disinfection
- Chemical analysis
- Turnover rates
- Entry/Exit and barrier requirements

