AQUATIC FACILITY RULES

1. No Outside food or drink may be brought into the facility (water is the exception). All containers/coolers should be checked by the cashiers upon entry.

2. Any food purchased must remain in the concession area. However, drinks may be taken on the pool deck.

3. Only non-inflatable flotation devices that are securely attached to the swimmer may be worn. As a courtesy to our guests, communicate to fellow staff members (when rotating) if a guest’s flotation device has already been approved.

4. Water wings, inner tubes, or suits with built in inflatable devices are not allowed. These items are not permitted because they can slip off or turn the person to a face down position where they may be unable to right themselves! Swimsuits with built in flotation will only be permitted if the flotation material in the suit is not subject to deflation or bursting.

5. If a guest is using a flotation device that is not approved, offer them a lifejacket from the first aid office. Staff should only give the lifejacket to an adult that agrees to supervise that swimmer, to ensure the swimmer doesn’t wear the lifejacket down the slide, off the diving board, or any area where the swimmer would be in distress.

6. No one may enter the pool while under the influence of drugs or alcohol. If you are unsure, have a manager speak with the patron to evaluate the situation.

7. No glass objects are allowed in the facility. Any glass containers should be thrown out or left at the cashier’s station to be picked up on the way out.

8. Smoking is prohibited within the facility. Guests that do need to smoke may do so by obtaining a wristband from the cashier, and exiting the facility. The wristband will allow them to re-enter without paying a fee.

9. Everyone must wear a swimsuit. T-shirts, cutoffs, underwear (under shorts), or jean shorts are not permitted in the pool. Leotards and Umbro shorts may be worn as a swimsuit (since they are made of similar material) as long as they do not appear dirty. Boxers or underwear MAY NOT be worn under any shorts. Guests wearing underwear can be told that the Illinois Department of Health considers underwear street clothing and therefore it is prohibited in the pool.

10. If a guest tells you they are wearing a T-shirt because they are sunburned, offer them sunscreen that is available in the first aid office. Someone with sunburn should not be in the pool anyway since the water magnifies the sun’s effect. A regular T-shirt only provides an SPF of 8. Babies under the age of one are the exception since doctors do not suggest children that age wear sunscreen.

11. Diving is only permitted in water that is more than 5 feet deep (the diving board area).

12. Horseplay, such as dunking, shoulder rides, or running on the deck is prohibited.

13. Hanging on ropes is not permitted.

14. Patrons must walk at all times.

15. Small water toys such as sponge balls, small boats, etc will be allowed in the pool as long as they are being used in an appropriate manner. Toys that become a nuisance to other guests must be put away or they will be confiscated.

16. Lounge chairs must be placed only within the designated areas (in front of the planters at FFAC). Guests may bring their own chairs as long as they are kept in the designated areas. Lounge chairs must be kept a minimum of 4' from the waters edge (per Illinois Department of Health). This is especially important around the zero depth pool at Anderson. Lifeguard and emergency personnel MUST have a clear walk way around the pool.

17. Only staff will be permitted on or around the guard chairs. Guards should avoid having their friends talk to them while they are in the chair. Ellis and Associates considers this “unprofessional behavior” because it can detract from your 10/20 protection scanning.

18. Diving masks and snorkels ARE permitted, however fins are not. Inexpensive fins tend to be made of hard plastic that injures people when they get kicked with them.

19. Horseplay on the ladder is prohibited. Ladders are to be used for entry and exit purposes only.

20. Aqua socks may be worn on the pool deck, on the diving boards, and in the pool but not down the slides because they tend to catch on the flume and could cause injury.
DIVING BOARD RULES
1. Only one person on the board at a time.
2. Divers are asked to go straight off the diving board and swim to the closest wall. At FFAC guests are asked to exit to the right and at Anderson, guests are asked to exit on the opposite side of the diving board, not to the left of the board.
3. Handstands, cartwheels, sitting or hanging on the diving board is not permitted.
4. NO ONE may catch children off the diving boards.
5. Only one bounce before going off the diving board.
6. Divers may not go off the diving board until the previous diver reaches the wall.
7. Swimming in the diving area is not permitted while the diving boards are open.
8. The diving boards may be closed during periods of low attendance or in the evenings to allow patrons to swim in the diving well.
9. Guests are NOT allowed to wear lifejackets off the diving board. We allow children to do this at swim lessons as a part of the learning experience. However, at swim lessons, trained instructors are in the water to help the swimmers to the side. This one on one attention cannot possibly be given during public swim hours.
10. The weight limit on the diving board is 250 lbs.

WATERSLIDE RULES
Because failure to follow the slide rules can lead to severe injury, guests will receive only one warning to follow the rules. The second offense will result in losing their sliding privileges for the day or depending upon severity of the infraction, being removed from the facility for the remainder of the day.

1. No head first sliding or entry into the splash down pool at any time. The only acceptable method for riding the slide is feet first the whole way down.
2. For their own safety, patrons may not spin, twist, slide on their knees, or ride down the slide in doubles or chains. Guests should be warned the first time and have their sliding privileges revoked if there is a second occurrence.
3. Goggles, lifejackets, aquasocks, excessive jewelry, and jean shorts may not be worn down the slide. These items scratch or get caught on the slide and cause injuries to guests.
4. Prescription glasses and sunglasses may not be worn down the slide. They may be worn to climb the slide stairs but must be held in the guest’s hand on the way down the slide. Guards must tell guests this! Glasses worn on the face can cause facial injury or come off upon entry into the slide pool and become broken or lost. Guards should watch for guests wearing sunglasses. Sunglasses should be left at the bottom of the slide. The only exception that has been made was an albino patron whose doctor required them to wear sunglasses at all times.
5. If a guest loses an item in the slide pool after sliding, the following procedures should be followed: Whistle to the top of the slide guard and give the “stop dispatch signal.” Once all guests on that slide have splashed down into the slide pool, the guest may enter the water to look for their lost item. Guests should be cautioned not to cross over into the other sliders discharge area. Once the item has been found, and the guest is out of the area, the top of the slide guard should be notified to resume dispatch.
6. Patrons must walk at all times.
7. Patrons must exit the splash down pool immediately after sliding.
8. Patrons must be at least 3 feet tall and able to swim to the side of the pool alone to use the slides (the stairway handrail is 3 feet tall). Parents are NOT allowed to ride down the slide holding their children.
AQUATIC FACILITY RULES

WATERSLIDE RULES CONT.
9. Parents are NOT allowed to catch their children at the bottom of the water slides.
10. No gum or candy is permitted while sliding or swimming.
11. Patrons may NOT intentionally stop when sliding (watch tunnel area for this).
12. Occasionally adults with children may get stopped on the slide, though no fault of their own. If this happens, suggest to the guest that they try lying down with their back arched and the rear end of their suit off the slide. By sliding on their shoulder blades and heels, they may eliminate some drag. Other guests may choose just to use their hands to scoot themselves forward on the slide.
13. Guests should be asked to exit at the stairs, not the side of the pool (to avoid accidental slips).
14. All guests going on the drop slides must be instructed how to ride down by the guard at the top of the slide. Guests should ride with their feet crossed at the ankle and their arms crossed at the chest.
15. When the line on the body flume at FFAC extends to the flat area of the stairs, the line should be held at the bottom of the slide to avoid having too many people on the stairs.
16. Guests on the FFAC slides should be dispatched in the following manner.
   Yellow slide - the next guest may enter the flume when the person in front of them has entered the catch pool.
   Red slide - the next guest may enter the flume when the person in front of them has reached the stairs.
   Blue slide – the next guest may enter the flume with the person in front of them has entered the catch pool.
17. Guests on the drop slide (pink) at FFAC should be dispatched in the following manner. Covered slide then the uncovered slide. This dispatch method prevents someone from crossing under a slide with someone coming down on top of him or her.
18. Guests on both drop slides should exit the pool to the left of the drop slide or straight in front of the slide. This prevents guests from crossing into the diving board area.

Common hazards around the waterslide include but are not limited to:

- Stairs that can become slippery making it very easy for guests to fall.

- Turbulent water in the slide pool, which can make it difficult to see the bottom. Watch for each guest to enter and come out of the water.

- Guests trying to stop on the slide to wait for the next person. STOP THIS IMMEDIATELY!! Stopping is most common in the tunnels.

- Younger guests like to try and see how far up on the sides they can get. If the guest’s upper body is swinging up over the edge of the slide, they should be asked to slide more conservatively or risk losing their slide privileges for the day. Excessive swinging up on the side puts the guest at risk of injury or even exiting the flume.

- Guests hanging over the stair railing. The guard at the top of the slide tower should not sit on the stair rail or allow guests to do the same.

- Guests swinging on the railing to get a faster start down the slide should not be permitted. Injuries can occur very easily if this behavior is permitted. On the drop slides (pink & red), guests may not even come in contact with the slide, if they swing from the start bar.
SEVERE WEATHER PROCEDURES

Throughout the summer electrical storms, severe thunderstorms, tornado watches, and tornado warnings will occur. Whenever threatening weather enters McLean County, managers will watch the weather radar via the computer for updates. The procedures below should be followed for the listed weather conditions.

Unfortunately, the weather is something we do not have control over. If the pool closes early due to inclement weather, guests WILL NOT be given a refund for their paid admissions. If inclement weather appears to be approaching, all guests paying to enter the pool will need to be informed, by the cashier, of our inclement weather policy of no refunds. Guests that choose to pay and enter anyway will be doing so at their own risk.

Staff will be expected to come to work even if they do not think the pool will open. Often there is indoor cleaning to do. Sometimes, managers will require staff to stay at the pool until the Aquatic Supervisor closes the pool for the day. Because weather can change very quickly, the aquatic facilities usually try to "wait the storm out" before closing for the day. **VERY RARELY will the pool close for the day. The determination whether to keep the pool open or close for the day will not be made before 12:00 on most occasions.**

ELECTRICAL STORM AND SEVERE THUNDERSTORMS

- Whenever lightning is sighted or any staff member hears thunder, the site supervisor should be notified so the pool can be cleared of guests for a period of 15 minutes. All non-staff members should move to sheltered areas inside the locker rooms. Guests should be encouraged to move out from under the large umbrellas at FFAC or large shade structures at AAC. Although the structures are grounded, they still could be a target for lightning.

- Any park guests seeking shelter should be allowed into the pool lobby until the weather passes.

- Guests may re-enter the pool when it has been 15 minutes since the last thunder or sighting of lightning.

- If a storm shows no signs of clearing, the pools may be closed for the day by the Aquatic Supervisor.

- If a storm is very severe, guests should be encouraged to stay at the pool until a ride arrives or the weather subsides. During periods of severe inclement weather, children should not be allowed to leave the facility without an adult.

TORNADO WATCH AND WARNING

- A tornado watch only indicates that weather conditions are right for a tornado. At the time of a watch, weather conditions may not appear serious. The pool radio should tune to AM 1230 and the manager and/or cashiers should check the weather radar station every 10-15 minutes for approaching severe weather.

- During a tornado watch, pools will remain open. During a watch, thunderstorms may force the clearing of the pool. If this happens, guests should be encouraged to leave only if they have a ride. Those that want to walk home should be encouraged to stay or call for a ride.

- If a tornado warning is announced, the City Civil Defense sirens should sound. During a warning all guests and staff members should move to the locker rooms at Anderson pool and in the locker room and hallways at FFAC). Everyone should stay close to interior walls and away from any windows.