



Inclement Weather Policies

Our goal is to make sure every community member and guest has a safe and rewarding aquatic experience.

Inclement Weather General Information:

The City of Boulder utilizes Skyscan lightning detectors, national weather alerts, and Doppler satellite imaging to make determinations regarding operations in inclement weather. Closures can occur at any time and decisions will be made in the interest of swimmer and staff safety. Pools will be cleared of all swimmers and staff when dangerous weather conditions are present.

Thunder and/or Lightning:

When thunder or lightning is first detected by a supervisor, all pool activities will be suspended. The pool must remain cleared for **30 minutes** after the last sign of thunder or lightning.

Patrons must remain at least 50 ft. away from the edge of the pool. The distance from a facility to an approaching thunderstorm can be three to eight miles away, but lightning can strike from a much farther distance.

The entire pool area will be cleared and patrons will not be allowed near water pipes (showers), gas lines, electric wiring and telephone wiring. Swimming pools are connected to a much larger surface area via underground. Lightning strikes on the ground anywhere on this metallic network may include shocks elsewhere.

If the weather conditions continue to decline, the aquatic facility may be evacuated and daily operations will be canceled.

Rain and Wind:

Heavy rain can make it difficult to see the bottom of a pool or beneath the surface. If heavy rain causes bottom obstruction, pools will be cleared and closed until the rain alleviates.

Wind can also cause safety hazards. If wind is observably strong or gusty and causes bottom obstruction due to water rippling, pools will be cleared and closed until conditions allow.

Air Temperature:

Outdoor pools will close for low air temperature at the discretion of the aquatics supervisor.

Pool Temperature:

All City of Boulder pools will close if the water temperature drops below the state code limit of 77°.

Rain Checks:

We will issue rain checks (valid for another visit within 90 days) if the pool closes due to weather for more than two hours, and it's before 5 p.m. Rain checks will not be issued after 5 p.m.

When outdoor facilities close due to inclement weather, we will offer re-entry slips (valid same day only) to our visitors to take advantage of one of our indoor aquatic facilities