

Reference No.: NEA-SCD-OM-CIR-ENVHYG-001

Date: 11 August 2021

Dear Sir/Madam

AQUATIC FACILITIES (AF)

All premises with water playgrounds (including interactive water fountains) and multi-use spa pools will require an AF licence to operate in addition to the currently licensed swimming pools, under the Environmental Public Health (Licensable Aquatic Facilities) Regulations.

2 Owners/occupiers with water playgrounds (including interactive water fountains) and multi-use spa pools are required to apply and obtain the licence **between the period from 6 September 2021 to 1 March 2022**.

3 Upon obtaining the licence, the licensee will be required to submit water quality test results to NEA at the frequency stipulated in the Regulations. The list of the water quality parameters to be tested and submitted can be found in the list of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) in **Annex A**.

4 The licence application and the submission of water quality test results for the licensed AF are to be submitted online via GoBusiness (<https://licence1.business.gov.sg/web/frontier/home>).

5 A step-by-step user guide for the licence application and the submission of water quality test results is available in GoBusiness (<https://licence1.business.gov.sg/web/frontier/home>).

6 For more information, you can refer to the list of FAQs in **Annex A**.

7 Should you require further clarification for AF licensing matters, please email to nea_af_licences@nea.gov.sg. For other AF matters, please let us know through the feedback form available on the NEA website at <https://www.nea.gov.sg/feedback>, myENV (<https://www.nea.gov.sg/myenv>) or OneService mobile applications.

8 Thank you.

VANESSA LEE
ASSISTANT MANAGER
for DIRECTOR
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NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT AGENCY

THIS IS A COMPUTER-GENERATED LETTER. NO SIGNATURE IS REQUIRED.

Annex A: FAQ for Aquatic Facilities (AF)

General

1. What are the new types of Aquatic Facilities (AF) to be licensed?

Presently, swimming pools are already licensed. Water playgrounds (including interactive water fountains) and multi-use spa pools are the new type of AF to be licensed.

2. How much will the licence cost?

The licence fee will be \$200 annually per AF system. One or more AF sharing the same recirculated water via a common filtration system, constitute one AF system.

3. What is the validity period of the licence?

The validity period of the licence is one year and renewed annually upon payment of licence fee.

4. What supporting documents do I need to submit?

Please refer to the list of licensing requirements at <https://www.nea.gov-sg-admin.cwp.sg/docs/default-source/our-services/pollution-control/water-quality/licensing-requirements-for-af.pdf> for the required supporting documents.

5. How soon will my licence application be processed?

An email notification will be sent within 5 working days of receipt of the application. If the application is incomplete, you will be informed to furnish the pending documents/information.

6. What is an Aerosol-generating (AG) feature?

Aerosol-generating (AG) feature is a fitting/fixture located within the aquatic facility that sprays out water.

7. If my existing swimming pool has aerosol-generating (AG) features, what do I need to do?

If your existing swimming pool has aerosol-generating (AG) features, before your existing licence expires, you are required to update in GoBusiness by filing for an "Amend" application to update the "Type of Aquatic Facility" you have.

8. How many licence is required for 2 aquatic facilities sharing 1 balancing tank but having 2 filtration systems?

An aquatic facility served by 1 filtration system requires only 1 licence. Two aquatic facilities having 2 different filtration systems will require 2 licences. The number of required licences is independent of the balancing tank which is used to balance the water level in aquatic facility.

9. How many licences are required for 1 aquatic facility that has 2 filtration systems?

As the 2 filtration systems are serving the same aquatic facility, the aquatic facility requires only 1 licence.

10. Do I need to get a licence for a home spa pool (e.g. Jacuzzi, hydrotherapy pools, hot tubs), swimming pool or water playground?

A licence is not required for AF in a residential house.

11. Do I need to get a licence for spa pool which is drained off at least once a day?

A licence is not required for spa pool that is drained off, cleaned and filled at least once a day

12. Who is responsible to ensure that the AF is licensed and water quality results are submitted on time?

Owners/occupiers of the premises where the AF is installed, are responsible to apply a licence and submitting the water quality results, even if they are outsourced to a contractor.

13. Can I request to print hard copy of licence? Any charge incurred?

In line with the move by the public service sector towards digitalisation, NEA is only issuing the licence by electronic means, i.e. PDF format. You are advised to ensure that your email contact details are updated in GoBusiness.

14. Do I need to display my licence?

There is no requirement to display your licence. However, please ensure that the licence is readily available for our officers' inspection upon request.

15. What are the penalties for the owner/occupier for failing to obtain a licence prior to the use or operation of the AF?

The owner/occupier may be subjected to a fine not exceeding \$5,000 for a first offence, and for a second or subsequent offence, to a fine not exceeding \$10,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 months or to both, under the Environmental Public Health Act (EPHA).

16. What additional measures are owners required to implement for fountain which resembles Interactive Water Fountain (IWF) but intended for decorative purposes?

For fountain which resembles Interactive Water Fountain (IWF) but intended for decorative purposes, barriers or barricades should be installed around the fountain, together with signages to prevent any public access.

Application of AF Licences

17. Whose CorpPass account should be used to apply for licences?

The CorpPass accounts of owners/occupiers are to be used to apply for licences.

18. What are the requirements for applying a licence?

These information will be given online when you apply for the licence in GoBusiness. Please ensure that the right 'Type of AF' is selected when completing your application in GoBusiness. More information is available within the GoBusiness website on which "Type of AF" to choose for your application.

Please refer to the list of licensing requirements at <https://www-nea.gov-sg-admin.cwp.sg/docs/default-source/our-services/pollution-control/water-quality/licensing-requirements-for-af.pdf>.

For further enquiries, please email us at nea_af_licences@nea.gov.sg.

19. What happen if an AF owner is not be able to find schematic diagram for very old spa pools, which is part of AF licensing requirements?

If the schematic diagram for very old spa pools cannot be found, applicants may draw a diagram and substantiate with photos.

Submission of Water Quality Test Results for AF

20. What are the water quality parameters required for the various types of AF?

Please see the tables below for the water quality parameters required to be tested at the stipulated frequency for respective type of AF. For all AF, the licensee also shall carry out tests on the pH value and the residual disinfectant of AF water at least once a day.

Swimming Pool without Aerosol Generating (AG) features

Monthly	Turbidity (NTU) pH – if Chlorine is used pH – if Bromine is used (indoor only) Free Residual Chlorine – if Chlorine is used (ppm) Total Bromine (indoor only) – if Bromine is used (ppm) Heterotrophic Plate Count (cfu/ml) <i>Escherichia coli</i> Count (cfu/100 ml)	≤ 0.5 7.2-7.8 7.2-8.0 1-3 2-4 ≤ 200 < 1
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Swimming Pool with AG features

Monthly	Turbidity (NTU) pH – if Chlorine is used pH – if Bromine is used (indoor only) Free Residual Chlorine – if Chlorine is used (ppm) Total Bromine (indoor only) – if Bromine is used (ppm) Heterotrophic Plate Count (cfu/ml) <i>Escherichia coli</i> Count (cfu/100 ml)	≤ 0.5 7.2-7.8 7.2-8.0 1-3 2-4 ≤ 200 < 1
Quarterly	<i>Legionella</i> Bacteria Count (cfu/100 ml)	< 1

Spa Pool

Monthly	pH – if Chlorine is used pH – if Bromine is used (indoor only) Free Residual Chlorine – if Chlorine is used (ppm) Total Bromine (indoor only) – if Bromine is used (ppm) Heterotrophic Plate Count (cfu/ml) <i>Escherichia coli</i> Count (cfu/100 ml)	7.2-7.8 7.2-8.0 3-5 4-6 ≤ 200 < 1
Quarterly	<i>Legionella</i> Bacteria Count (cfu/100 ml) <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> Count (cfu/100 ml)	< 1 < 10

Water Playground/Interactive Water Fountain

Monthly	Turbidity (NTU) pH – if Chlorine is used pH – if Bromine is used (indoor only) Free Residual Chlorine – if Chlorine is used (ppm) Total Bromine (indoor only) – if Bromine is used (ppm) Heterotrophic Plate Count (cfu/ml) <i>Escherichia coli</i> Count (cfu/100 ml)	≤ 0.5 7.2-7.8 7.2-8.0 1-3 2-4 ≤ 200 < 1
Quarterly	<i>Legionella</i> Bacteria Count (cfu/100 ml) <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> Count (cfu/100 ml)	< 1 < 10

21. Whose CorpPass account should be used to submit the water quality test results for AF?

The CorpPass accounts of either owners/occupiers or SAC accredited laboratories engaged by the owners/occupiers, are to be used for test result submissions. The list of SAC accredited laboratories can be found at <https://www.sac-accreditations.gov.sg/Pages/Homepage.aspx>.

22. Will there be a fee for the submission of water quality test results for AF?

There is no fee for the submission of water quality test results for AF through GoBusiness.

23. Who is responsible for ensuring that water quality results are submitted on time?

AF licensees are responsible for submitting the water quality test results even if they are outsourced to a SAC-accredited laboratory. The CorpPass accounts of either licensees or SAC-accredited laboratory engaged by the licensees, are to be used for test result submissions.

24. When is the deadline to submit water quality test results?

The aquatic facility lab results, for samples collected and tested in a particular month shall be submitted no later than 14th of the subsequent month.

25. If my aquatic facility is closed for repairs/renovation, what do I need to do?

You can inform NEA at nea_af_licences@nea.gov.sg when your AF is closed for repairs/renovation. Please provide the licence number and supporting document(s) pertaining to the maintenance work, e.g. work schedule, receipts, or invoices, etc.

26. Do I need to display my aquatic facility's lab results?

Please ensure that the water quality lab results for your aquatic facility is displayed at all times within the licensed premises.

27. What happen if failed water quality test results are submitted?

If the AF does not comply with the requirement limits for water quality, the licensees may take the following steps:

- a. Disinfect AF as soon as practicable within 3 days after date of failed test result report;
- b. Do another round of water quality sampling within 24 hours after disinfection and ensure that the water quality complies with the regulated limits; and
- c. Submit the test results to NEA via GoBusiness within 7 days after completion of test (date of test results).

28. Will NEA take enforcement actions for late submission of water quality test results?

NEA will take enforcement actions for results submitted after 14th of the following month.

29. If there is only 1 failed parameter in water quality test result in an aquatic facility, does licensee need to re-test both required routine parameters or re-test the failed parameter only?

If one or more water quality test parameters were found not to comply with regulatory limits, licensee should thoroughly clean and disinfect the aquatic facility and re-test all the required routine test parameters as the water quality may not be the same as of the last test.

30. Can laboratory test result submission reminders be sent to the laboratory engaged by the licensee as well?

Laboratory test result submission reminders are sent to licensees as they are responsible to ensure that their engaged laboratories submit the lab test results to NEA at the stipulated frequency.