

# Fee Policy

## Water Recreation Facility Construction Permit



### Fee Regulations

- The owner of a water recreation facility, which includes swimming pools, spas, wading pools, spray features, water parks, and water features, must obtain a construction permit prior to constructing or modifying a facility.
- Prior to issuing a construction permit, the Washington State Department of Health must review and approve the plans and specifications to ensure the facility is designed in accordance with applicable codes, requirements, and good engineering practices.
- Fees, as outlined in WAC 246-260-9901 and WAC 246-262-990 are charged for plan review related services. Prepayment is required through base fees which vary depending on the type of water recreation facility. These base fees provide for a specific number of hours of service. Additional hourly fees are billed if the plan review takes longer than the hours provided in the base fee.
- The initial base fee must be submitted to the Department of Health Office of Financial Services before Water Recreation Program staff can begin plan review. Additional fees, if any, will be billed regardless of whether the plans are approved or not. The construction permit cannot be issued until after full payment is received.

### Billable Review Time Services

The Department of Health provides technical information and assistance about water recreation facilities, water parks and water features without fee if the inquiry is of a general nature. When an inquiry shifts from general to project-specific, fees apply. Your project may generate billable services if you make calls before a base fee has been paid and before plans and specifications are submitted.

Billable review time services include:

- Project-related meetings and phone calls.
- Review of plans and specifications.
- Site visits or meetings.
- Travel to and from sites or meetings.
- Preparing response letters.
- Evaluating a variance request as part of the project.
- Review of innovative design elements.
- Research of features, products or materials.
- Review of changes in plans or specifications.
- Administrative file set-up, data entry, and billing.

### Base Fees for WAC 246-260

*Chapter 246-260 Water Recreation Facilities  
WAC 246-260-9901 Fees*

Type Of Facility	Construction Plan Review Fees (Effective 9/2/06)
I. Swimming Pools 100,000 gallons or more in volume	\$ 800 plus \$ 99 per hour for all hours of review time more than 8 hours
II. Swimming Pools less than 100,000 gallons in volume, Spa Pools, and Recirculating Spray Pools	\$ 400 plus \$ 99 per hour for all hours of review time more than 4 hours
III. Wading Pools and Non-Recirculating Spray Pools	\$ 200 plus \$ 99 per hour for all hours of review time more than 2 hours
IV. Alterations, renovations, or modifications to existing Swimming, Spa, Wading or Spray Pools	\$ 100 plus \$ 99 per hour for all hours of review time more than 1 hour

## Base Fees for WAC 246-262

Chapter 246-262 Recreational Water Contact Facilities (Water Parks and Water Features)  
WAC 246-262-990 Fees

Type Of Facility	Construction Plan Review Fees (Effective 9/2/06)
I. New recreational water contact facility	\$ 400 plus \$ 99 per hour for all hours of review time more than 4 hours
II. Alterations, renovations, or modifications to existing recreational water contact facility	\$ 99 per hour for all hours of review time

### Base Fee Examples

**Example 1:** A 40,000 gallon swimming pool and a spa pool are planned at a new motel. Two initial fees apply: \$400 for the swimming pool and \$400 for the spa pool. The total base fee of \$800 provides for up to 8 hours of review on the two pools. If the review takes longer than 8 hours, additional time is billed at \$99 per hour. The full base fee must be paid at the time of plan submittal.

**Example 2:** A 120,000 gallon swimming pool and a 20,000 gallon landing pool with 2 water slides (one body slide and one inner-tube slide) are proposed. Three base fees apply: \$800 for the large swimming pool, \$400 for the body slide, and \$400 for the inner-tube slide. In this case the 20,000 gallon landing pool is considered part of the two water slide features. The total base fee of \$1600 provides for up to 16 hours of review on the three components of this project. If the review time exceeds 16 hours, it will be billed at \$99 per hour. The full base fee must be paid at the time of plan submittal.

**Example 3:** A 140,000 gallon swimming pool is scheduled for renovation. The project includes resurfacing and modifying the floor slope, recirculation system, treatment system, lighting, and ventilation. A base fee of \$100 applies to this project. Review time for alterations, renovations, or modifications of an existing facility typically exceeds 1 hour. Additional review time will be billed at \$99 per hour. The base fee must be paid at the time of plan submittal.

### More Information

Washington State Department of Health Water Recreation Program  
[www.doh.wa.gov/WaterSafetyContact](http://www.doh.wa.gov/WaterSafetyContact)