



New Aquatic Risk Management Handbook from NSPF

Designed to guide pool and spa managers and operators
through the process of risk management

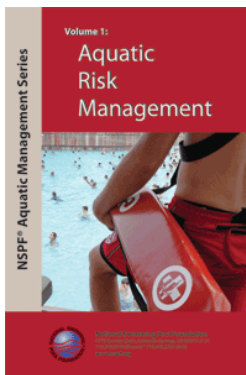
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The newly published Aquatic Risk Management handbook (ARM) from the National Swimming Pool Foundation® (NSPF®) is written as a guide to help pool and spa managers and operators through the process of reducing injury and liability risk in and around facilities. The ARM module is Volume I in the new Aquatic Management Series™ from NSPF.

“Some managers and operators do not understand risk management and think it is simply about safety, or that it has something to do with insurance,” states Alex Antoniou, Ph.D., NSPF Director of Educational Programs. “In fact”, he explains, “the job of a pool operator and aquatic manager centers around risk management. Their job IS risk management. We wrote the ARM module, understanding this need. It provides the tools that will help our industry professionals more effectively do their job.”

The Aquatic Risk Management handbook defines risk management as the procedures or systems used to minimize accidental losses, whether they are personal losses or property losses. Losses can include theft, fire, flood, legal liability, injury and disability – including drowning, entrapment, chemical exposure, and diving accidents. Risk management is a vital practice for aquatic facilities where common types of losses can destroy in a few moments, what has taken years to build.

This new stand-alone training module will teach readers how to identify, analyze, and take steps to reduce or eliminate exposures to loss faced by an organization or individual. For example, the ARM module states that in 2007, there were 155,322 reported injuries associated with swimming pools and pool equipment. “These are sobering statistics,” says Thomas M. Lachocki, Ph.D., CEO of NSPF. “Professionals reduce these kinds of exposures by learning and following the principles taught in the ARM book.”

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The four-color, 33-page handbook is illustrated with photos throughout. It begins with discussion of the Aquatic Risk Management process and then the following topics:

- The Law and the Aquatic Professional – In any legal case involving personal injury, several factors are considered to determine whether a case has merit and whether damages are awarded. These factors are explained: Negligence Law; Standard of Care; Duty of Care, Breach of Duty; Proximate Cause.
- Case Studies – Five case studies are presented to illustrate how judgments are reached in a variety of incidences: Diving injury, motel pool drowning, chemical exposure, motel diving injury, waterpark slide injury.
- Aquatic Risk Management - Best practices are discussed, including maintaining a high quality of work; staff hiring and training; maintaining equipment and record keeping. This section also includes a suggested daily operator record checklist and an opening and closing checklist.
- Implementing a Risk Management Plan – Factors in identifying risks, how to evaluate and manage the risk, including recommendations on informational signage. Costs, liability issues and legal mandates (codes and regulations) are also covered.
- Emergency Response Plans –This includes an explanation of staff member roles and responsibilities for the Emergency Response Team (ERP) and examples of incidents that would require an ERP.

Orders for the Aquatic Risk Management module and other NSPF educational products may be placed on the secure website, www.nspf.org or by calling 719-540-9119. The cost of each handbook is \$19.95 plus shipping.

The growing collection of educational materials available worldwide from the Foundation includes the Certified Pool/Spa Operator[®] (CPO[®]) certification training (English, Spanish, and French), Pool Operator Primer[™] online training program (English and Spanish), Pool Operator Fusion[™] training program (English and Spanish) the Aquatic Play Feature[™] Handbook (English and Spanish), the Pool Math[™] Workbook (English and Spanish), seminars from the 2007 and 2008 World Aquatic Health[™] Conference, and the eProAcademy[™] online training center (English and Spanish).

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Healthy Pools. Healthy Bodies.

For Immediate Release

About NSPF®

The National Swimming Pool Foundation® (NSPF®) is a non-profit organization founded in 1965, giving back \$3.5 million of all revenue in the past five years to fund grants to prevent illness, injury, and drowning, and to demonstrate the benefits of aquatic activity. The Foundation works towards its mission to encourage healthier living through aquatic education and research with its collection of educational products and training. Visit www.nspf.org and www.eProAcademy.org for more information.

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