

Fact Sheets on Healthy Swimming & Recreational Water Topics
CDC Link <http://www.cdc.gov/healthywater/swimming/resources/fact-sheets/>

What do I do about formed stool or diarrhea in the pool?

For both formed-stool and diarrheal fecal incidents:

- **Close the pool to swimmers immediately.** If you have multiple pools that use the same filtration system — all pools will have to be closed to swimmers. Do not allow anyone to enter the pool(s) until the disinfection process is completed.
- **Remove as much of the fecal material as possible** (for example, using a net or bucket) and dispose of it in a sanitary manner. Clean and disinfect the item used to remove the fecal material (for example, after cleaning, leave the net or bucket immersed in the pool during disinfection). **VACUUMING STOOL FROM THE POOL IS NOT RECOMMENDED.**
- Confirm that the filtration system is operating while the water reaches, and is maintained, at the proper chlorine level for disinfection.
- Backwash the filter after reaching the CT inactivation value. Be sure the effluent is discharged directly to waste and in accordance with state or local regulations. Do not return the backwash through the filter. Where appropriate, replace the filter media.
- Allow swimmers back into the water only after the required CT inactivation value has been achieved and the free chlorine and pH levels have been returned to the normal operating range allowed by the state or local regulatory authority.
- Those who swim when ill with diarrhea place other swimmers at significant risk for getting sick. Diarrheal incidents are much more likely than formed stool to contain germs. Therefore, it is important that all pool managers stress to patrons that swimming when ill with diarrhea is an unhealthy swimming behavior.

For solid formed stools:	For diarrheal contamination:
<p>Raise the free chlorine to 2 parts per million (ppm), if it is less than 2 ppm, and ensure pH 7.5 or less and a temperature of 77°F (25°C) or higher. With this chlorine concentration the pool closure time will be approximately 30 minutes. Other concentrations or closure times can be used as long as the contact time (CT) inactivation value is achieved. Maintain free chlorine concentration at 2 ppm and pH 7.5 or less for at least 25 minutes before reopening the pool. State or local regulators may require higher free chlorine levels in the presence of chlorine stabilizers, which are known to slow disinfection. Ensure that the filtration system is operating while the pool reaches and maintains the proper free chlorine concentration during the disinfection process.</p>	<p>If necessary, before attempting the hyperchlorination of any pool, consult an aquatics professional to determine the feasibility, the most optimal and practical methods, and needed safety considerations. Raise the free chlorine concentration to 20 ppm, and maintain pH 7.5 or less and a temperature at 77°F (25°C) or higher. The free chlorine and pH should remain at these levels for at least 12.75 hours to achieve the CT inactivation value of 15,300. Crypto CT inactivation values are based on killing 99.9% of Crypto. This level of Crypto inactivation cannot be reached in the presence of 50 ppm chlorine stabilizer, even after 24 hours at 40 ppm free chlorine, pH 6.5, and a temperature of 77°F (25°C). Extrapolation of these data suggest it would take approximately 30 hours to kill 99.9% of Crypto in the presence of 50 ppm or less cyanuric acid, 40 ppm free chlorine, pH 6.5, and a temperature of 77°F (25°C) or higher.</p>

