Planning and Building Department
City of Mississauga
300 City Centre Drive, 3rd Floor
Mississauga ON L5B 3C1

PUBLIC SPA

DESIGN CHECKLIST

(REVISED JANUARY 2025)

This checklist is prepared for purposes of convenience only. For complete list of design requirements consult the 2024 Ontario Building Code.

PUBLIC SPA DESIGN CHECKLIST
BASED ON ONTARIO REGULATION 203/24
SECTION 3.12.

File#: _____

Date: _____

Major Occupancy: _____

Project	Name:
	Address:
Owner	Name: Phone: ( )
	Address:
Design Professional (Architect/ Engineer) *	Name: Phone: ( )
	Address:
	Signature:

* Refer to Section 1.2. Design and General Review, Division C – Part 1, 2024 Ontario Building Code

P. Eng. Seal, Signed and Dated

PUBLIC SPA AND DECK DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS			
OBC Reference	Requirements	Complies	N/A
3.12.2.1.(1)	In addition to the requirements of this Subsection, *public spas* shall comply with the requirements of Sentences 3.11.3.1.(13) to (18), (20), (21) and (23) and Clause 3.11.3.1.(25)(a):		
3.11.3.1.(13)	Deck separated by barrier from spectator area	❑	❑
3.11.3.1.(14)	Deck delineated from surrounding area by a tactile conforming to 3.8.3.18	❑	❑
3.11.3.1.(15)	Perimeter of pool deck clearly delineated by painted lines or other means where any area contiguous to the pool deck may be confused with the deck	❑	❑
3.11.3.1.(16)	Perimeter drainage around deck where necessary	❑	❑
3.11.3.1.(17)	Hose bibs provided for convenient flushing of deck	❑	❑
3.11.3.1.(18)	Foot sprays running freely to waste provided where access to spa is over non-cleanable surfaces (e.g. Gravel, grass)	❑	❑
3.11.13.1.(20)	Submerged surfaces of spa, the deck and partitions or walls adjacent to the deck have cleanable surfaces	❑	❑
3.11.13.1.(21)	Submerged surfaces white or light in colour (markings excluded)	❑	❑
3.11.13.1.(23)	Access to deck preventable (e.g. lockable doors, security fence with lockable gate)	❑	❑
3.11.13.1.(25)(a)	Markings on deck ≥ 100 mm high, showing (a) water depths at deep points, breaks between gentle and steep bottom slopes and shallow points	❑	❑
3.12.2.1.(2)	A *public spa* shall be constructed to have a water depth of not more than 1 200 mm.	❑	❑
3.12.2.1.(3)	The slope of the bottom of any portion of a *public spa* shall not exceed 8%.	❑	❑
3.12.2.1.(4)	A *public spa* shall be surrounded by a hard-surfaced pool deck that, (a) shall have a minimum clear deck space of not less than 1.8 m at the main entrance point, (b) shall have a clear deck space of 900 mm on all sides, except as required by Clause (a) and permitted by Sentence (5), (c) shall be sloped away from the pool to waste drains or to adjacent lower ground at a slope of between 2% and 4%, in the case of an outdoor *public spa*, and (d) shall be impervious and sloped away from the pool to waste drains at a slope of between 1% and 4%, in the case of an indoor *public spa*.	❑ ❑ ❑ ❑	❑ ❑ ❑ ❑

PUBLIC SPA AND DECK DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS (CONT'D)			
OBC Reference	Requirements	Complies	N/A
3.12.2.1.(5)	One section of the hard-surfaced *pool deck* that does not exceed 25% of the perimeter of the *public spa* may have a minimum clear deck space of not more than 300 mm if, (a) the *public spa* has an area less than 6 m^2, and (b) the *public spa* has no interior dimension more than 2.5 m.	❑	❑
3.12.2.1.(6)	The maximum depth of water to a seat or bench in a *public spa* shall be 600 mm.	❑	❑
3.12.2.1.(7)	If a set of steps is provided for entry into and egress from the *public spa* water, the steps, (a) shall be equipped with a handrail, (b) shall have a non-slip surface, and (c) shall have a band of contrasting colour along the entire juncture of the side and top of the edges.	❑ ❑ ❑	❑ ❑ ❑
3.12.2.1.(8)	Every *public spa* shall be provided with dressing rooms, water closets and shower facilities that are conveniently available on the premises.	❑	❑
3.12.2.1.(9)	Except where no space is provided between ladder treads and the spa wall, the space between the spa wall and submerged portions of any treads of a ladder for entry into and egress from the water shall be not more than 150 mm and not less than 75 mm.	❑	❑

RAMPS AND ACCESS INTO PUBLIC SPAS			
OBC Reference	Requirements	Complies	N/A
3.12.3.1.(1)	Not more than 50% of the total perimeter of a *public spa* may be replaced by one or more ramps that permit a bather seated in a wheelchair to enter the water with or without the wheelchair.	❑	❑
3.12.3.1.(2) 3.11.5.2.(3) 3.11.5.2.(4)	Provide a curb around perimeter of the spa that has: (a) a height of 50 mm (b) rounded edges (c) a coved base (d) a raised nosing at the top	 ❑ ❑ ❑ ❑	 ❑ ❑ ❑ ❑
3.12.3.2.(1)	Where more than one public spa is provided within a suite located on a storey that is required by 3.8.2.1. to have a barrier-free path of travel, a barrier-free access described in 3.12.3.2.(2) shall be provided to at least one public spa.	❑	❑
3.12.3.2.(2)	Barrier-free access for entry into and egress from a public spa shall be provided by, (a) a ramp conforming to Article 3.12.3.1., (b) a pool lift conforming to the manufacturer's specifications and installation instructions and conforming to Sentences 3.11.3.3.(2) to (6), or (c) a transfer wall conforming to Sentences (3) to (5).	 ❑ ❑ ❑	 ❑ ❑ ❑
3.12.3.2.(3)	A transfer wall providing barrier-free access for entry into and egress from a public spa shall, (a) have a height between 405 mm and 485 mm measured from the pool deck, (b) have a depth of between 300 mm and 400 mm, (c) be slip-resistant and have edges that are rounded, and (d) have at least one grab bar that, (i) is perpendicular to the pool and extends the full depth of the transfer wall, (ii) is located between 100 mm and 150 mm above the transfer wall, (iii) has a clearance of at least 610 mm on both sides, (iv) complies with Clauses 3.8.3.8.(7)(a) and (b), and (v) is made of a slip-resistant material.	❑	❑
3.12.3.2.(4)	The deck area required to make a lateral transfer to the transfer wall shall, (a) be outside and adjacent to the barrier-free path of travel described in 3.12.3.2.(1), (b) have no obstructions at the side of the transfer wall serving the transfer space, (c) have a clear space of 900 mm by 2 200 mm, and (d) have a slope less than 2% provided at the base of the transfer wall surface.	❑	❑
3.12.3.2.(5)	The deck area described in Clause (4)(c) shall be centred on, (a) the grab bar where one grab bar is provided, or (b) the clear space between the grab bars where more than one grab bar is provided.	❑	❑

WATER CIRCULATION SYSTEMS			
OBC Reference	Requirements	Complies	N/A
3.12.4.1.(1)	In addition to the requirements of this Subsection, the water circulation system of a *public spa* shall comply with the requirements of Sentences 3.11.8.1.(2), (3), (6), (7), (9), (10), (11), (13) and (20).		
3.11.8.1.(3)	Means provided to prevent water from flowing from the pool or recirculation system into the water supply, and the sewer back into the pool (Backflow Preventer Make_____ model_____)	❑	❑
3.11.8.1.(6)	Flow meter on recirculation system (make _____ model _____)	❑	❑
3.11.8.1.(7)	Automatic make-up devices and water meters on makeup water supply which is connected to the recirculation system or the pool	❑	❑
3.11.8.1.(9)	Chlorination equipment incorporates automatic termination of chlorine feed whenever pool water recirculation is interrupted.	❑	❑
3.11.8.1.(10) 3.11.8.1.(11)	Exposed potable water and chlorine piping within water treatment service room colour-coded - green for potable water and yellow for chlorine	❑	❑
3.11.8.1.(13)	A *public spa* shall be equipped with *clean water* inlets arranged in conjunction with surface skimmers or overflow gutters to provide uniform distribution and circulation of *clean water*	❑	❑
3.11.8.1.(20)	Submerged skimmer equalizers and vacuum fittings are <u>not</u> permitted	❑	❑
3.12.4.1.(2)	A *public spa* shall be equipped with a water circulation system that is capable of filtering, disinfecting and passing the *public spa* water through the *public spa* with a turnover period of not more than, (a) 30 minutes for a *public spa* with a volume of water that exceeds 6 m^3, ❑ (b) 20 minutes for a *public spa* with a volume of water that exceeds 4 m^3 but does not exceed 6 m^3, or ❑ (c) 15 minutes for a *public spa* with a volume of water that does not exceed 4 m^3. ❑	❑ ❑	❑ ❑
3.12.4.1.(3)	If cartridge-type filters are used for a *public spa*, the filters shall be a surface-type that is designed for a maximum flow rate of 0.27 L/s/m^2 effective filter area.	❑	❑
3.12.4.1.(4)	Except as provided in Sentence (6), every circulation system in a *public spa* shall be served by a minimum of two suction or gravity outlets, (a) that are interconnected to a full-size manifold, and ❑ (b) except as provided in Sentence (5), that are separated by a clear distance of not less than 900 mm. ❑	❑	❑
3.12.4.1.(5)	If compliance with Clause (4) (b) is impracticable because of dimensional restrictions at the bottom of the *public spa*, the outlets may be located on two different planes of the *public spa* if, (a) at least one of the outlets through which the *public spa* can be emptied to a full-size manifold is located on the bottom of the *public spa*, and ❑ (b) the bottom of all outlets, other than skimmers, are not more than 75 mm from the floor of the *public spa*. ❑	❑ ❑	❑ ❑

WATER CIRCULATION SYSTEMS (CONT'D)			
OBC Reference	Requirements	Complies	N/A
3.12.4.1.(6)	A circulation system in a factory-built *public spa* may be served by a built-in suction or gravity outlet with multiple openings that are connected to a full-size manifold.	❑	❑
3.12.4.1.(7)	All fittings at or below the water surface that allow water or air or both to be passed to or from the *public spa* shall be securely held in place by corrosion resistant fastening that requires a tool for removal and is galvanically compatible with the fittings and grilles or covers.	❑	❑
3.12.4.1.(8) 3.12.4.1.(9)	All suction or gravity fittings installed at or below the water line of a *public spa* shall, (a) have a maximum opening of 7 mm in one direction, and (b) be designed so that the flow of water through the openings does not exceed 0.45 m/s. OR Suction and gravity outlets to be equipped with anti-entrapment covers that comply with the requirements of ASME A112.19.8M, "Suction Fittings for Use in Swimming Pools, Wading Pools, Spas, Hot Tubs".	❑ ❑ ❑	❑ ❑ ❑
3.12.4.1.(10)	The calculation of water velocities for the purposes of Clause (8)(b) and Sentences (11) and (12) and the calculation of water flow rates for the purposes of Sentence (9) shall be based on the assumption that all possible sources of suction flow are present at the same time.	❑	❑
3.12.4.1.(11)	The water velocity in a suction pipe shall not exceed 1.8 m/s.	❑	❑
3.12.4.1.(12)	The water velocity in a pressure pipe shall not exceed, (a) 3.0 m/s for plastic piping, and (b)1.8 m/s for copper piping.	❑	❑
3.12.4.1.(13)	Every suction system that serves a *public spa* shall be equipped with a vacuum relief mechanism that shall include, (a) a vacuum release system, (b) a vacuum limit system, or (c) other engineered systems that are designed, constructed and installed to conform to good engineering practice appropriate to the circumstances.	❑	❑
3.12.4.1.(14)	Equipment shall be installed to continuously disinfect the water in a *public spa* by means of a chlorination, hypochlorination or bromination system that is capable of regulating the dosage of chlorine or bromine.	❑	❑
3.12.4.1.(15)	If a two-speed pump is utilized for a *public spa*, the filter and heater shall be sized to accommodate the maximum pump output, without exceeding the manufacturer's design flow rate of the filter element or heater and without by-passing the filter element.	❑	❑

WATER CIRCULATION SYSTEMS (CONT'D)			
OBC Reference	Requirements	Complies	N/A
3.12.4.1.(16)	A *public spa* equipped with hydro-massage jet fittings shall be provided with a timing device, (a) that controls the period of operation of the jet pump, and (b) that is placed in a location where the user must exit the *public spa* to reset the timer.	❑ ❑ ❑	❑ ❑ ❑
3.12.4.1.(17)	A *public spa* water heater shall be equipped with an upper limit cut-off device, (a) that is independent of the normal public spa water temperature thermostat, and (b) that limits the maximum water temperature of the *public spa* to 40°C.	❑ ❑	❑ ❑
3.12.4.1.(18)	A *public spa* shall be equipped with a water circulation system that is capable of both completely and partially draining and refilling the public spa water.	❑	❑

EMERGENCY PROVISIONS			
OBC Reference	Requirements	Complies	N/A
3.12.5.1.(1)	In addition to the requirements of 3.12.5., *public spas* shall comply with the requirements of Sentences 3.11.10.1.(1) to (6)	❑	❑
3.11.10.1.(1)	Illumination - refer to Subsection 3.2.7.	❑	❑
3.11.10.1.(2)	Dressing, locker and shower rooms, washrooms and passageways - illumination of ≥ 200 lx at floor level	❑	❑
3.11.10.1.(3)	Indoor spa or outdoor spa open after sundown equipped with lighting (a) that will maintain on deck and water surface (i) indoor spa ≥ 200 lx (ii) outdoor spa ≥ 100 lx (b) that makes underwater areas of spa visible	 ❑ ❑ ❑	 ❑ ❑ ❑
3.11.10.1.(4)	Indoor spa and outdoor spa open after sundown equipped with emergency lighting system that operates automatically	❑	❑
3.11.10.1.(5)	Emergency lighting illuminates deck, washroom, shower, locker, water surface areas and means of egress to ≥ 10 lx	❑	❑
3.11.10.1.(6)	Emergency power supply provided as per 3.2.7	❑	❑
3.12.5.1.(2)	Emergency telephone within 30 m of the *public spa*	❑	❑
3.12.5.1.(3) 3.12.5.1.(4) 3.12.5.1.(5)	An emergency stop button clearly labelled (with an audible & visual signal when in use) that will deactivate all recirculating pumps, located within 15 m of the *public spa* in a readily accessible location within sight of persons using the *public spa* In a space shared by a *public spa* and a *public pool*, the emergency stop buttons shall deactivate all pumps serving the *public spa* and *public pool*	❑ ❑	❑ ❑

SERVICE ROOMS AND STORAGE FACILITIES			
OBC Reference	Application	Complies	N/A
3.12.6.1.	*Service rooms* / storage facilities to comply with 3.11.11.1.		
3.11.11.1.(2)	Compressed chlorine gas feeders located in a service room (a) separated from building by a 1 hr fire separation and is gas tight (b) designed with anchors for each cylinder and for no other purpose than containing feeders and cylinder storage (c) located above ground level (d) exit door provided to outdoors (e) screened openings to outdoors within 150 mm of floor and within 150 mm from ceiling each opening ≥ 2% of floor area (f) emergency mechanical ventilation of ≥ 30 ACH capacity suction ≤ 900 mm & discharge ≥ 2.50 m above floor to outdoors (1) (g) equipped with a weigh scale for each cylinder in use ≥ 135 kg	 ❑ ❑ ❑ ❑ ❑ ❑ ❑	 ❑ ❑ ❑ ❑ ❑ ❑ ❑
3.11.11.1.(3) 3.11.11.1.(4) 3.11.11.1.(5)	Chemical storage rooms equipped with - hose connection and floor drain ventilation Service rooms and storage areas etc. equipped with secure locking devices	❑ ❑	❑ ❑