



## Weather/Low Attendance Closures and Behavior/Discipline Policy

The City expects the Witter Park Aquatics Center to be a safe, fun, family environment. Maintaining full staffing levels when there is not public demand for use of the Aquatics Center during inclement weather is not cost effective. Closing the pool due to low use and changing weather can be frustrating if someone travels to the pool or just arrived and paid a fee. The goal of this policy is to set expectations relating to these situations.

### Weather Conditions

As a weather-dependent operation, the City reserves the right to close for the day, close early, or delay opening due to poor weather conditions. As a general guideline, when the weather conditions present any of the following characteristics, the facility's operating hours may change:

- 1) Low Temperature
- 2) Rain
- 3) Storm
- 4) Low Patron Load

### Low Temperature Conditions

When the temperature remains  $\leq 68^{\circ}\text{F}$  for the entirety of the day or does not achieve a temperature of  $\geq 68^{\circ}\text{F}$  within 4 hours of the normal closing time the facility will not open. If the temperature is predicted to eventually reach  $\geq 68^{\circ}\text{F}$  within 2 hours of opening, the facility may delay opening or open the park at the regularly scheduled time.

### Rain / Storm Conditions

When storm conditions develop, if lightning is spotted and/or thunder is heard, the pools shall be cleared. Additionally, if lightning strikes within an 8-mile radius of the facility the pools must be cleared. Report any lightning or thunder directly to Head Guard to activate Storm Procedures. All patrons must be cleared from the pools & pool deck before Lifeguards are allowed to leave their posts. Patrons may move into the bathhouse or choose to leave the premises. Patrons shall not be allowed to return to the water until 30 minutes after the last observed lightning strike and/or thunder. If patrons decide to leave the premises they may receive a wristband with the date to return to the facility if we are able to reopen.

### Low Patron Load

During periods of low attendance various attractions and/or pools within the Aquatic Center may be closed. This policy as well as staff reductions is administered at the discretion of the Head Guard or Supervisor.

### Public Notice

If the aquatics center is required to delay opening due to inclement weather, the supervisor will review the weather and attempt to open within a 2-hour delay. If the weather does not allow the Aquatic Center to open within 4 hours of the normal closing time, the facility will be closed for the remainder of that day. Refunds will not be issued as a result of unscheduled facility closures due to weather.

The City will, to the best of its ability, maintain an aquatics information page with operational status, patron loading, and temperature in real time. This web page is: [wirapids.org/witter-park.html](http://wirapids.org/witter-park.html)

### Behavior/Discipline:

Patrons under the age of 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Anyone unsupervised under the age of 12 will be asked to leave as a Level 2 Offense (listed below).

Behavior Description	Resulting Consequence(s)
<b>Level 1 Offenses</b> Disobeying pool safety rules Ignoring instructions or warnings by pool staff	Staff will issue violating patron(s) a stern warning to refrain from behavior.
<b>Level 2 Offenses</b> Refusing to cooperate with pool staff Being intentionally disrespectful to others Profanity Repeated Level 1 offenses	Patron asked to leave the facility for the day.
<b>Level 3 Offenses</b> Stealing, Violence, Fighting, Harassment, Bullying, Threatening Behavior, Disturbing the Peace Vandalism Weapons Possession of drugs alcohol, tobacco products Repeated refusal to follow staff instructions/repeated Level 2 offenses Other behavior deemed unacceptable by the staff or management	Many of these circumstances dictate the revocation of privileges of attending the facility for the remainder of the day or the entire season, regardless of possession of a season pass. Wisconsin Rapids Parks & Recreation Department reserve the right to confiscate season passes. The police will be summoned as necessary and such actions may be subject to criminal charges.

**\*No refunds will be issued for disciplinary actions taken or revocation of passes.**



## Rules and Regulations

(Governed by State, Wood County Health Department, City of Wisconsin Rapids, and Equipment Manufacturers)

1. Patrons may not enter the pool if they have a communicable disease or an open cut.
2. Food, beverages, gum alcohol or tobacco products not allowed in the swimming pool or on the pool deck.
3. Swimmers must shower before entering the pool and after using toilet facilities.
4. Patrons may not engage in rough play including dunking, pushing, chicken fights, etc.
5. Patrons may not run on the pool deck or in the bathhouse.
6. Patrons may not bring pets or animals into the facility.
7. Swimmers must wear appropriate swimwear. Cut-offs and jean shorts are not allowed.
8. Young children who are not yet toilet trained must wear a swim diaper.
9. Diving, twisting, flipping and jumping backwards from the pool deck into water is prohibited.
10. Skates, roller blades, scooters, skateboards, and bicycles may not be used in the facility.
11. Cell phone use is strictly prohibited in changing, bathroom, and shower areas.
12. Flotation devices may not be used in the activity or leisure pools unless pre-approved by the supervisor.
13. No prolonged breath holding or breath holding games allowed.
14. Glass and shatterable items are not permitted in the facility.

### Large Slide Rules (Green and Blue Slides)

1. Non-swimmers are not permitted
2. Follow the instructions of the attendant; must enter slide in sitting position and wait for instructions.
3. All riders must ride feet first while lying on their back with arms across their chest.
4. Keep your hands inside the flume.
5. No standing, kneeling, rotating, or stopping in the flume.
6. No diving from the slide.
7. Leave the plunge area immediately.
8. No objects are allowed in pockets and no jewelry can be worn while riding the slide. No cut-off jeans or swim wear with exposed zippers, buckles, rivets or metal ornamentation.
9. Riders must be in good health. Individuals with medical conditions including, but not limited to, pregnancy, heart, or back problems should not ride.
10. Do not use this slide while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
11. Warning: Water Depth is Shallow
12. Riders are not allowed to propel themselves into the slide.
13. Absolutely no trains or chains of riders.

#### Body Slide Rules (Green Slide)

- a. All riders must be at least 48" tall.
- b. Maximum rider weight is 300 pounds.
- c. Only one rider at time.
- d. No tubes, mats, or life jackets are permitted on the waterslide.

#### Tube Slide Rules (Blue Slide)

- a. All riders must be at least 42" tall.
- b. Maximum rider weight: Single tube - 1 person, 250 pounds, Double tube - 2 person, 500 pounds
- c. Only one tube at a time.
- d. No life jackets are permitted on the waterslide.

**Important: Lifeguard will walk stairs with appropriate footwear to check for glass, debris, etc., will ride down slides to check flow of water and caulk at joints, and ensure water levels are close to sticker guideline on body slide.**

### Diving Well Rules

1. Only one bounce on the diving boards.
2. Divers must jump or dive straight off the board.
3. Only one person allowed on the board at a time.
4. Diving area must be clear of swimmer before the next dive is allowed.
5. Divers must swim quickly to the closest side after they are off the board.
6. Inwards, back flips, reverses, and sailor dives are prohibited.
7. Once on the 1-meter board, swimmers must jump or dive off the board. Climbing down the ladder without the assistance of a lifeguard is not allowed.
8. Spectators only allowed to sit on the side of the well opposite of the diving boards.
9. Swimmers allowed to swim in diving well only during instructional activities.
10. Divers may be required to take a swim test.

### Climbing Wall Rules

1. Strong swimmers and climbers only.
2. One climber at a time.
3. Follow the direction of the lifeguard.
4. No diving, back flips or backward diving.

5. Drop into water feet first.
6. Leave the plunge area immediately.
7. Only use grips for climbing.
8. Do not climb above permitted area.

#### **Aqua Zip Rules**

1. Strong swimmers only.
2. One person at a time.
3. Follow the direction of the lifeguard.
4. Drop into water feet first.
5. Leave the plunge area immediately.
6. Only use hand grips for zip lining.
7. Exit immediately after use.

#### **Basketball Feature Rules**

1. No hanging, swinging, or climbing on basketball structure.
2. Basketballs are prohibited on the deck, water use only.
3. No dunking allowed.
4. No rough housing.
5. No swimming under basketball structure.
6. No jumping from deck to "slam dunk".
7. No sitting on ropes or deck to shoot baskets.

#### **Tot Waterslide Rules**

1. Swimmers must walk up the steps to enter the slide.
2. Swimmers should not push other swimmers down the slide.
3. Swimmer must enter water feet first.
4. Swimmers must be seated or lying on their back on the slide.
5. No standing, kneeling, rotating, or stopping in the slide.
6. Keep your hands inside the slide.
7. Leave the splash area immediately.
8. One rider at a time.

#### **Tot Lazy River Rules**

1. No climbing or sitting on the wall in the lazy river.
2. No jumping into lazy river from side of pool.
3. Riders must use tube supplied by aquatic center at all times.
4. No standing on tubes.
5. One person per tube.
6. No diving anywhere in the river.
7. Floaters must follow direction of current at all times.
8. No standing or walking on lazy river walls.

#### **Tot Play Feature Rules**

1. Swimmers are prohibited from climbing, hanging, swinging on play features.
2. Swimmers should be respectful of other swimmers.

#### **Leisure River Rules**

1. Enter and exit only at steps.
2. Children under 42 inches tall must be accompanied by an adult.
3. No diving, horseplay, flipping or stacking of tubes.
4. No standing or kneeling on tubes.
5. No climbing or sitting on the wall in the lazy river.
6. No jumping into lazy river from side of pool.
7. Riders must use tube supplied by aquatic center at all times.
8. No diving anywhere in the river.
9. Floaters must follow direction of current at all times.
10. Floaters may not cause an obstruction.
11. No standing or walking on lazy river walls.

#### **Water Walk Rules**

1. No rough housing.
2. No swimming underneath the water walk.
3. No diving off the water walk.
4. No running across water walk.
5. Not an open swim area.