



NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**

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Division of Public Health

June 30, 2022

MEMORANDUM

TO: Registered Environmental Health Specialists, Program Supervisors, and Managers

FROM: Shane Smith, REHS, Branch Head
Food Protection and Facilities Branch

SUBJECT: **Permitting of Temporary Display Spas**

In 2021, the North Carolina General Assembly passed Session Law 2021-77, which amended G.S. 130A-280 to include “spas operating for display at temporary events” in the definition of public swimming pools. This amendment requires local health departments to permit display spas at temporary events effective, July 1, 2022. The rules for Display Spas at Temporary Events (DSTE) have been incorporated into the Rules Governing Public Swimming Pools, 15A NCAC 18A .2500.

The newly adopted rule, 15A NCAC 18A .2545, requires DSTEs, as defined in Rule .2508, to obtain a permit from the local health department (LHD) prior to operating. The applicant will be required to submit a permit application to the LHD that serves the county in which the temporary event is located at least 15 days before commencing operation of the DSTE. The applicant will be required to pay the permitting fee, established by the LHD, at the time the application is submitted. Permits will be required to be posted and visible to the public during the event. DSTEs will be required to maintain minimum water quality standards, records of water quality measurements, and signage stating the spa is for display only. The permit and inspection checklist form will be posted on our protected forms site and will be available for printing and distribution in the next annual print order. If there is a need for the form prior to posting, please contact your Environmental Health Regional Specialist. The updated rule language for [Rule .2508](#) and [Rule .2545](#) is available and will be included in the updated 15A NCAC 18A .2500 rulebook.

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