The Problem

The Model Aquatic Health Code

The MAHC is a free resource, based on science and best practices, to help state and local health professionals make swimming and other wateractivities healthier and safer.

300 million

Trips people in the U.S. make to pools and other swimming areas each year

People who swim can enjoy

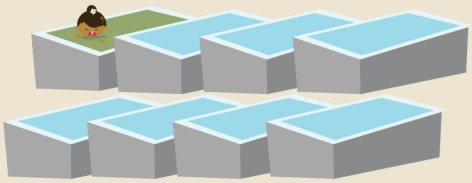
Increased physical & mental health

Lower risk for chronic diseases, joint & muscle pain, death

Increased quality of life & decreased disability in older age

But some places we swim aren't clean or safe.

1 in 8



Pools closed immediately on routine inspection for critical health and safety problems

Problems can lead to:

Drowning

A leading cause of unintentional injury-related death for children ages 1-14, second only to motor vehicle crashes

Outbreaks

Rise in recreational water illness outbreaks: 12/year in early 1990s to 41/year in late 2000s—a single outbreak can sicken thousands

Chemical Injuries

Almost 5,000 people visited the ER in 2012 for an injury from a pool chemical—almost half of visits were among kids

Help make swimming healthier and safer.

CS 249173

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Learn more about The Model Aquatic Health Code:
www.cdc.gov/mahc