

## 25 TAC § 265.16 **Waterfront Safety**

(a) Adult waterfront director required at youth camps. An adult waterfront director, who holds a current lifeguard certificate or its equivalent, shall be in charge of all waterfront activities. While waterfront activities are in progress, the waterfront director or an adult certified lifeguard assistant shall be in the immediate vicinity (within sight and/or hearing) of the campers, supervising the program.

(b) Responsibilities of the waterfront director. The waterfront director is to be responsible for all waterfront supervision procedures and is responsible for ensuring that the waterfront procedures are strictly enforced. The waterfront staff shall not engage in personal recreational swimming, boating or any other waterfront activity while on waterfront duty. For every 35 campers, or fraction thereof, engaged in waterfront activities, there shall be one certified lifeguard and one additional person (either a certified lifeguard or trained adult lookout) on duty. Camps utilizing natural bodies of water such as rivers, lakes, or creeks may need to increase this ratio.

(c) Maintenance and operation of swimming areas. Swimming areas shall be maintained and operated in a safe and clean condition. Youth camp swimming pools are class C pools, and must be built, operated, and maintained in accordance with [25 TAC, Chapter 265](#), General Sanitation, Subchapter L, Standards for Public Pools and Spas.

(d) Camper's swimming ability must be determined. Camps shall test to determine each child's swimming ability. Children shall then be confined to the limits of swimming skills for which they have been classified. Also, the swimming area shall have areas for non-swimmers, intermediates, and swimmers clearly marked.

(e) Checking bathers in and out of the water. A method of checking bathers in and out of the water shall be established and enforced.

(f) Waterfront lifesaving equipment shall be provided. Lifesaving equipment suitable for the waterfront activity shall be provided at the waterfront activity area and placed so the equipment is immediately available in case of an emergency.

(g) Providing a personal flotation device. A Coast Guard approved Personal Flotation Device (PFD) shall be readily available for each occupant of a watercraft. Each occupant of a watercraft 12 years of age and under shall wear a United States Coast Guard (USCG) approved inherently buoyant Type II PFD, or Near-Shore Buoyancy Vest at all times while in the watercraft. A non-swimmer shall wear a USCG approved inherently buoyant Type II PFD, or Near-Shore Buoyancy Vest and not be permitted in a watercraft unless accompanied by a counselor. A camper shall wear a vest type USCG approved preserver before entering and while in white water or before entering and while on a lake when the water is rough or while waterskiing.

(h) Location of swimming areas. Swimming areas shall be used exclusively for swimming while swimming is occurring. A watercraft docking area shall not be allowed

in the swimming area and waterskiers shall not launch, cross, or stop in the swimming area while swimming is occurring.

The provisions of this § 265.16 adopted to be effective April 16, 2006, 31 TexReg 3049.

The provisions of this Subchapter B issued under Acts 1973, 63rd Leg., p. 316, ch. 142, § 1, effective May 21, 1973 (Texas Civil Statutes, Article 44471); and Acts 1977, 65th Leg., p. 1226, ch. 474, § 1, effective August 29, 1977, as amended (Texas Civil Statutes, Article [4418d](#)).