



LIFESAVING SOCIETY®  
SOCIÉTÉ DE SAUVETAGE

*The Lifeguarding Experts*  
*Les experts en surveillance aquatique*

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## Safety Standards for Canadian Swimming Pools and Waterfronts Swimming Pool Standard

### Safety Equipment Standard

#### Standard

Every owner and every operator shall ensure that there are provided in places conveniently located and readily accessible for emergency use:

- an electrically insulated or non-conducting reaching pole at least 3.65 metres long.
- a minimum of two buoyant aids.
- a spineboard designed for transporting a person who has incurred a suspected spinal injury.
- a first-aid box.
- an AED.

#### Definitions

**Buoyant aid:** any device that floats and can be easily thrown or carried to a victim to help support them.

**Spineboard:** a device for immobilizing a suspected spinal-injured patient, with a head piece for neck immobilization and three straps for securing the victim on the board.

**First Aid Box:** contains appropriate supplies as outlined in the Canadian Lifesaving Manual and personal protective equipment.

**AED:** Automatic External Defibrillator

#### Rationale

Sufficient rescue equipment should be provided for lifeguard use during an emergency situation. This equipment lowers the risk to the rescuer and increases the treatment options for the victim.

## References

- Canadian Lifesaving Manual; Lifesaving Society Canada
- Alert: Lifeguarding in Action; Lifesaving Society Canada
- National Lifeguard Award Guide; Lifesaving Society Canada
- Heart & Stroke Foundation Canada Position Statement, Public Access to AEDs

## Approval

- Approved by the Lifesaving Society Canada Board of Directors on 8 May 2016.

## Disclaimer

Lifesaving Society Canada's National Safety Standards are developed using Coroners' recommendations, the latest evidence-based research, and reflect the aquatic industry's best practices at the time the publication was approved or revised.

The purpose of these standards is to encourage swimming pool, waterpark and waterfront owners, managers, operators and regulators to adopt these standards in order to prevent drownings in aquatic environments.

Lifesaving Society Canada's National Safety Standards do not replace or supersede local, provincial/territorial or federal legislation or regulations, but they are considered the standard to which aquatic facility operators should work towards in order to enhance safety within their operations and to prevent drowning and aquatic-related injury.