

Overlook & Skyline Posted Rules

Hello, and welcome to our pool! Please familiarize yourselves with our pool rules listed below.

For a full list of rules and policies, visit our admission desk or website.

All visitors who enter the facility agree to abide by the following rules and policies.

Admission Criteria

- All visitors must pay and/or check in before entry at the admissions table.
- Overlook & Skyline Pools and their concession stands are cashless (Credit/Debit/Gift Card only).
- Outside food and drink are permitted at both pools, on a limited basis. All food/drink must be consumed outside the pool water and deck.
- Coolers are subject to inspection at any time during your visit to the pool.
- All Swimmers must be attired in apparel designed for swimming and aquatic activity use.
- Alcohol and drugs are not permitted. Persons under the influence of drugs/alcohol shall not be permitted in the facilities.
- No glass of any kind is permitted.
- No animals, except service animals are allowed in the pool complex at any time.
- Soft-sided water toys/balls may be permitted in the water, but at staff discretion.
- The only acceptable floatation device for a non-swimmer is U.S. Coast Guard approved Personal Floatation Devices (no “water wings” or “baby boats”)
- Noise making devices such as whistles, horns, or powered speakers are not permitted.
- Tables & chairs are available on a first-come, first-serve basis. All tables/chairs must remain in the grass.

Children & Youth Swimmers

- Children 11 years of age and younger must be actively supervised by an adult (18 or older).
- Children aged 12-17, who are unsupervised by an adult, must create/have a MT Recreation account (online or in-person) with a guardian prior to entry. No exceptions will be made to this policy/rule.
- Infants and children who are not toilet trained are permitted in the pool but must wear swim diapers. Disposable swim diapers are available for purchase at the sales counter.

Pool Behavior Expectations

- Staff may require a swim test from a swimmer to independently use deep water/pool features.
- No running, pushing, dunking, horseplay, or breath holding games are permitted.
- No flips are permitted off the side of the pool deck. Observe “no diving” areas in shallow water.
- Smoking & Vaping are not permitted in the pool complex.
- Abusive or profane language or activity will not be tolerated.
- Cellular phone, phone camera, camera, and video camera use are strictly prohibited in all locker rooms, shower and changing areas. As a matter of courtesy, refrain from “group” or wide-angle images taken of guests who are not part of your group.
- Disobeying a directive from staff can result in immediate dismissal from the pool facilities.

Prohibited Items

- Smoking, Vaping, or Tobacco products
- Drugs/Alcohol
- Glass items of any kind (bottles/plates/dishes, etc.)
- Animals (except for service animals)

Skyline & Overlook Pool Policies

1. Swim Test Policy

Swim tests may be required at the discretion of facility leadership to utilize deep water features. The following circumstances may result in a swim test:

- A swimmer is observed being a “distressed swimmer” in the water by a lifeguard or lifeguard supervisor.
- A swimmer is rescued by a lifeguard as a distressed swimmer or an active drowning person, but they want to continue to swim unsupervised (in deep water), without a life jacket.
- A large group visits the facility, such as a camp or club, and a supervisor determines it would be beneficial to hold a swim test for all participants prior to entering the pool to determine the swimming level of the large group.

If a swim test is requested by staff, the swimmer, or if the swimmer is a minor, the parent or guardian of the swimmer have the right to refuse a swim test. If the swim test is refused, the swimmer must wear a coastguard approved lifejacket or stay within arms reach of a parent or guardian at all times (if the swimmer is a child).

If they refuse to stay within arms reach or wear a lifejacket, the swimmer must stay in water that does not exceed shoulder height.

If the swimmer attempts a swim test but fails, they must wear a lifejacket or stay within arms reach of a parent or guardian while in water depths that exceed the height of their shoulders.

Swimmers that swim in depths exceeding the height of their shoulders without a lifejacket (or parent / guardian for minors) will be given a warning and will progress through the facility’s progressive disciplinary process for continuous violations, which could lead to removal from the facility.

The swim test is listed below:

The swimmer must jump feet-first into at least 4 feet of water and resurface. Once the swimmer has surfaced, they must swim one width of the lap lane pool area (or approximately 20 yards) without touching the ground, wall, or any other object for support. Once they have reached the far side of the pool, the swimmer should stop before touching the wall and tread water or float for at least 10 seconds with their airway out of the water, then grab the wall and exit the pool unassisted.

Accommodations may be made to have an adult in the water with the swimmer helping to guide them and provide instructions, but the adult may not physically touch the swimmer, or it will result in a failed swim test.

The swim test is designed to ensure that swimmers have the ability to: resurface from water submersion, perform moderate endurance swimming, maintain their airway out of the water while stationary, and safely exit bodies of water unassisted.

2. Admission & Refund Policy

Daily Admission, Season Passes and Food purchases are non-refundable. If you feel the circumstances warrant special consideration, please contact our Recreation Offices (717-290-7180 x3100) Monday-Friday 9:00-4:00pm with your receipt number, the time of your visit, and a description of events. There are no refunds for weather or pool closures, but on a limited basis we may issue “rain check” vouchers at the discretion of management. Daily admission is valid at both Skyline and Overlook Pools and (when available) patrons are encouraged to use the comparable facility if closures occur.

3. Diving Board Use Policy

Swimming in the diving well is only permitted while the diving board is not in use. If someone is waiting to use the diving board, all swimmers in the diving well must swim to the pool edge and either climb completely out of the water or sit on the pool edge. Lifeguards will whistle to notify patrons that someone is planning to use the diving board. Only one patron may be standing on the diving board at a time. Patrons must perform forward facing jumps and dives. Back flips are not permitted.

Per our diving board manufacture's guidelines, all divers should be less than 250lbs to use the board.

4. Overlook Slide Use Policy

Pool patrons must be at least 40 inches tall to ride on the slide. Swimmers must go down feet first, sitting upright. They may not take any objects on the slide with them. Swimmers may not be wearing any loose clothing, jewelry, life jackets, vests, or other flotation devices. Only one patron may be on the slide at a time. All riders must be able to exit the flume on their own at the conclusion of the ride. If rescue/assistance is needed exiting the flume or current, a slider may not ride this attraction.

The slide may be subject to closure due to mechanical issues, staffing issues, or manager discretion. All users must follow directives from lifeguard staff to use the slide.

5. Pool Closure Policy

Manheim Township Parks & Recreation reserves the right to limit hours or close pool(s) for any reason. A non-exhaustive list of reasons may include:

- Inclement weather, heavy rain and/or thunderstorms.
- Chemical imbalance or water contamination.
- Staffing shortages or limited/maximal pool attendance.
- Swim meets, special events, and/or additional posted closures.

6. Facility Entry Policy

All people must check in at the admission desk prior to entering the facility. Children under the age of 12 are not permitted to enter the facility without a parent or guardian. Children ages 12-17 may enter without an adult only if they have a Civic Rec account with a parent or guardian's contact information attached to their account, otherwise, they may only enter with a parent or guardian. All children (under 12) must be actively supervised by their parent/guardian. The designated parent/guardian for youth (under the age of 12) must be 18+ years of age.

Children between the ages of 12 and 17 planning to visit Skyline and Overlook pool without a parent or guardian must create an account on the CivicRec software prior to visiting the pools. This can be done by logging on to CivicRec at <https://secure.rec1.com/PA/manheim-township-recreation-pa/catalog> or calling Stauffer Mansion at 717-290-7180 x3100. Each account must include the name, date of birth, and address for all people planning to visit the pool without an adult. At least one parent or guardian must have an account on CivicRec included with any kids aged 12-17 planning to visit the facility without a parent or guardian.

Any families wishing to create an account at the pool will require at least one adult with ID for verification of identity. Children under the age of 18 cannot register at the pool without an adult. Manheim Township staff reserve the right to request ID for any person, at any time.

7. Floatation Device Policy

U.S. Coast Guard approved lifejackets are available by request for non-swimmers, free of charge, and should be returned to facility management after use. Patrons may bring their own Coast Guard approved personal floatation devices, but they may be subject to inspection to confirm that they are Coast Guard approved (no “water wings” or “baby boats”). Floatation toys are not permitted in the pool as they are not an approved floatation device and may create visual blind spots for lifeguards (pool noodles, inflatable tubes, etc.).

Children may use kickboards in designated lap lanes for lap swimming only, and only if proficient in swimming and supervised by adult parent/caregiver. Kickboards should never be used as a floatation device or toy. Permission for use of kickboards is at the manager’s discretion, and permission may be rescinded if the kickboard is not used properly.

8. Outside Food and Drink Policy

Outside food and drink are permitted at both Overlook and Skyline Pools throughout the summer pool season. Limits are placed on the following items:

- No drinks or food will be permitted in the pool or at the immediate pool’s edge. All food/drink must be consumed outside of the pool water and deck.
- No glass will be permitted as this is a safety hazard, if broken. Glass bottles, dishes, and other miscellaneous glass items, if broken, can be difficult to clean and may result in temporary or indefinite pool closures. If glass is broken in the pool, offenders may be held financially responsible for draining the pool, facility’s revenue loss, or access privileges.
- Staff will not accept, sign, or make public announcements for delivery drivers. If ordering a delivery of food, anticipate their arrival and meet the driver near the entrance of the facility.
- Staff have the right to inspect coolers at any time. No alcohol is permitted within the facilities under any circumstances. Any guest under the influence of drugs or alcohol shall be removed from the facility and/or banned from future use.

9. Swimsuit Policy

All Swimmers must be attired in apparel designed for swimming and aquatic activity use. No street clothes or workout clothes may be worn in the water.

- Street clothes (especially cotton) can transport airborne and ultimately waterborne contaminants into the pool.
- Any “colored” material (unless specifically made for swimming) can bleed into the pool, affecting water chemistry and balance. This is also a reason for turbidity in pools.
- Cotton and similar materials can absorb the chemicals in the water, causing the water to become less effective at maintaining the proper chemical balance or may cloud the water.

- Shirts/Shorts that are cotton/polyester can become much heavier when they absorb water, making swimming more restrictive and difficult.

No shoes are permitted to be worn in the water except for shoes designed specifically for in-water use.

Other apparel may be worn for medical and religious reasons upon approval by the Pool Manager. Apparel shall not cover the face/head in a way which could become a potential suffocation hazard.

10. Lifeguard Authority Policy

Pool patrons should always follow the instruction of lifeguards and management on duty. Lifeguards may need to provide specialized instructions in certain circumstances that may not be posted as facility rules or policies. These circumstances include, but are not limited to, severe weather, facility malfunctions or closures, emergency care, distractions or obstructions to patron surveillance, general safety concerns, or conflict with or between patrons. Patrons should always follow these instructions unless it compromises the safety of themselves or another person.

11. Patron Disciplinary Policy

Staff will give instruction to guests occasionally when facility/safety guidelines or pool policies are not followed. Guests will abide by staff direction and when instructed must comply with directives given by pool staff and management. Refusal to abide by pool rules and directives may result in further disciplinary actions to include:

- Step 1
 - Explanation and warning of guideline/policy. If behavior continues, then:
 - Temporary exclusion from activity and written report. If behavior continues, then:
 - Dismissal from the facility for the remainder of the day. No refunds will be issued.
- Step 2
 - If similar or pervasive issues persist at a separate occasion, staff may issue a dismissal notice from the facility again (on this new, separate occasion). This ban may be effective up to 1 week from the event date.
- Step 3
 - If similar or pervasive issues persist on a third occasion, staff may issue a dismissal/ban longer than 1 week.
 - Depending on the severity or circumstances, this step may be escalated after the first offense/issue.

Additional to our 3-step method for general policy enforcement, we also have a zero-tolerance policy specifically for the below topics:

- Immediate dismissal, no refunds issued
 - Physical violence

- Threatening or discriminatory language or conduct
- Entering the facility without payment or identification (trespassing)
- Prior documented “benching” or significant/repeated rule infractions.
- Witness or verification of stolen items/property.
- Final/Last Warning
 - Smoking/vaping in the facility.
 - Legal-age alcohol consumption in the facility or on Township Property.
 - Profane, offensive, or vulgar language in the facility.

12. Lifeguard Drill Policy

Facility management reserves the right to conduct lifeguard rescue drills at any time during operating hours. These drills are in place to evaluate rescue skills and lifeguard response times, and as an opportunity to practice the facility emergency action plan. Pool patrons should treat rescue drills as real-life emergencies and follow staff instructions until the drill has been completed.

13. Adult Swim Policy

Facility management reserves the right to announce an adult swim every hour for 15 minutes. Pool patrons under the age of 18 must clear the water during adult swims. Children should use this time to hydrate, rest, and reapply sunscreen.

14. Photography Policy

- To protect the privacy of our patrons, no use of cell phone cameras will be permitted in changing rooms/restrooms. Failure to adhere to this policy can result in suspension of pool access or criminal prosecution.
- At our public pools, it’s not possible to fully exclude unwanted photos/video, but if a complaint is brought to our attention staff reserve the right to ask for pictures not to be taken of other swimmers (outside your group/party).
- We recognize many families wish to capture their trip to the pool on photo/video. With this in mind, we request that photo/video be limited to members of your group or party.

15. Max Capacity Policy

Pool management reserves the right to limit or prohibit access to the pool if the pool is at capacity. Pool capacity is determined at the discretion of pool management. No day passes will be sold if the pool is at capacity, and season pass holders will not be permitted to enter until management determines that it is safe for more patrons.

People who have pre-purchased a day pass but have been denied entry and are unable to use their pre-purchased day pass may contact Stauffer Mansion at 717-290-7180.

16. Solicitation Policy

Manheim Township pools will not accept solicitation of any kind. Township pools will not post fliers, provide handouts, or advertise external organizations or events. Manheim Township reserves the right to advertise internal township programs and events. For special requests, contact Stauffer Mansion at 717-290-7180.

17. Emergency Response Policy

Pool management may immediately call for emergency medical services and law enforcement during an emergency. Emergency situations are defined below; identification of an emergency is at the discretion of pool management.

An emergency refers to any medical emergency, unexpected facility hazard or closure, violent act which is causing or may cause physical harm to someone, verbal threats to cause harm to someone, or the use of any weapons on pool property.

Pool management also reserves the right to involve law enforcement for any situation that is deemed high risk and may escalate into an emergency with approval from a Township recreation manager. Some high-risk situations include:

- Verbal confrontations that are unable to be de-escalated.
- Drugs are present or are being used.
- Alcohol is present or being consumed.
- An individual is engaging in inappropriate conversations or displaying crude gestures with other patrons or employees.
- An individual is not complying with pool rules and de-escalation tactics are not successful.
- Staff witness a violation of any local, state, or federal law.

18. Service Animals

The ADA's definition of service animals is limited to dogs and miniature horses "that have been individually trained to do, work, or perform tasks for an individual with a disability." Pool patrons may bring service and guide animals into the pool facility. Animals should always be controlled by their owners. Pets and emotional support animals are not permitted inside the facility.

If an individual is gaining access to the facility with an animal, staff will ask: ***Is the service animal required because of a disability?***

If the answer is yes, they are permitted to enter the facility. All other pets or emotional support animals will not be permitted. Staff also reserve the right to ask the following question: *What work or task has the animal been trained to perform?*