



**For immediate release  
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## **DCR POOLS BEGIN ANNUAL END-OF-SEASON CLOSING**

*Many will remain open through Labor Day*

As it does at the end of the summer season each year, the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) has begun staggered pool closings, ensuring that at least some DCR pools will remain open as long as possible in various regions of the Commonwealth. With attendance at the pools waning in August, and lifeguards and other seasonal staff members starting to depart for college and high school, DCR started closing its 32 swimming pools for the season this week.

“DCR is committed to keeping as many pools open for as long as possible, to provide recreational opportunities for the public,” said DCR Commissioner Richard K. Sullivan Jr. “More than a dozen pools and spray decks will remain open and staffed through Labor Day, September 1st, as will all of DCR’s ocean and inland beaches.”

Sullivan noted that some lifeguards available to work through Labor Day were reassigned to ensure proper staffing levels at pools that are remaining open past this week.

Last year, attendance at the Mason Pool in Agawam dropped by nearly half between July 13, when 1,550 people visited the pool, and August 19, when 845 people were there. At the Petro Pool in Southbridge, attendance peaked at 1,422 on July 13 and fell to 467 on August 12. At the Thomas Pool in Springfield, attendance peaked at 1,288 on July 20 and fell to 690 on August 12.

This year, three pools will remain open through Labor Day, compared with just two pools opened through Labor Day last year. The extra pool this year is the brand new Vietnam Veterans Memorial Swimming Pool in Chelsea, which opened in June after being closed for 9 years. In addition, the Connell Pool in Weymouth, an indoor pool that normally opens in October, will open September 1 this year, about a month earlier than usual.

Also this summer, in response to requests from the public for longer pool hours, DCR kept its pools open until 7 p.m. In the past, pools had closed at 5:30.

Closing dates vary for individual pools. Please see the full list below:

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS · EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

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Ian A. Bowles, Secretary, Executive  
Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

Richard K. Sullivan, Jr., Commissioner  
Department of Conservation & Recreation

August 17, 2008

Agawam: Mason Pool  
Attleboro: Spatcher Pool  
Boston: Brighton/Allston Pool (Brighton) and Olsen Pool (Hyde Park)  
Brockton: Manning Pool  
Cambridge: Veterans Memorial Pool  
Chicopee: Sherman Pool  
Clinton: Weihl Pool  
Everett: Allied Veterans Pool  
Fall River: Vietnam Veterans Pool  
Fitchburg: Johnson Pool  
Lawrence: Geisler Pool and Higgins Pool  
Leominster: Leominster Pool  
Lowell: Lord Pool  
Malden: Holland Pool  
Melrose: Lloyd Pool  
Milford: Casey Pool  
Somerville: Dilboy Pool  
Southbridge: Petro Pool  
Springfield: Thomas Pool  
Watertown: Dealtry Pool  
Worcester: Mason Pool and Shine Pool

August 24, 2008

Boston: Reilly Pool (Brighton)  
Cambridge: McCrehan Pool  
Stoneham: Hall Memorial Pool

September 1, 2008

Belmont: Beaver Brook Wading Pool  
Boston: Artesani Wading Pool (Brighton), Cass Pool (Roxbury), Johnson Spray Deck (Jamaica Plain), Lee Spray Pool (Charles River Esplanade), Mission Hill Spray Deck (Mission Hill), Moynihan Wading Pool (Hyde Park); Neponset Spray Deck (Dorchester); Ryan Wading Pool (Mattapan); Stony Brook Spray Deck (Jamaica Plain)  
Chelsea: Chelsea Pool  
Freetown: Freetown Wading Pool  
Somerville: Latta Pool  
Topsfield: Bradley Wading Pool

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*The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), an agency of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, oversees 450,000 acres of parks and forests, beaches, bike trails, watersheds, and dams, in addition to 278 bridges and miles of roadways. Led by Commissioner Richard K. Sullivan Jr., the agency's mission is to protect, promote, and enhance our common wealth of natural, cultural, and recreational resources. To learn more about DCR, our facilities, and our programs, please visit [www.mass.gov/dcr](http://www.mass.gov/dcr). Contact us at [mass.parks@state.ma.us](mailto:mass.parks@state.ma.us).*