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If a whole or part of a paragraph has been amended, the date of the amending regulation appears in square brackets at the end of the paragraph. If a whole paragraph or sub-paragraph has been deleted, the date of the deletion appears in square brackets beside the deleted paragraph or sub-paragraph.

Republic of Latvia

Cabinet

Regulation No. 38

Adopted 10 January 2012

Procedures for Establishing and Maintaining Bathing Sites

*Issued pursuant to
Section 38.¹ of the Epidemiological Safety Law and
Section 5, Paragraph ten, Clauses 7, 8 and 9 of the Water Management Law*

I. General Provisions

1. This Regulation prescribes:
 - 1.1. the procedures for establishing a bathing site;
 - 1.2. the procedures for maintaining a bathing site, as well as the safety and hygiene requirements at a bathing site;
 - 1.3. the bathing sites where water monitoring of bathing sites shall be carried out using resources from the State budget.
2. The requirements of the Regulation shall apply to the bathing sites referred to in Annexes 1 and 2 to this Regulation, which have been recognised by the Health Inspectorate as attended by a large number of bathers on the basis of the information provided by local governments regarding attendance tendencies of the bathing sites existing in the respective administrative territory, as well as the infrastructure of bathing sites, the installations existing therein or the performed improvement measures for promotion of bathing.
3. The manager of a bathing site shall be a legal or natural person, upon whose initiative the bathing site was established.
4. The manager of the bathing site shall be responsible for the establishment, maintenance of the bathing site, conformity thereof with the safety and hygiene requirements, as well as placing of informative notices regarding the bathing site in accordance with the requirements of this Regulation.

II. Procedures for Creating a List of Bathing Sites

5. If the manager of a bathing site is not a local government, the manager of the bathing site shall submit a submission regarding establishment or closing of a bathing site to the local government, in the administrative territory of which the respective bathing site is located. The

local government shall evaluate the submission of the manager of the bathing site and submit a proposal to the Health Inspectorate regarding inclusion of the bathing site in the list referred to in Annex 1 or 2 to this Regulation or deletion therefrom.

6. The Health Inspectorate shall, each year by 31 December, evaluate the proposals submitted by local governments regarding inclusion of bathing sites in the list referred to in Annex 1 or 2 to this Regulation or deletion therefrom and submit proposals to the Ministry of Health regarding the necessary amendments to the list referred to in Annexes 1 and 2 to this Regulation.

7. A bathing site may be deleted from the list referred to in Annex 1 or 2 to this Regulation in accordance with the laws and regulations regarding water monitoring of bathing sites, quality assurance and informing of the public.

III. Procedures for Establishing and Maintaining a Bathing Site and Hygiene and Safety Requirements at a Bathing Site

8. A bathing site shall be established according to the planned (permitted) use specified in the spatial plan of the respective local government. The borders of the bathing site shall be determined by the local government, in the administrative territory of which the respective bathing site is located.

9. It is prohibited to arrange a bathing site and it may not be located:

9.1. at a wastewater inflow site or in its immediate vicinity (a distance that is less than the distance necessary for complete mixing of the water). The requirement shall not apply to rain wastewater inflow sites, if according to the water description of the respective bathing site drawn up in accordance with the regulatory enactment regarding water monitoring of bathing water, quality assurance and requirements for informing the public the water quality of the bathing site does not deteriorate due to rain wastewater and the water of the bathing site is classified at least as water of sufficient quality;

9.3. in a port or the territory of an industrial undertaking;

9.4. at a site, which has unfavourable hydrological conditions for a bathing site or an unstable bed;

9.4. at a site where vessels are used.

[21 May 2013]

10. The manager of the bathing site may establish functional sectors at a bathing site (for example, sun-bathing zone, sports zone, children's sector with playing for children of preschool age, nudist zone).

11. Prior to the beginning of the bathing season at a bathing site the manager of the bathing site shall:

11.1. establish footpaths;

11.2. ensure a driveway for emergency vehicles and the transport that is used by the persons managing the bathing site and the supervision and control persons in carrying out their service duties;

11.3. ensure the availability of the bathing site and its infrastructure objects to persons with functional disorders;

11.4. demarcate the bathing site with buoys, tapes or other materials that float;

11.5. where possible, establish a bathing area at the bathing site for children up to 10 years of age. The bed of the area meant for children shall be selected or developed with a slight gradient and a maximum depth, which does not exceed 70 cm;

11.6. ensure a convenient access to water, safe basal terrain for the water body and protection against dangerous geological processes (for example, landsliding, slipping of the shoreline);

11.7. taking into account the load of the bathing site, evaluate the necessity to ensure the provision of a rescue service.

12. During the bathing season the owner of the bathing site shall place an information stand at the bathing site in a clearly visible place and way, indicating:

12.1. the name of the bathing site;

12.2. the location of the particular bathing site in the respective local government territory and the borders of the bathing site (including the layout of the functional sectors and location of the rescue service, if such has been established in the territory of the bathing site);

12.3. information in conformity with the requirements, which have been laid down in the laws and regulations regarding the water monitoring of bathing sites, quality assurance and the informing of the public;

12.4. information regarding the hydrological characteristics of the bathing site (for example, changes in the water level) and the morphological characteristics of the bed (for example, bed stability, safe basal terrain of the water site);

12.5. information regarding the maximum depth of the bathing site;

12.6. instructions regarding the performance of first aid in the event of a drowning, if the bathing site has not been provided with a permanent rescue service;

12.7. the contact information of the manager of the bathing site, and the telephone numbers of the rescue service;

12.8. the requirements for observing public order at the bathing site according to the binding regulations drawn up by the respective local government;

12.9. information regarding safety requirements at the bathing site in accordance with Annex 3 to this Regulation;

12.10. information regarding prohibition to bring animals to the bathing site;

12.11. information regarding smoking restrictions at the bathing site in accordance with the Law On Restrictions Regarding Sale, Advertising and Use of Tobacco Products.

[6 May 2014]

13. During bathing season at a bathing site the manager of the bathing site shall:

13.1. arrange WCs, providing for a sewage system with wastewater drainage into sewage network or local treatment plants, or place portable toilets;

13.2. arrange changing rooms;

13.3. place waste containers;

13.4. ensure loosening and sifting of surface layer of the sand of terrestrial part of the bathing site where possible;

13.5. ensure regular and timely collection and removal of waste.

14. The manager of the bathing site shall ensure that such activities are not carried out at the bathing site, which might pollute the bathing site (for example, that animals are not present and are not walked or taken for a swim at the bathing site).

15. Each year the Health Inspectorate shall perform water monitoring of the bathing sites referred to in Annexes 1 and 2 to this Regulation, using the resources from the State budget, in accordance with the requirements laid down in the laws and regulations regarding water monitoring of bathing sites, quality assurance and informing of the public.

16. The implementation of this Regulation shall be controlled by the Health Inspectorate.

IV. Closing Provision

17. The following is repealed:

17.1. Cabinet Regulation No. 454 of 17 June 2008, Hygiene Requirements for Bathing Sites (*Latvijas Vēstnesis*, 2008, No. 99; 2011, No. 86);

17.2. Cabinet Regulation No. 341 of 6 April 2010, Procedures for Establishing and Maintaining of Bathing Sites (*Latvijas Vēstnesis*, 2010, No. 57).

Informative Reference to the European Union Directive

This Regulation contains legal norms arising from Directive 2006/7/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 February 2006 concerning the management of bathing water quality and repealing Directive 76/160/EEC.

Prime Minister

V.Dombrovskis

Minister for Health

I. Circene

Bathing Sites of the Baltic Sea and Gulf of Riga

[21 May 2013]

1. Dundaga municipality, Kolka rural territory (or *pagasts*), Kolka.
2. Engure municipality:
 - 2.1. Engure rural territory (or *pagasts*):
 - 2.1.1. Abrugciems;
 - 2.1.2. Klapkalnciems;
 - 2.1.3. Ķesterциems;
 - 2.2. Lapmežciems rural territory (or *pagasts*), Ragaciems.
3. Jūrmala:
 - 3.1. Asari;
 - 3.2. Bulduri;
 - 3.3. Dubulti;
 - 3.4. Dzintari;
 - 3.5. Jaunķemeri;
 - 3.6. Kauguri;
 - 3.7. Lielupe;
 - 3.8. Majori;
 - 3.9. Melluži;
 - 3.10. Pumpuri;
 - 3.11. Vaivari.
4. Liepāja:
 - 4.1. southwestern bathing site;
 - 4.2. bathing site at the stadium.
5. Limbaži municipality, Skulte rural territory (or *pagasts*), Skulte (Lauču rock).
6. Mērsrags municipality:
 - 6.1. Mērsrags;
 - 6.2. Upesgrīva.
7. Pāvilosta municipality, Pāvilosta town, Pāvilosta.
8. Rīga:
 - 8.1. Daugavgrīva;
 - 8.2. Vakarbuļļi;
 - 8.3. Vecāķi.
9. Roja municipality, Roja.
10. Salacgrīva municipality:

- 10.1. Ainaži rural territory (or *pagasts*), Ainaži;
- 10.2. Liepupe rural territory (or *pagasts*), Tūja (recreational site);
- 10.3. Salacgrīva town, Salacgrīva.

11. Saulkrasti municipality, Saulkrasti town:

- 11.1. Saulkrasti (centre);
- 11.2. Rūķīši.

12. Ventspils:

- 12.1. city beach;
- 12.2. Staldzene beach.

Inland Bathing Sites

[6 May 2014]

1. Brocēni municipality, Brocēni town, bathing site at Lake Ciecere.
2. Daugavpils:
 - 2.1. bathing site at Lielais Stropu Lake;
 - 2.2. bathing site “Stropu vilnis” at Lielais Stropu Lake;
 - 2.3. bathing site at Lake Šūņu.
3. Dobeles municipality, Dobeles rural territory (or *pagasts*), bathing site at Lake Gaurata.
4. Jēkabpils, bathing site “Radžu ūdenskrātuve”.
5. Jelgava, bathing site at the right coast of the River Lielupe.
6. Jūrmala, bathing site “Ezeru ielas peldvieta” at the River Lielupe.
7. Krāslava municipality, Krāslava rural territory (or *pagasts*), bathing site at Lake Zirga.
8. Kuldīga municipality, Kuldīga town, bathing site “Mārtiņšala” at the River Venta.
9. Liepāja, bathing site at the quarry “Beberliņi”.
10. Limbaži municipality, Limbaži, bathing site at Limbaži Lielezers.
11. Rēzekne municipality:
 - 11.1. Gaigalava rural territory (or *pagasts*), bathing site at Lake Lubānas;
 - 11.2. Mākoņkalns rural territory (or *pagasts*), bathing site of Lake Rāznas at Lipuški;
 - 11.3. Rēzekne, bathing site at Lake Kovšu.
12. Rīga:
 - 12.1. bathing site at Lake Bābelīte;
 - 12.2. bathing site “Lucavsala” at the River Daugava;
 - 12.3. bathing site “Rumbula” at the River Daugava.
13. Saldus municipality, Saldus town, bathing site at Lake Saldus.
14. Sigulda municipality, Sigulda town, Gauja, Sigulda bathing site.
15. Ventspils, bathing site at Lake Būšinieku.

Information Regarding Safe Behaviour at a Bathing Site

1. Swimming allowed only in the territory of the bathing site. Do not swim beyond buoys that restrict the bathing site.
2. Follow instructions or changes in the information stand of the bathing site.
3. Do not swim at night or during strong wind or thunderstorm.
4. It is prohibited to swim under the influence of alcohol or narcotic substances!
5. Do not swim alone. Before swimming warn the persons remaining on the shore on how long and how far you are intending to swim or that you will dive under water.
6. Before swimming warn other persons if you are not a good swimmer. Use special ancillary means, for example, a swim vest.
7. After becoming hot in the sun enter the water slowly in order to avoid muscle cramps due to rapid change in body temperature.
8. Do not overestimate your strength, do not swim too far away from the shore.
9. Stop swimming as soon as the first signs of being cold appear.
10. Allow the children to swim at bathing sites appropriately arranged for them, within the limits of good visibility where help may be provided without delay.
11. Ensure supervision by an adult when a child is in the water or is playing near the water.
12. Protect children from waves in order to avoid being carried into depth.
13. Upon identifying an accident:
 - 13.1. assess the situation and evaluate your abilities to save the drowning person. The drowning person may be saved only by the person who is proficient in swimming and knows rescue techniques;
 - 13.2. call rescuers without delay, calling 112 and indicating as accurately as possible the coordinates and access possibilities of the location of the accident. Rescuers must be awaited and the location of the victim must be shown.

Minister for Health

I. Circene