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# **Pool Retail Store Update**

Around our region, State and local enforcement officials have taken different approaches to retail operations for the pool and spa industry. NESPA has reviewed guidance from each of our States and it is our position that pool retail stores are essential businesses.

Our goal is to provide you with the information and tools you need to make the best individual decisions for your company. Please review the information below as you consider how your retail business should operate.

### **Pool Retail Stores are Essential**

- Pool service and maintenance are classified by the State as an essential service to prevent public health hazards from developing in untreated water.
- Pool retail stores are key to the supply chain for pool service companies.
- Pool retail stores sell essential sanitizers and chemical disinfectants that prevent the spread of bacteria in pool water and prevent mosquitos.
- States have listed hardware and home improvement stores as essential retail which aligns with the goods provided by pool retail stores.

### What You Can Do If Local Law Enforcement Visits Your Retail Store

- Be respectful and comply with their request to close the store temporarily if requested
- Outline the reasons why pool retail stores are essential to the health and safety of your community
- Share why your store is an essential retail operation including the memos linked below
- Show how you are complying with State mandated safety guidelines
- Keep all documentation so that you can follow up as needed

## If Local Enforcement Closes Your Store,

- Let NESPA know about this action
- Contact your local elected officials and state representatives
- State why pool retail is essential and why your business is an important part of the local economy
- Document the closing of the store and steps you took to respond to law enforcement's request

## State-specific memos from NESPA on Pool Retail Stores

- New Jersey
- New York
- Pennsylvania
- Connecticut: Pool Retail has been clearly recognized an essential store

This information is being provided to you as a member of the Northeast Spa and Pool association and is intended for your use to make decisions about your individual business during the restrictions put in place as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak. If you have concerns about your specific business operation you should consult your attorney. This is not intended as nor should be construed to be legal advice.

## **Questions? Contact NESPA at**

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