

IMPORTANT - Changes for 2019 Pool Season

ProPool informed the Trustees on May 15 that, due to an area-wide shortage of qualified lifeguards, the company will not be able to provide lifeguards for the Rustic Valley pool this summer. It takes 5 lifeguards to properly staff our pool (allowing for days off, reasonable working hours, etc.) As a company, ProPool is short 140 lifeguards from their typical staffing levels. Other companies that provide services similar to ProPool have gone out of business due to the lack of lifeguards. One reason for the shortage of lifeguards is the fairly rigorous training requirements. Please see below for the specific training requirements.

The Trustees met on May 22 to determine how best to proceed for the summer 2019 pool season. The Rustic Valley pool is less than 2,000 square feet. As such, it does not, by County code, require that a lifeguard be on duty. ProPool helps maintain 110 public pools in the area where there are no lifeguards.

The Trustees determined that we will continue to use ProPool to maintain the pool this summer. ProPool will provide an attendant to help keep the pool clean, monitor chemical levels, check wrist bands and collect guest fees. **These individuals are not lifeguards and cannot perform the duties of lifeguards.** It is, therefore, important that parents understand that they cannot leave young children unattended at the pool. The attendant will ask that children under the age of 16 leave the pool if they are not accompanied by an adult.

Signs will be posted at the pool indicating that no lifeguard is on duty and that individuals swim at their own risk.

Please plan on attending the annual Association Meeting on Wednesday, July 24. The Trustees hope to have information to share about how we might operate the pool in the future.

Lifeguard Training Requirements

1. Complete 36 hours of instruction.
2. Demonstrate the ability to swim 300 yards continuously demonstrating breath control and rhythmic breathing.
3. Tread water for 2 minutes using only the legs.
4. Complete a timed event within 1 minute, 40 seconds.
 - a. Starting in the water, swim 20 yards. The face may be in or out of the water. Swim goggles are not allowed.
 - b. Surface dive, feet-first or head-first, to a depth of 7 to 10 feet to retrieve a 10-pound object.
 - c. Return to the surface and swim 20 yards to return to the starting point with both hands holding the object and keeping the face at or near the surface so they are able to get a breath. Candidates should not swim the distance under water.
 - d. Exit the water without using a ladder or steps.

ProPool also requires individuals to have CPR and first aid training.