

Seattle Pool Builders Urges Participation In Public Consultation On Plans to Close Swimming Pools

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A pool builder in Seattle, WA, was dismayed to hear of the plans to close at least two swimming pools in Sioux City, and is encouraging everybody to respond to the upcoming public consultation. The pools, which will remain open for the 2016 swimming season, have long been a pillar of the community and it is being argued that their closure could have a devastating impact on the community, with children being unable to learn how to swim.

"For us, pool building may be our job, but pool safety is our calling," says Jeff Martin from Seattle Pool Builders. "We always build pools with safety features such as gates included, but we believe it is the local authority's responsibility to give children ample opportunity to learn how to swim. Additionally, swimming in public pools has tremendous health benefits, particularly for those unable to afford their own pools. We really hope the Sioux City community stands up and speaks out against this closure."

It should be noted that drowning is the fifth most common reason for accidental death in this country. In fact, some ten deaths each day are related to non-boating drownings. This demonstrates the extend of the problem, and the need to have appropriate swimming lessons in place for children and adults alike.

One customer, who had recently come to Seattle Pool Builders for her swimming pool heater installation, had the following to say: "I can't believe so many pools will be closing in Sioux City. How are our children supposed to learn how to swim? The only consequence I can see from this development is that the number of accidental drownings will increase. My pool is safe, it has a gate and my children can swim. But I now feel much less at ease with inviting other children, as I won't know whether or not they have had proper lessons. I hope the Parks and Recreation Board will review its decision."

For Seattle Pool Builders, anyone who now builds an above ground swimming pool should be committed to making it completely safe. This means they should also enroll their children in lessons as soon as possible. They hope the Sioux City pools will remain open to make this a possibility.

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