



DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
Suffolk County Department of Labor, Licensing & Consumer Affairs

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Last year the Suffolk County Legislature passed two laws governing the maintenance, construction and installation of swimming pools. Both laws will take effect July 17, 2014.

The first law mandates registration of a Pool Maintenance Business for those who engage in the service or maintenance of swimming pools and spas. Individuals in this business are required to register with Consumer Affairs. The fee for the application or renewal of the certificate is \$100.00 and will be valid for two (2) years. Applications and renewals must be accompanied by **proof of Certification** as a Maintenance Specialist or Service Technician obtained through the Association of Pool and Spa Professionals (APSP).

The second law creates an educational component requirement for those who build, install and service swimming pools and spas. These businesses are still required to maintain a Suffolk County Home Improvement License. They must also demonstrate a minimum of 2 years of experience in the building and installation of swimming pools and provide proof that he or she has obtained APSP's Certified Service Technician, Certified Service Professional or Certified Builder Professional Certificate, depending on the specific nature of their work.

Classes for the various certifications range in length from 3 ½ to 5 days and are offered by the local division of APSP, the Long Island Pool and Spa Association. There is no set schedule of classes, they will be formed according to local demand. Tests are given for each of the certifications. Each certification is valid for 3 years. The cost of each course ranges in price from \$500-\$600 for Association members, \$500-\$800 for non-members. The cost of association membership is either \$395 or \$585, depending on the size of the company.

To sign up for a class, or obtain additional information business owners can contact Karen Pinto, Executive Director of the Long Island Pool & Spa Association at 631-244-8055 or karen@longislandchapter.org The association's website can be found at www.longislandchapter.org.

Licensing Application information may be obtained by contacting Joan Taylor at 631-853-4599 at the Suffolk County Department of Labor, Licensing and Consumer Affairs.

Sincerely,

Barbara Stoothoff
 Deputy Commissioner