

ACRONYMS WE ARE WATCHING



By George Deines
Project Manager
Counsilman-Hunsaker

COMMITTEE VOICES

columns are an integral part of the monthly WWA's "World Waterpark Magazine," as they allow the members to get a sneak peek into the inner-workings of the various WWA committees, what they are up to and why they even exist! Apart from talking about a bunch of strange acronyms, the Safety Committee's goal is to keep members up to date on various codes, trends and regulations that affect the operations and safety of their waterpark. This column will feature updates on the MAHC, CMAHC, ASTM and APSP; so if you don't know what those stand for right now, you will in just a minute!

One of the biggest items the Safety Committees has been tasked with the last few years is the ongoing development, implementation and updating of the Model Aquatic Health Code (MAHC). Every two years, members of the Conference for the Model Aquatic Health Code (CMAHC) have the opportunity to submit change requests to items of the code they think need to be repealed, enhanced or clarified. Our goal is to ensure that the different sections of the MAHC have the clearest language possible in relation to the operations of waterparks, seeing that some of the language in the current code applies more to 4,000-sq.-ft. flatwater pools, and does not have specific language that relates to aquatic facilities with slides, leisure rivers or children's play structures that exist on 10+ acres of land. As you read through the code and have any suggestions or insights, please don't hesitate to contact me or a member of the WWA staff. And, if you haven't read through the latest version of the MAHC, you can download it from the CMAHC website, <https://cmahc.org/index.php>.

The second acronym we discuss on our monthly conference calls is ASTM. Originally called the American Society for Testing Materials before changing its name to ASTM international, ASTM develops standards for materials, products, systems and services. The Safety Committee primarily keeps its eyes on Committee F24 – Amusement Rides and Devices. A few issues on the top of their list this year are conveyor belt systems and accelerations limits for waterslides. You can read more about F24 on the ASTM website, [https://](https://www.astm.org/COMMITTEE/F24.htm)



To keep an eye on ASTM or MAHC updates, use the Hot Topics pages found on Waterparks.org under the Resources tab.

Our goal is to ensure that the different sections of the MAHC have the clearest language possible in relation to the operations of waterparks.

www.astm.org/COMMITTEE/F24.htm.

We round out our acronym challenge with APSP, the Association of Pool and Spa Professionals. APSP-9 covers aquatic recreation facilities that include pools, wave action pools, activity pools, catch pools, leisure rivers, vortex pools and interactive play attractions, water treatment and filtration. Our committee's own, Lee Hovis, has worked tirelessly over the past several years on APSP-9 to ensure the standards are as detailed and accurate as possible.

As the Safety Committee kicks off another year, we are very interested to hear about safety-related issues that currently face waterpark and aquatic facility operators. Hearing from you about your challenges might help us develop a great webinar or educational session at the annual WWA Show, which can help you and many others in the industry. So, please feel free to reach out to me at any time to discuss your challenges and opportunities further, georgedeines@chh2o.com.