



Aquatic Facility Evaluation

What are the components of the best evaluation reports?

A good evaluation report should describe in detail the condition of:

- The site
- Structures (bathhouse, pool basin, wading pool, filter building and gutters)
- Pool deck
- Equipment
- Mechanical systems
- Chemical feed systems
- Subgrade for stability
- Piping
- Lighting

In addition, the report should address how well the facility meets safety goals and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements.

Remember your childhood summers? Days spent lounging by the swimming pool? Showing off for that special someone? Or just hanging out with friends?

As you look at your community's pool today, does it hold the same allure for the families and children in your community? Maybe not—but it could!

Competition for people's leisure time and recreation dollars is tight. What can your facility offer to compete favorably in today's recreation market?

Trends in the aquatic industry point to a variety of features that are drawing families back to the pools and into the water, like:

- zero-depth entry
- play structures
- waterslides
- shade structures

Since 1948, Larkin Aquatics has orchestrated hundreds of success stories throughout the central U.S. Whether your goal is to improve pool operation, to reduce water loss, or to add more aquatic features, Larkin Aquatics professionals can help.

For example, after special features were added in Lindsborg, Kansas, usage by recreational swimmers from surrounding communities grew by nearly 40 percent.

Higher attendance and extended stays also mean more concession income to support facility operations. Traditionally, pool facilities have operated in the red. But with new features drawing bigger crowds and encouraging longer stays, more facilities are breaking even. Some are even turning a profit.

So how do you get started?

Any time you dive into a project as important as your community's pool, it's wise to start by having an aquatic specialist do a thorough assessment of current conditions. When selecting a professional to assist you, it's important to look for a firm that not only offers solid aquatic experience, but one that backs it up with reliable engineering design expertise. Only with this unique combination of talents can you be sure you are getting the best-qualified team to evaluate the condition of your existing facility.



We represent you...

Experience has proven that your interests are best represented when our reports are based on two simple principles.

First, ***the pool structure must be adequate to justify the expense of renovation.*** In other words, the structure must last longer than the time it takes to pay for the funding.

Second, ***the recommendations must satisfy your community's goals.*** If the structure warrants renovation, we take an objective look at the *potential* of the facility to meet your goals with the desired features.

We have built our reputation on meeting our customers' goals. We are in business to design the pool that fits your needs, your schedule, and your budget. We have never found an acceptable way to give anyone a one-size-fits-all facility.

We are experts at providing reliable, easy to understand information to drive your decision-making with confidence. This means **you receive a planning and decision-making tool that minimizes the risk of surprises** – because we know that surprises can be both costly and embarrassing.

Our evaluation reports include compiled narratives, photographs, and diagrams that describe existing conditions and detail potential enhancements of your facility. We've found that using photos to complement our text not only helps committees understand the extent and severity of deficiencies, the images help explain the recommended improvements to elected officials and residents. In a growing number of cases, we are also called upon to assist with campaigns to inform voters on the benefits of funding the proposed improvements.

Unlike buildings and other structures, no one agency or code universally governs the design and construction of aquatic facilities. Thus, your choice of a knowledgeable and reliable professional is critical to the success of your project.

Our engineers are diligent about staying abreast of changes to standards and guidelines from varied sources including state, national, and international organizations. We are keenly aware of the risks and rewards associated with your aquatic facility and make our recommendations and design your improvements with both user and operator safety in mind.

Like a cool dip in the pool, Larkin Aquatics offers a dependably refreshing approach to aquatic facility design. So when you need to talk to an expert, the obvious choice is Larkin Aquatics.

The Larkin Group, Inc.

The Larkin Group, Inc., is a multi-disciplined, multi-office consulting engineering firm, that brings together professionals in many engineering disciplines. To put The Larkin Group's and Larkin Aquatics' commitment and expertise to work for you, please contact us at:



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Designing Aquatic Facilities Since 1948