

**STAFF REPORT**  
**City of Lancaster**

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12/10/13
MVB

Date: December 10, 2013

To: Mayor Parris and City Council Members

From: Allison E. Burns, City Attorney

Subject: **Introduction of Ordinance Amending Title 8 (Health and Safety) of the Lancaster Municipal Code by Adding Chapter 8.29 Relating to Swimming Pool Maintenance**

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**Recommendation:**

Introduce **Ordinance No. 996**, adding Chapter 8.29 to the Lancaster Municipal Code, relating to maintenance of swimming pools.

**Fiscal Impact:**

No hard costs; incidental enforcement costs are presently unknown.

**Background:**

Stagnant bodies of water create breeding grounds for mosquitoes, which are capable of transmitting the causative agents of human diseases including West Nile Virus, encephalitis and malaria. Vector control officials have advised that one of the leading sources of stagnant water is improperly maintained swimming pools; the estimate is that as many as 1200 pools in the City may be abandoned, untreated or otherwise inadequately maintained.

The purpose of the proposed Ordinance is to set clear guidelines for proper pool maintenance, and to provide for a substantial financial disincentive for property owners to maintain their pools in an unhealthful, insanitary and unsafe condition.

The Ordinance further authorizes the City Manager and/or his designees to promulgate rules, regulations and administrative policies and procedures for the City's use, independently and/or in conjunction with the Antelope Valley Mosquito & Vector Control District, to investigate, identify and swiftly cause the abatement of inadequately maintained swimming pools.

**Attachment:**

Ordinance No. 996