



For Immediate Release



**Mark Your Calendar and Plan to Attend the 2009 World Aquatic Health™ Conference**  
**“Healthy Pools, Healthy Bodies”**

**Slated for Atlanta, Georgia, October 28-30**

NSPF’s WAHC and CDC’s NEPHC to run back- to-back

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Colorado Springs, Colorado (January 19, 2009)

The 2009 World Aquatic Health™ Conference (WAHC™) will be held on October 28-30, 2009 immediately adjacent to and in partnership with the National Environmental Public Health Conference (NEPHC) organized by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) National Center for Environmental Health, the Agency for Toxic Substances & Disease Registry (ATSDR), and the National Environmental Health Association (NEHA). Both conferences will be held at the Sheraton Atlanta Hotel in Atlanta, Georgia. Bringing these conferences together creates extraordinary networking and learning opportunities for recreational water leaders to learn more about emerging issues and to interact with public health, healthcare, advocacy, and academic professionals.

The WAHC, hosted by the National Swimming Pool Foundation®, is the leading global aquatic research forum. Leaders gather and learn through an exchange of ideas and information in an intimate environment to anticipate trends, understand emerging issues, and contemplate long-term opportunities. Attendees include aquatic coordinators and managers, aquatic training specialists, health officials, marketing and sales managers, service companies, manufacturers, academicians, educators, engineers, consultants, and pool operators. Seminars that focus on drowning, injury, and illness prevention, emerging new technologies, aquatic health benefits to mitigate chronic illness and aquatic programming will be featured again this year.

The NEPHC is a forum for environmental and public health professionals. The 2006 NEPHC attracted over 1000 professionals. The 2009 conference theme, “Healthy People in a Healthy Environment” parallels the WAHC theme “Healthy Pools, Healthy Bodies.” The NEPHC will explore new research and innovative practice in ecosystems and public health, healthy places and communities, public health and environmental exposures, sustainability, and other emerging environmental health issues.



Healthy Pools. Healthy Bodies.

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“These conferences will help bring government, academia, non-profits, and industry together to understand and solve key issues,” explains Thomas M. Lachocki, Ph.D., CEO of the NSPF. “Partnering with world-leading organizations like the CDC and NEHA brings recreational water onto the world stage recognizing our role in society as delivering and protecting public health,” he adds. The CDC also expressed enthusiasm about this joint conference. “Swimming is a fun, active, and healthy way to spend leisure time. CDC recognizes the important link between staying active and staying healthy,” comments Charles Otto, Senior Environmental Health Officer for the CDC. “We strive at CDC to offer information and resources to the public, aquatics industry and public health programs that reduce aquatic-based injury and illness, while promoting healthy swimming behaviors.”

### **WAHC Conference Details**

NSPF has maintained the low 2008 WAHC™ registration pricing for 2009 in order to make the forum available to a wider group of attendees. Additionally, all WAHC seminars will be videotaped and subsequently posted on the web. The web seminars allow those from around the world to hear industry-leading thinkers without travel, lodging expense, or time commitment.

NSPF has negotiated a discounted group rate with the Sheraton Atlanta of only \$144, single or double, per night plus taxes. This special rate is available through the weekend. Conference and hotel registration and details are available at [www.nspf.org](http://www.nspf.org) or by contacting NSPF at 719-540-9119. Links to the NEPHC Conference will also be available on the NSPF website.

### **About NSPF®**

The National Swimming Pool Foundation® (NSPF®) is a non-profit organization founded in 1965, giving back \$3.5 million of all revenue in the past five years to fund grants to prevent illness, injury, and drowning, and to demonstrate the benefits of aquatic activity. The Foundation works towards its mission to encourage healthier living through aquatic education and research with its collection of educational products and training. Visit [www.nspf.org](http://www.nspf.org) and [www.eProAcademy.org](http://www.eProAcademy.org) for more information.

### **About the World Aquatic Health™ Conference**

The fifth annual World Aquatic Health™ Conference (WAHC™) sponsored by the National Swimming Pool Foundation (NSPF) held in Colorado Springs, Colorado, October 15-17, 2008, drew 357 registrants from 42 states and 6 countries, participating in 45 seminars. “Leaders are drawn to this conference because science highlights future opportunities and helps them prepare their organization to prosper beyond today’s challenges,” explains Dr. Lachocki. Of the attendees present, 30% were high-level decision makers including CEO, president, owner, vice president, or director. NSPF reports that in-person conference registration was up 25%. In addition to the 357 registrants, an additional 341 access codes (tickets) were obtained by people who want to view seminars online at [www.eProAcademy.org](http://www.eProAcademy.org). ###