

Shipe Pool FAQs

1. Why are the pools smaller?

The size\length of pools is governed by several factors –

- Budget
- Aquatic programming needs\requirements
- Current national pool standards
- Aquatic System Equity

The current 100 ft. length is an old standard not currently sustainable for programming and operations.

2. Why is the lap/recreation pool not 100 feet?

See response to question 1.

3. Can PARD use the same footprint for the pools?

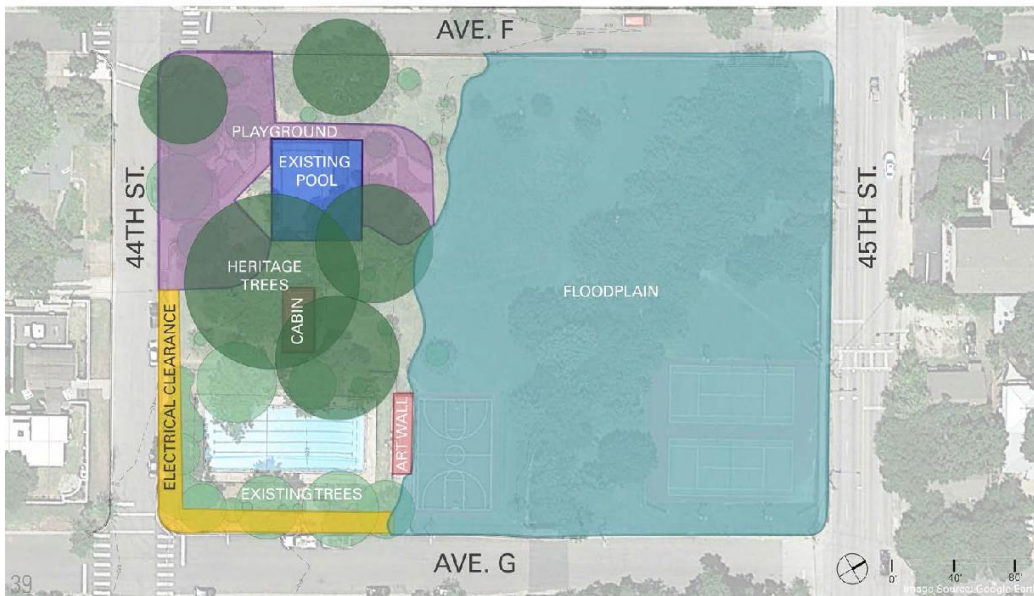
Yes, the proposed designs do utilize the existing pool footprint to reduce the amount of excavation required for the new pools; however, due to the increase of amenities, the new pool(s) layout will not fall directly over the existing footprint.

4. Can the fenced area be increased?

The buildable area is limited by the recognized historic landmark cabin, half-critical root zone of existing heritage trees, utility clear zone, and flood zone area. See constraint map below.



Site Constraints



5. Why is the wading pool being moved?

The current wading pool is non-compliant with current Texas Health Codes. It requires 6 ft. high non-climbable fence and currently has tree limb obstruction. In addition the structure of the wading pool is failing, and will more than likely be non-functioning and will need to be closed within two to three years. Combining the wading pool with the Lap\Recreation Pool will help with staffing need requirements and enhance operations.

6. Can the wading pool be made smaller to accommodate a larger recreational pool?

Yes, the wading pool can be made smaller to accommodate the Lap\Recreation Pool, however the goal is to maintain the existing amount of sq. ft. of surface water.

7. Can the current bathrooms be used with no additional bathhouse?

No, the current restrooms are not ADA compliant and are located outside the fence area of the pool facility. This is currently a non-code compliance issue. The log cabin cannot be contained in the facility fence area because it would not be accessible during the off pool season (Sept. through May), and the maintenance of this structure is not compatible with Aquatic Maintenance procedures.

8. Why are there so many bathrooms? Why are they so large?

The size of the bathrooms are dictated by the number of fixtures that are required per Texas Health Code. The anticipated minimum requirement is based on the Westenfield Neighborhood Pool model. It requires one ADA accessible toilet, one urinal, one ADA accessible shower facility, one sink, and a changing table on the men's side. The women's side will require one ADA accessible toilet, one non ADA accessible toilet, one ADA accessible shower, and a changing table. That is a total of 5 fixtures (toilets, urinals). Family rooms are being provided to meet the quota for fixtures for two additional toilets and two additional sinks, with one family room being ADA accessible. This fixture count determines the size of the bathhouse. The restroom configuration could change due to the increase size of the pool(s) and deck space.

9. Why are the bathrooms inside the fence?

The fence defines the aquatic facility which must include the restrooms per Texas Health Code. The layout also will allow for the restrooms to be accessible to the park when the pool facility is closed.

10. Can the bathrooms be moved to allow more space for the pools?

Yes, but the restrooms must be kept inside the defined aquatic facility area, inside the fence, to comply with current Texas Health Codes.

11. Can trees be removed to allow more space for the pools?

Yes, with the exception of Heritage trees that will be preserved. Other trees may be removed and mitigated elsewhere at Shipe Park to provide additional space for the pool facility, although the goal is to maintain as many trees as possible. Some of the trees near the pool are not in good health.

12. Can shade structures be removed to allow more space for the pools?

Shade structures do not take a lot of space. Only the footings occupy space. Of that, each shade post structure may only really occupy about 3 sq. ft. This is minimal coverage to gain very valuable shade for the pool area, prioritized over the wading pool.

13. Can the grass/lawn space be removed to allow more space for the pools?

Yes, however grass\lawn areas are considered at a high value for pool facilities. PARD will try to maintain as much 'green' space as possible while accommodating the proposed pools.

14. Can other space in the park be used? I.e. west of the basketball courts?

No, that area is constrained by the historic log cabin, flood zone and the half-critical root zone of the Heritage Trees.

15. Why is the pool depth changing?

The pool depth is recommended to be 9' at maximum depth and 42" minimum depth. The 42" minimum depth allows for flip turns when swimming lap lanes. The 9' depth allows for the continued diving off the deck. Note that the existing 10' depth of the current pool bottom configuration is not consistent. The current pool concepts will provide a larger 9' depth area than the current conditions. See image below.

