

# Driver Safety Policy

Location:

Effective Date: 11/25/2022

Revision Number: X

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M.P. Paradise Pools and Spas

## Purpose

M.P. Paradise Pools and Spas recognize that our employees are our most valuable asset and the most important contributors to our continued growth and success. M.P. Paradise Pools and Spas will do everything possible to prevent workplace accidents and is committed to providing a safe working environment for all employees.

Motor vehicle accidents are the leading cause of work-related fatalities. The environment in which these accidents occur involves numerous complex factors, many uncontrollable. The purpose of M.P. Paradise Pools and Spas' Driver Safety policy is to provide the means to reduce such factors to eliminate unnecessary injuries and fatal circumstances. We value our employees not only as employees but also as human beings crucial to the success of their families, the local community and M.P. Paradise Pools and Spas.

To further this goal, we have developed a Driver Safety Policy effective 11/25/2022. This policy applies to all employees, whether they are driving a company vehicle, a rental vehicle for company business or a personal vehicle for company business.

## POLICY GUIDELINES

### Driver Eligibility:

- Drivers must possess a valid driver's licence for the type of vehicle to be operated, and keep the licence(s) with them at all times while driving.

### Drug/Alcohol Use:

- Driving under the influence of alcohol or any other illegal substances will be grounds for termination.

### Insurance Requirements:

- Employees who use their personal vehicles for company business are required to carry adequate insurance, with a suggested minimum of \$1,000,000 for property damage and bodily injury. A copy of the declaration page of your personal automobile insurance policy must be provided to M.P. Paradise Pools and Spas annually at your renewal date.

### Basic Vehicle Operation Guidelines:

Employees are required to adhere to the following basic vehicle operation principles:

- Always use seat belts.
- Drive defensively. Always anticipate what other drivers on the road might do wrong and plan your mode of escape. Never move through traffic aggressively.
- Respect speed limits and traffic signs. Follow all traffic signals.
- Always lock the vehicle and apply the parking brake when getting out, even if it remains in sight.
- During long trips, take breaks every four hours. Never drive more than 10 hours during a 24-hour period.
- When possible, avoid driving after midnight.
- Avoid driving in dangerous conditions, including drowsiness and inclement weather.

### *Traffic Violations*

- M.P. Paradise Pools and Spas is not responsible for any traffic violations or parking tickets acquired by violation of local, provincial, or federal laws regarding your driving habits and operation of your motor vehicle. Any ticket issued is the employee's responsibility, even if the ticket is issued while conducting business for M.P. Paradise Pools and Spas.

### *Refuelling Guidelines*

For your safety when operating a vehicle, follow these guidelines:

- Turn off the vehicle's engine while refuelling.
- Never smoke, light matches or use lighters while refuelling.
- Do not get into the vehicle during refuelling, as this presents a flash fire hazard.
- Do not overfill or top off the vehicle's fuel tank. The fuel dispenser shuts off automatically when the tank is full.
- Never force the hold-open latch on the gasoline pump with any means other than the latch provided.

### **Distracted Driving:**

M.P. Paradise Pools and Spas is committed to employee safety, and for this reason firmly prohibits all behaviour that distracts employees while they are operating a company vehicle. General guidelines for behaviour while driving are as follows.

- Use of cellphones while driving is strictly prohibited—this includes all functions of the cellphone including, but not limited to, phone calls, text messaging/SMS, email, MMS, Internet use and camera use.
- Use of electronic devices—including laptops, PDAs, cameras and pagers—while driving is strictly prohibited unless specifically outlined below.
- Voicemail must handle all calls while driving, and calls may only be returned when stopped or pulled off the road.
- Passengers making or taking calls for the driver is permissible provided the interaction does not affect the driver's performance.
- Regular callers must be informed that you will not be available while driving and should be notified of the best times to call based on your driving schedule.
- Employees who receive calls from co-workers who are driving are obligated to ask that the co-worker call back at a more appropriate time.

### *Headset/Hands-Free Use*

The use of headsets or hands-free devices while driving is permissible IF:

- Device is pre-approved by M.P. Paradise Pools and Spas for use
- Use of the device does not cause distraction (for example, fiddling with the device or taking eyes off the road to get it to function properly)
- Any dialling or use of the handset is handled while stopped or pulled to the side of the road
- Conversations do not interfere with the driver's ability to drive safely
- Road conditions are generally good and do not threaten your safety

### *Emergency Calls*

- The only exception to the cellphone use guideline is calls placed to 911. If placing or accepting an emergency call, it should be kept short, with a hands-free option if available. The vehicle should be pulled over if possible.

### *GPS Systems*

M.P. Paradise Pools and Spas understands that sometimes, especially when travelling in unfamiliar areas, drivers require assistance with directions. GPS systems are extremely helpful devices, but they can also be distracting if used improperly. Employees must adhere to the following:

- Mounted GPS systems may not block or obstruct the driver's view in any way.
- GPS systems must be voice-narrated and must not require that the driver look away from the road to follow instructions.
- Employees may not program the system while in motion.
- Programming or otherwise engaging with the GPS screen may only occur while stopped or while pulled off the road.

#### *MP3 and Other Audio Devices*

In some cases, worrying about music selection or touching dials and buttons on the radio, MP3 player or other audio device may be just as dangerous as cellphone use. It takes eyes and concentration off the road, which is not permissible under M.P. Paradise Pools and Spas policy. M.P. Paradise Pools and Spas does allow employee use of personal, portable audio devices. However, while the company does not want to eliminate the employee's ability to enjoy music while behind the wheel, they must follow these guidelines:

- Employees may not take eyes off the road to adjust music settings.
- Programming music settings while stopped or pulled off the road or before departing is permissible behaviour.
- Employees may not, under any circumstances, use MP3 players or other handheld electronic audio devices with headphones—it impedes the driver's ability to properly hear warning signs, signals or sirens.

#### **Accident Investigation Procedures:**

M.P. Paradise Pools and Spas realize some accidents are not preventable. Drivers should seek medical attention immediately, if necessary. Supervisors and drivers will be trained in post-accident procedures to secure the details of the accident and document the damage. Providing detailed facts of the accident will help our insurance carrier deter fraudulent third-party insurance schemes.

All drivers will be supplied with an accident claims kit, a pen and a disposable camera. Drivers are required to document all details of the accident: traffic flow, speed limits, stop lights/signs, weather conditions, citations issued, etc. Pictures should be taken to document the extent of damage to all vehicles involved.

Once this information is secured, the driver is to report all accidents immediately to his or her supervisor.

#### **Prohibited Behaviour:**

Behaviours that may result in suspension or termination include:

- Driving while under the influence of drugs or alcohol
- Negligent homicide
- Operating a vehicle with a suspended licence
- Using a motor vehicle for commission of a felony
- Aggravated assault with a motor vehicle
- Reckless driving
- Hit and run
- (# of) convictions for moving violations
- Three or more major traffic violations
- More than two preventable accidents involving personal injury or property damage in any three-year period.

# Driver Acceptability Matrix

Number of Moving Violations Within Past 5 Years	Number of Accidents Within Past 5 Years				Impaired driving offenses in last 5 years
	0	1	2	3	
0	Clear	Acceptable	Borderline	Prohibited	Prohibited
1	Acceptable	Acceptable	Borderline	Prohibited	Prohibited
2	Acceptable	Borderline	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited
3	Borderline	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited
4	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited
5	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited

Borderline	Motor Vehicle Report will be checked every 6 months; insurability subject to no deterioration in the record.
Prohibited	Employer must prohibit driver from driving company vehicles or using personal vehicle on company business.

# Driver Safety Policy

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M.P. Paradise Pools and Spas

## Employee Acknowledgement

Motor vehicle accidents are the leading cause of work-related fatalities. The environment in which these accidents occur involves numerous complex factors, many uncontrollable. The purpose of M.P. Paradise Pools and Spas' Driver Safety policy is to provide the means to reduce such factors to eliminate unnecessary injuries and fatal circumstances. We value our employees not only as employees but also as human beings crucial to the success of their families, the local community and M.P. Paradise Pools and Spas.

M.P. Paradise Pools and Spas encourage its employees to take a proactive approach in identifying potential hazards by promptly reporting them to their supervisor.

Driving under the influence of alcohol or other illegal substances is grounds for termination. Drivers are expected to drive defensively and without distraction of cell phones, PDA's, laptops, or other electronic devices.

All drivers will be supplied with an accident claims kit, a pen and a disposable camera. Drivers are required to document all details of the accident: traffic flow, speed limits, stop lights/signs, weather conditions, citations issued, etc. Pictures should be taken to document the extent of damage to all vehicles involved. **REPORT ALL ACCIDENTS IMMEDIATELY TO YOUR DISPATCHER OR SUPERVISOR.**

Personal use of company vehicles is prohibited without prior permission from management.

I have read and understand M.P. Paradise Pools and Spas' Driver Safety Policy, and its requirements and expectations of me as an employee.

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Employee Name (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Employee Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date