# COMMUNITY POOL

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The community swimming pool, originally opened in 1964, underwent a renovation in 2006. Despite this, it faces multiple structural and functional challenges that compromise its usability and safety. The main swimming pool, measuring 11,000 square feet and holding 325,000 gallons of water, experiences significant water loss of over two inches per day. This is coupled with rust and corrosion on its copper metal walls, leading to recurring maintenance issues. Staff attempt patches annually, but the deterioration persists, and due to the state of the structure, reuse of the pool is not recommended.

When looking at options for repair, the use of a new wall system called Myrtha RenovAction is a typical solution for aging pools. However, this system is not able to be used to reinforce the existing walls as the existing steel will continue to degrade if it is not stabilized before the panel system is installed. Given the condition of the walls, this is not a viable solution. A temporary solution could be to install two layers of a pool membrane within the existing pool to block the rust from bleeding through. This might give the swimming pool up to 10 years of life at a cost of $2.5M to $3M. This cost addresses the pool shell, but does not include the cost of new mechanical equipment and a new pool deck.

The pool's perimeter overflow gutters fail to function effectively for surface skimming, and its trough-style gutter system further limits skimming capability. Over time, the pool has shifted, causing uneven water levels, which hampers proper water recirculation. Although renovations in 2006 addressed some components of the recirculation system, the pool heater struggles to maintain temperatures above 78 degrees.

Safety and compliance issues are also a concern. The location of the pool backwash does not meet current codes and standards. Additionally, pool chemicals are stored in the mechanical room, and the high-rate sand filters are exposed to the elements year-round due to the storage building not being fully enclosed. The children’s pool shares the same recirculation system as the main pool which is not designed to current codes.

The supporting infrastructure is equally in need of attention. The mechanical system building requires a new roof, while the entry building and locker rooms are in dire need of remodeling. The lifeguard area lacks sufficient space for all staff members. And, on busy summer days, there is not ample parking for all users of the swimming pool and the park.

Considering these challenges, it is not recommended to renovate the existing St. Marys Community Swimming Pool. The City of St Marys should explore the construction of a new swimming pool if the city wants to continue to provide outdoor aquatic recreation during the summer.

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Top left: Pool Separation from Deck
Top right: Children's Pool
Bottom left: Diving Board
Bottom right: Waterslide Tower

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Top left: Pool Rust and Corrosion
Top right: Pool Gutter System
Bottom left: Pool Pump, Motor, and Strainer
Bottom right: Pool Heater

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Top left: Pool Chemical Storage
Top right: Recirculation Piping and Filtration
Bottom left: Recirculation Piping
Bottom right: Pool Mechanical Room

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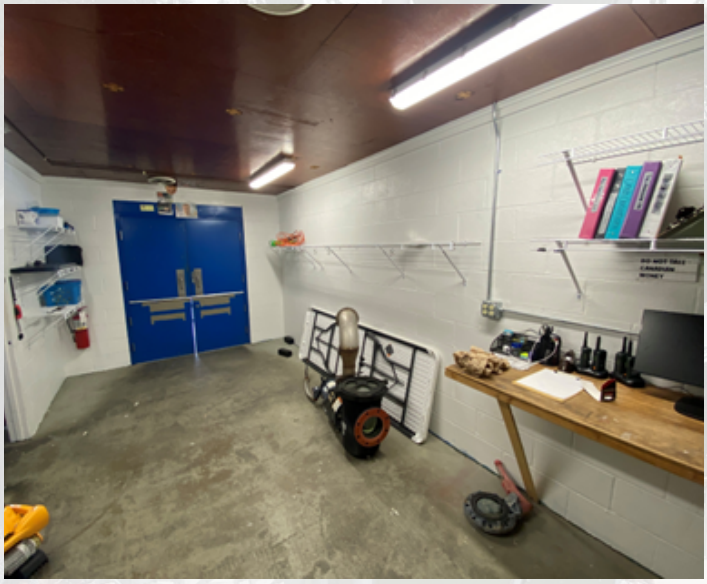

Top left: Entry Building
Top right: Entry Corridor
Bottom left: Locker Room
Bottom right: Pool Office

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Left: Concessions
Right: Pool Deck Cracking