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Lifeguard Shortage Keeps St. Joseph Pools Closed

ST. JOSEPH, Mo. (AP) - A shortage of lifeguards has prevented the city of St. Joseph from opening two of its three public swimming pools this summer.

The St. Joseph News-Press reports the city made several attempts to recruit lifeguards with TV spots and an increase in the hourly wage to \$9 from \$7.50.

The St. Joseph Aquatic Park will remain open until Aug. 17. But officials concluded Tuesday they would be unable to open the Hyde and Krug pools this year, and it's uncertain how they'll be used next year.

The city's pool supervisor says operating all three pools means filling 48 lifeguard shifts a week. Twenty-two people took pre-tests for a lifeguard certification course in June, but only five completed it.

Associated Press