

WHAT IS A SWIMMING POOL?

A swimming pool is a permanent or portable receptacle of water having a depth capacity at any point of more than two feet.

FENCING REQUIREMENTS

All swimming pools must be completely enclosed within a fence or barrier of at least 4' in height before filling with water. The barrier shall be at least four feet in height above a plane extending horizontally away from the swimming pool for a distance of 4' from the fence or barrier.

The wall of a building may be accepted as a required fence. Openings in such wall may require self closures or latches.

Solid barriers that do not have openings, such as a masonry or stone wall, shall not contain indentations or protrusions except for normal construction tolerances and tooled masonry joints.

The bottom of the fence must be four inches or less from the ground. All fencing materials must be resistant to decay and corrosion. Fence posts must be set in concrete bases or similarly secured.

The fence shall not be less than 11 1/2 gauge chain link fencing with a maxi-

imum mesh size of 1 1/4 inch square or such other construction making accessibility to the pool equally difficult.

All entry points through the fence must have a gate at least 4' in height and have a self-closing and self-latching device placed at the top of the gate or at a place which is otherwise inaccessible to small children. The gate shall open outward away from the pool

Where the barrier is composed of horizontal and vertical members and the distance between the tops of the horizontal members is less than 45 inches, the horizontal members shall be located on the swimming pool side of the barrier and spacing between vertical members shall not exceed 1 3/4 inches in width.

Where the barrier is composed of diagonal members, such as a lattice fence, the maximum opening formed by the diagonal members shall not be more than 1 3/4 inches. Other designs which will not allow small children to climb the barrier may have openings up to four inches.

Barriers shall be located so that permanent structures, equipment or similar objects cannot be used to climb

the barrier.

Gates other than those providing access for those using the pool, ie. gates for vehicle access, etc. must be continually locked.

SETBACKS

Swimming pools are allowed only in a rear yard or interior side yard and must meet all required setbacks for detached accessory buildings.

In rear yards of interior lots, pools must be at least 2 feet from side or rear property lines. Pools located between the rear and front yards must meet the side yard requirements of the principal building.

Setback requirements for corner lots differ from interior lots.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

A 3 foot wide walkway constructed of concrete or similar material must completely surround an in-ground pool and be designed to prevent drainage into the pool. Drains in this walkway shall not be connected to the recirculation system piping.

All electrical and plumbing installations shall be approved by the Inspections Services Division.

Clearance must be maintained between a swimming pool and any underground or overhead electrical lines.

FENCING FOR ABOVE GROUND POOLS

Above ground pools having an exterior wall height of at least four feet entirely above the ground do not have to be completely fenced, but all entry points do have to be fenced. Fencing is still mandatory if removable or flip-up ladders are used.

PERMITS

The construction or placement of any swimming pool requires a permit from the Inspection Services Division. A fee of \$35 is required. Any electrical work will also require a permit.

A site plan illustrating the location of the pool in relation to all lot lines, other structures and overhead or underground utility lines must be submitted and approved prior to issuance of a permit. Fences and gates must also be shown.

CONSTRUCTION & SAFETY TIPS

Locate your property lines prior to construction or placement of your pool.

Leave enough clearance between the pool and the property line for accessibility for maintenance.

Locate all underground utilities such as gas, telephone, and electricity prior to construction. Keep all gates and entry points latched at all times. An adult should always supervise the pool when in use.

Review the City's requirements for fencing prior to installation of the fence to ensure compliance with the City's ordinance.

1/16

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆
**PROPER INSTALLATION OF
YOUR POOL IS THE KEY TO
ELIMINATING A POTENTIAL
HAZARD AND LIABILITY!**
◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆

*For further information
contact:*

***Inspection Division
Dept. of Community
Development
203 S. Farwell Street
Eau Claire, WI 54701
715-839-4947***

OUTDOOR SWIMMING POOLS



***Inspections Division
Dept. of Community Development
Eau Claire, WI***

