

RESIDENTIAL SWIMMING POOL ENCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS 2006

All pool plans submitted for permits will be required to include pool barrier and enclosure details that illustrate compliance with the following information.

- Barriers and enclosures shall be a minimum of 4 feet in height above finished grade or other walking surface, measured on the side opposite the swimming pool. **Enclosures** are the physical separation of the pool from access from the outside. A **Barrier** is the separation from the house to the pool when the house is part of the enclosure.
- No opening in a barrier or enclosure shall allow passage of a 4 inch sphere.
- The vertical distance between the bottom of a barrier or enclosure and the finished grade or walking surface shall be less than 4 inches.
- The barrier or enclosure shall be constructed so as to not provide opportunity for climbing on the side opposite the pool.
- Footholds or handholds shall not be less than 48 inches from the top of the enclosure or 48 inches from the finished grade, or other walking surface measured on the side opposite the swimming pool. Openings in chain-link fences, exceeding one inch shall be slatted.
- Pool equipment must be located 48 inches from barrier or enclosure or be separately enclosed with an approved barrier or enclosure.
- Wrought iron or wood barriers or enclosures shall be constructed with at least 48 inches between the top surface of the horizontal members.
- Where a protrusion, indentation, or top surface is at a continuous angle of inclination equal to or greater than 45 degrees above the horizontal and otherwise does not provide a handhold or foothold, it shall be deemed not to provide an opportunity for climbing, for purposes of this code.
- Any space which falls within the area described by a 48 inch radius, measured from the top of the barrier/enclosure, must be maintained free of all natural or man made objects.
- Gates placed in an enclosure or barrier shall comply with the above. All gates shall be not less than 48 inches in height and be self-closing and self-latching. Where the latch is less than 54 inches above the walking surface or 50 inches above a foothold, the latch may be installed on the poolside of the gate not less than 42 inches above the walking surface and the gate and barrier shall have no opening greater than 1 inch within 18 inches of the latch. Gates in enclosures shall be installed to swing in a direction opposite the pool.
- The pool shall not be filled with water until the pool enclosure is complete. The pool enclosure and barrier must be maintained to ensure the pool is safely isolated. This is a life safety issue and should not be reduced by propping gates

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open, broken latches and closure devices, or any other action that reduces the effectiveness of the enclosure.

- A pool safety cover may be used for a barrier if all of the following conditions are met:
 - When in the closed position, a sphere 4 inches in diameter is prevented from reaching the water surface.
 - The cover is designed to support a static load of 485 pounds.
 - The electric motor switch shall be key-operated or locked and there shall be an additional power disconnect located not less than 48 inches above the finished grade, deck or other walking surface.

- A wall of a dwelling or other building may be used as part of an enclosure or barrier if all of the following conditions are met:
 - **Windows** leading to the swimming pool area shall be provided with a **latching device** located not less than 42 inches above the floor. All windows and doors shall be identified with the window style, swing, and glass type, on a detailed floor plan.
 - **Doors** leading to the swimming pool area shall be provided with a **self-closing/self-latching device** on the door or the screen not less than 42 inches above the finished grade or other walking surface, measured on the side opposite the swimming pool. Screen doors shall be protected with a substantial grill on the poolside to a minimum height of 36 inches above the walking surface. Dog doors or pass through openings may not open into the pool area.
 - An alarm system that alerts occupants to an opening door is not permissible by code. However, the Building Official may consider the use of a hardwired alarm system when all other means of meeting code are impractical. A Petition of Appeal must be filed for the Building Official's consideration and ruling.

If you have any questions please contact Building Safety @ 229-4800.

Revised 07/08/08