

POOL ORDINANCE

O. Residential Swimming Pools

1. **Permit Required.** Before work is commenced on the construction or erection of a swimming pool or on any alterations, additions, remodeling or other improvements; an application for a building permit, electrical permit, and/or a gas piping permit to construct, erect, alter, remodel or add must be submitted in writing to the Inspection Department. Plans and specifications and pertinent explanatory data shall be submitted to the Inspection Department at the time of application and no work shall commence until a permit has been issued by the Inspection Department.
2. **Types of Pools Requiring Permits.** Permits shall be required for the construction of the following types of swimming pools:
 - a. In-ground pools, whether indoor or outdoor.
 - b. Above ground pools, except for storable swimming or wading pools having a diameter of eighteen (18) feet or less and a wall height of four (4) feet or less and installed for less than one hundred and eighty (180) days in a calendar year.
3. **Construction Requirements.** In addition to such other requirements as may be reasonably imposed by the Inspection Department, the Inspection Department shall not issue a permit for construction, unless the following construction requirements are observed:
 - a. All materials and methods of construction in the construction, alteration, addition, remodeling or other improvements and pool installation shall be in accordance with all state regulations and code and with any and all Ordinances of the City now in effect or hereafter enacted.
 - b. All plumbing work shall be in accordance with all applicable Ordinances of the City and all state codes. Every swimming pool shall be provided with a suitable draining method. No swimming pool shall be constructed so as to allow water therefrom to drain into any sanitary sewer or septic tank nor to overflow upon or cause damage to any adjoining property. Provisions may be made for draining the contents of any swimming pool into a storm sewer, but such installation shall be subject to prior approval by the Inspection Department.
 - c. All electrical installations, including lighting and heating but not limited thereto, which are provided for, installed and used in conjunction with a swimming pool shall be in conformance with the state laws and City Ordinances regulating electrical installations.
 - d. All pumps, filters, disinfectant and chemical feeders, drains, ladders, lighting, ropes and appurtenant equipment used in the operation of all swimming pools, spas, diving towers and water slides shall be maintained in a good state of repair.
 - e. Areas surrounding a swimming pool, including decks and fencing, bathhouses, dressing rooms, toilets, shower stalls and lounging areas shall be kept clean and in a state of good repair at all times. The walls, floors, equipment of appurtenant facilities at a spa or swimming pool must be maintained in a clean and sanitary condition at all times.
4. **Setbacks.** Swimming pools requiring a building permit must meet the following setbacks:
 - a. Swimming pools are allowed only in rear yards of parcels with existing principal structures or where a principal structure is under construction with a valid building permit issued by the Inspection Department.
 - b. No swimming pool shall be located, constructed or maintained closer than six (6) feet to any side or rear parcel line.
 - c. Swimming pools shall not be located within three (3) feet of any other accessory structure.
 - d. Detached accessory structures shall be setback a minimum of ten (10) feet from a principal structure.
 - e. Swimming pools are considered a detached accessory structure and alone, or in combination with other detached accessory structures, shall not occupy more than twenty-five percent (25%) of the rear yard.

5. **Proper Enclosure Required.** Every swimming pool which extends wholly above the ground or partially above the ground shall, at all times, be enclosed so as to prevent people and animals from accidentally falling into such pool.
 - a. **Pool Wall May Serve as Barrier.** An approved barrier shall consist of a solid wall of durable material of which the pool itself is constructed and shall extend directly above the vertical water-enclosing wall of the pool a minimum of four (4) feet above the level of the ground immediately adjacent to the pool. Every entrance to a pool, such as a ladder, must be secured or adequately safeguarded to prevent unauthorized entry into the pool.
 - b. **Fence or Other Wall May Serve as Barrier.** An approved barrier shall consist of a properly erected and maintained wall or fence at least forty-eight (48) inches in height, which entirely surrounds the pool. Every such fence shall be constructed in accordance with the requirements of Chapter 03, Division 4. Every such wall or fence shall be located not less than six (6) feet from the vertical, water-enclosing wall of the pool. All gates in such walls or fences shall be self-enclosing and self-latching, and shall be at least forty-eight (48) inches in height with latches placed at least forty-eight (48) inches above the ground level, or such gate latch shall be made inaccessible to small children in some other manner approved by the Inspection Department.
6. **Compliance.** All swimming pools existing at the time of passage of this Code of Ordinances not satisfactorily fenced shall comply with the fencing requirements of this Section when water is placed in the swimming pool.
7. **Filter System Required.** All swimming pools shall contain some filtration system to assure proper circulation of the water therein and maintenance of the proper bacterial quality thereof.
8. **Dirt Bottoms Prohibited.** All swimming pools shall have the sides and bottom of a smooth finish, and no sand or dirt bottom shall be permitted.