

## **Permit Information for Residential Pools**

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Permits are required for the construction, alterations, additions, remodeling or other improvements of in-ground pools, indoor or outdoor.

Application for building, electrical, and/or a gas piping permit to construct, alter, remodel or add, in addition to plans and specifications must be submitted in writing to the Inspections Department.

No work shall commence until permit is issued by Inspection Department.

- Exception being storable swimming or wading pools with a diameter of 18 feet or less and a wall height of four feet or less and installed for less than 180 days in a calendar year.

### **Additional Considerations:**

All swimming pools existing before passage of this City Code of Ordinances shall comply with fencing requirements if not already doing so.

Swimming Pools require a filter system that ensures proper circulation of water.

Swimming pools shall have the sides and bottom of a smooth finish, no sand or dirt bottoms permitted.

City of Onalaska, WI  
415 Main Street  
Onalaska, WI 54650



**Questions?**

**Onalaska Planning/Zoning  
Department**

608-781-9590

[kaspenson@cityofonalaska.com](mailto:kaspenson@cityofonalaska.com)

**Monday - Friday**

**8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.**

<http://www.cityofonalaska.com>

This brochure is meant to provide information on various regulations enforced by the City of Onalaska. The purpose of the brochure is to provide citizen with basic, easy-to-use information regarding City Codes.



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**City of Onalaska  
PLANNING / ZONING  
DEPARTMENT**

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## **What to Know About Residential Swimming Pools**



Date Updated: 02/21/2022

## Enclosure and Fencing Required:

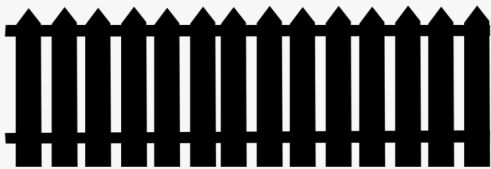
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Every swimming pool which extends fully above the ground or partially above the ground shall be enclosed at all times to ensure people and animals do not accidentally fall into such pool.

An approved barrier shall consist of a properly constructed and maintained wall or fence at least **48 inches** in height which entirely surrounds the pool. Every 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 48 inches in height with latches placed at least 48 inches above ground level, or should be made inaccessible to small children in some other manner approved by Inspection Department.

Every fence shall be constructed in accordance with requirements of Chapter 03, Division 4 stated in the city's UDC.



## Construction Requirements:

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All material and methods in the construction, alteration, addition, or other improvements and pool installation shall be in accordance with all state regulations and code and with all ordinances of the City now in effect or hereafter enacted.

All pools must have suitable a **draining method**, and plumbing work shall be in accordance with all ordinances of the City and state codes.



All **electrical installations** (lights, heating, etc.) installed and/or used in conjunction with a swimming pool shall be in conformance with state and City Ordinances.

Pumps, filters, ladders, lighting, and relating equipment used in the operation of all swimming pools , spas, and water slides shall be maintained in good state of repair.

## Setback Requirements:

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Swimming pools...

- Are allowed only in **rear yards**
- Shall not be constructed or located closer than **six feet** to any side or rear parcel line
- Shall not be located within **three feet** of any other pre-existing structure
- Are considered a detached accessory structure, and shall be set back **ten feet** from principal structure
- Shall not occupy more than **25% of rear yard** in combination with other detached accessory structures on parcel