

Swimming Pools, Hot Tubs, and Spas

Frequently Asked Questions:

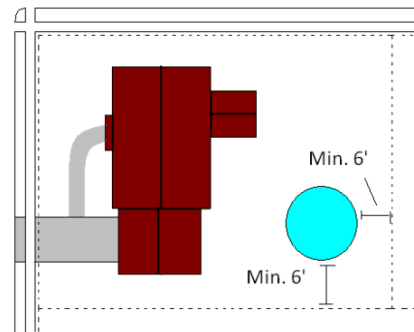
Do I need a permit?

Yes, if it is intended for swimming or recreational bathing and designed to contain water more than 24 inches deep.

Are there specific location requirements for a pool, hot tub, or spa?

Yes, pools, hot tubs, and spas are as accessory structures. This means they must meet the zoning requirements of the area where they will be located. Refer to diagram for more information.

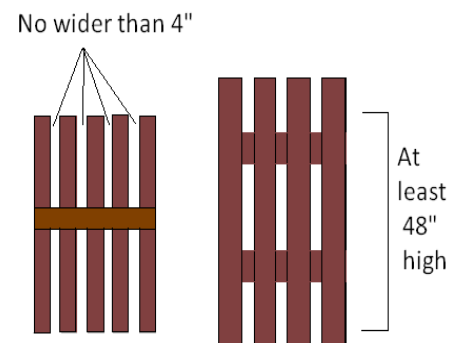
- They shall not be located within 6 feet from any side or rear property line or within 10 feet of any public right-of-way or in any front yard.
- Verify the location of overhead and underground power lines. Minimum clearance to the edge of water surface is 22.5 feet for overhead lines and 5 feet for underground lines.



Do I need a fence?

Yes, barriers such as fences are required for pools designed to contain more than 24 inches of water. The pool area must be completely contained within these barriers. The specific requirements are:

- All pools shall be enclosed around the perimeter of the pool by means of a barrier or fence 48 inches in height or greater. If the pool wall of an above ground pool is used as the barrier, the wall at all points around the pool shall be at least 48 inches higher than the finish grade for a distance of at least 48 inches away from the pool wall.
- If a house forms one side of a pool barrier, doors leading from the house to the pool shall be protected with an alarm that emits an audible warning when the door is opened.



- All in ground pools and any above ground pools that have less than the 4-foot barrier at any point in the circumference of the pool must have the 4-foot barrier installed prior to filling the pool with water.
- Any openings in the barrier shall not be greater than 4 inches.
- Any ladders or steps must be secured or removed to prevent pool access when not in use.
- Any permanent deck or fence used as a barrier shall have a self-closing gate that locks. Fences with double gates shall have at least 1 gate secured in place and the adjacent gate shall be secured with a self-closing and latching device.

Is there anything else I should know?

Yes, there are special electrical requirements that are very important. Please consult a qualified electrician if you have any questions or doubts regarding electrical requirements.

- Wiring from the power source to operate electrical equipment must be installed in rigid conduit or cable designed and approved for direct burial and shall be buried a minimum depth of 18 inches below grade. Call when electrical work is completed but not buried.
- A labeled, disconnecting means of equipment shall be provided within sight and located not less than 5 feet from the pool wall, hot tub or spa.
- Receptacles that provide power for equipment shall be located between 5 and 10 feet from the pool wall and shall be a single locking type plug.
- At least one general purpose outdoor GFCI protected plug shall be located between 10 and 20 feet from the pool.
- Inground pools: An equipotential bonding grid must be installed conforming to the contours of the pool and extending under a paved walking surface for 3 feet beyond the pool walls. All metal parts of the pool shall be bonded.
- Final inspections will not be approved until all fences or barriers are properly installed.

What is the next step?

Next, you need to:

- Complete and submit your permit application;
- Submit a site plan.
- Pay the permit fee. Permits are good for 6 months from date issued.
- Post green permit in any window visible from the street.

***Please note:** These guidelines are not a comprehensive presentation of all ordinances involved in placing, erecting, or constructing a pool, hot tub, or spa. Contact the Building and Zoning Dept. with any questions or concerns.*