

**SWIMMING POOLS REQUIREMENTS
FOR
THE CITY OF STRAFFORD**



The following items will be required to obtain a permit for the construction of a swimming pool:

1. A Legal description of the property
2. The owner of the property
3. The contractor
4. An accurate site plan, including measurements, with the following information:
 - a. The location of the pool on the property
 - b. The location of all buildings in reference to the pool
 - c. The location of all utilities (gas lines, water lines, electric lines, phone lines, etc.)
 - d. The exact location of any underground drain lines (sewer line, septic tanks, lateral lines, foundation drains, etc.)
 - e. Any sinkholes of other features, which would affect the construction of the pool, surface drainage or groundwater drainage in the area
5. Building permit. \$15.00 (\$15.00 fence and breaker inspection)

OUTDOORS PRIVATE SWIMMING POOL

An outdoor private swimming pool, including and in-ground or on-ground hot tub of spa shall be provided with a barrier which shall comply with the following.

1. The top of the barrier shall be at least forty-eight (48) inches above the finished ground level measured on the side of the barrier, which faces away from the pool. The maximum vertical clearance between finished ground level and the barrier shall be two (2) inches measured on the side of the barrier, which faces away from the swimming pool. Where the top of the pool structure is above finished ground level, such as an above ground pool, the barrier shall be at finished ground level, such as the pool structure, or shall be mounted on top of the pool structure. Where the barrier is mounted on top of the pool structure and the bottom of the barrier shall be four (4) inches. SEE ILLUSTRATION A.
2. Openings in the barrier shall not allow passage of a four (4) inch diameter sphere.
3. Solid barriers shall not contain indentations or protrusions except for normal construction tolerances and tooled masonry joints.
4. Where the barrier is composed of horizontal and vertical members and the distance between the tops of the horizontal members is less than forty-five (45) inches, the horizontal members shall be located on the swimming pool side of the fence. Spacing between vertical members shall not exceed 1¾ inches in width. SEE ILLUSTRATION B.
5. Where the barrier is composed of horizontal and vertical members and the distance between the tops of the horizontal members is forty-five (45) inches or more, spacing between vertical members shall not exceed four (4) inches. Decorative cutouts shall not exceed 1¾ inches in width. SEE ILLUSTRATION C.

6. Maximum mesh size for chain link fences shall be a 1¼ inch square unless the fence is provided with slats fastened at the top or the bottom which reduce the openings to not more than 1¾ inches (measured diagonally). See illustration D.
7. Where the barrier is composed of diagonal members, such as a lattice fence, the maximum opening formed by the diagonal members shall be not more than 1¾ inches (measured diagonally). See illustration E
8. Access gates shall comply with requirements of item one through seven (7) of this section, and shall be equipped to accommodate a locking device. Pedestrian access gates shall open outward away from the pool and be self-closing and have a self-latching device. Gates other than pedestrian access gates shall have a self-latching device Where the release mechanism of the self-latching devices located less than fifty-four (54) inches from the bottom of the gate; (a) the release mechanism shall be located on the pool side of the gate at least three (3) inches below the top of the gate; and (b) the gate and barrier shall not have an opening greater than ½ inch within eighteen (18) inches of the mechanism. SEE ILLUSTRATIONS F & G.
9. Where a wall of a dwelling serves as part of the barrier, one of the following shall apply:
 - 9.1 All doors with direct access to the pool through that wall shall be equipped with an alarm which produces an audible warning when the door and its screen, if present, are opened. The alarm shall sound for a minimum of thirty (30) seconds immediately after the door is opened. The alarm shall have a minimum sound pressure rating of eighty-five (85) dba at ten (10) feet and the sound of the alarm shall be distinctive from other household sounds such as smoke alarms, telephones, and door bells. The alarm shall automatically reset under all conditions. The alarm shall be equipped with manual means, such as touchpads or switches to deactivate temporarily the alarm for a single opening from either direction. Such deactivation shall last for not more than fifteen (15) seconds. The deactivation touchpads or switches shall be located at least fifty-four (54) inches above the threshold of the door.
 - 9.2 The pool shall be equipped with an approved power safety cover.
10. Where an above-ground pool structure is used as a barrier or where the barrier is mounted on top of the pool structure, and the means of access is a fixed or removable ladder or steps, the ladder or steps shall be surrounded by a barrier which meets the requirements of items one (1) through nine (9) of this section. A removable ladder shall not constitute an acceptable alternative to enclosure requirements. SEE ILLUSTRATION I.

INDOOR PRIVATE SWIMMING POOL

All walls surrounding an in door private swimming pool shall comply with item 9 of the previous section.

PROHIBITED LOCATIONS

Barriers shall be located so as to prohibit permanent structures, equipped or similar objects from being used to climb the barriers. See illustration H

Exemptions: The following shall be exempt for the provisions of this section.

1. A spa or hot tubs with an approved safety cover.
2. Fixtures which are drained after each use.

INLINE GROUND FAULT BREAKER REQUIRED.

INSPECTIONS

THE PERSON AND/OR AGENT TO WHOM THE PERMIT IS ISSUED, IS RESPONSIBLE TO OBTAIN THE PROPER INSPECTIONS BEFORE THE WORK IS COVERED. THE FAILURE TO OBTAIN THE PROPER INSPECTIONS WILL RESULT IN THE UNCOVERING OF WORK, A FINAL INSPECTION MUST BE PERFORMED BY THIS DEPARTMENT BEFORE THE POOL CAN BE USED.

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