



POOL AND SPA SAFETY FEATURES

For more information on Pool Safety see handout "Pool & Spa Fencing and Safety Barriers"

- A. Applicability. In order to prevent child access to swimming pools, any construction of a new swimming pool at a private single-family home shall comply with this section.
- B. Definitions. The following words as used in this section shall have the following meaning:
- "Alarms" means devices that make audible, continuous alarm sounds when any door or window that permits access from the residence to the pool area that is without any intervening enclosure is opened or is left ajar. Alarms may be battery operated or may be connected to the electrical wiring of the building.
- "Approved safety pool cover" means a manually or power-operated safety pool cover that meets all of the performance standards of the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) in compliance with standard F1346-91 as may be amended from time to time.
- "Building official" means the building official of the city or his or her designee.
- "Enclosure" means a fence, wall, or other barrier that isolates a swimming pool from access to the home.
- "Public swimming pool" means a swimming pool operated for the use of the general public with or without charge, or for the use of the members and guests of a private club. The public swimming pool does not include a swimming pool located on the grounds of a private single-family home.
- "Swimming pool" or "pool" means any structure intended for swimming or recreational bathing that contains water over 18 inches deep. Swimming pool or pool includes in-ground and above-ground structures and includes, but is not limited to, hot tubs, spas, portable spas and nonportable wading pool.
- C. Whenever a construction permit is issued for the construction of a new swimming pool at a private, single-family home, it shall be equipped with at least one of the following safety features:
1. The pool shall be isolated from access to a home by an enclosure that meets the requirements of subsection E of this section.
 2. If approved by the building official, one of the safety features set forth in subsection (D)(l), (2), (3) or (4) of this section.
- D. Whenever a construction permit is issued for construction of a new swimming pool at a private, single-family home and where a wall of a Group R, Division 3 Occupancy of dwelling unit serves as part of the barrier and contains door openings between the dwelling unit and the outdoor swimming pool that provide direct access to the pool, an enclosure meeting the requirements of subsection (C)(l) of this section shall be provided. If approved by the building official, one of the following safety features may be substituted:
1. Self-closing and self-latching devices installed on all doors with direct access to the pool with the release mechanism located a minimum of 60 inches (1,372 mm) above the floor.
 2. An alarm to be installed on all doors with direct access to the pool. The alarm shall sound continuously for a minimum of 30 seconds within seven seconds after the door and its screen, if present, is opened, and be capable of providing a sound pressure level of not less than 85DBA when measured indoors at 10 feet (3,048 mm). The alarm shall automatically reset under all conditions. The alarm system shall be equipped with a manual means, such as a touchpad or switch, to temporarily deactivate the alarm for a single opening. Such deactivation shall last no longer than 15 seconds. The deactivation switch shall be located at least 60 inches (1,372 mm) above the threshold of the door.



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3. An approved safety pool cover.
 4. Other means of protection so long as the degree of protection afforded is not less than that afforded by any of the devices described above.
- E. An enclosure shall have all of the following characteristics:
1. Any access gates through the enclosure open away from the swimming pool and are self-closing with a self-latching device placed no lower than 60 inches above the ground located on pool side of barrier.
 2. A minimum height of 60 inches and maximum height of 72 inches.
 3. A maximum vertical clearance from the ground to the bottom of the enclosure of two inches.
 4. Gaps or voids, if any, do not allow passage of a sphere equal to or greater than four inches in diameter.
 5. An outside surface free of protrusions, cavities, or other physical characteristics that would serve as handholds or foot holds that could enable a child below the age of five years to climb over.
- F. The requirements of this section shall not apply to any of the following:
1. Public swimming pools.
 2. Hot tubs or spas with locking safety covers that comply with the American Society for Testing Materials- Emergency Performance Specification ASTM-ES 1389 as may be amended from time to time.
 3. An apartment complex or any residential setting other than a single-family home.
 4. Any facility regulated by the State Department of Social Services even if the facility is also used as the private residence of the operator. Pool safety in those facilities shall be regulated pursuant to regulations adopted therefor by the State Department of Social Services.
- G. Doors, gates, latches, safety pool covers, enclosures, exit alarms or any other safety device installed to prevent access to a swimming pool from the home, should be maintained in good condition and should at all times provide the protection for which they are intended.
- H. Any person entering into an agreement to build a swimming pool shall give the consumer notice of the requirements of this section. Ord. 1829 § 4, 2008; Ord. 1827 § 4, 2007