

Private Residential Swimming Pools

Location Requirements for Any Pool Style:

Swimming pools and any attached or functionally related deck or patio shall comply with the required yard setbacks (distances) for the relevant zoning district. No pool shall be located within a drainage or utility easement. Swimming pools must be located in the rear yard.

Setback requirements for a pool, surrounding sidewalk (4' to 6' wide) and pool equipment must be at least 10 feet from the side and rear property lines and 15 feet from the street side property line (about 30 feet from street curb line). A deck and/or patio must be 10 feet from the side property line, 15 feet from the street side property line (about 30 feet from street curb line) and 20 feet from the rear yard property line.

Private Residential Permanent Pools:

A building permit is required for all private permanent above or in-ground residential swimming pools that exceed either of these two requirements:

- Depth of more than two feet (24") at any point.
- Volume over 5,000 gallons

General Pool Regulations:

Any work involving modifications to an electrical system, adding circuits or equipment that requires electrical work will require an electrical permit. For specific questions regarding electrical code requirements, permits or electrical inspections you can call the city electrical inspector at 320-743-3149.

The filling of any pool from a fire hydrant is strictly prohibited.

Pool Application Requirements:

Each application for a permit to construct or erect a permanent swimming pool shall be accompanied by plans of sufficient detail to show:

- A site plan drawing of the property with the proposed location of the pool, patio and/or decking, fence and its relationship to the house on the lot and distances to the property lines. In addition show the existing structures on the lot, including sheds, patios, etc.
- The size and depth of the pool.
- The location, size and types of equipment to be used in connection with the pool, including, but not limited to heater, filter unit, pump, fencing and the pool itself.

Pool Fence Requirements:

All pools for which a permit is required and granted shall be provided with safeguards to prevent children from gaining uncontrolled access. An automatic pool cover can be used in lieu of fencing requirements for an in-ground pool provided it is certified and complies with ASTM F 1346-91 requirements.

Otherwise, a fence that is four feet (4') in height must be constructed and maintained enclosing the pool that meets the following criteria:

- Fencing shall effectively prevent the entrance of children and be without hand or footholds that would enable a child to climb over it.
- All fencing openings or points of entry into the pool enclosure shall be equipped with gates or doors.
- All gates or doors to swimming pools shall be equipped with self-closing and self-latching devices, which are capable of being locked and placed at a sufficient height so as to be inaccessible to children.
- Prior to filling of the pool, an approved fence must be completely in place, inspected and approved by the city building official or his or her agent.
- The sides of an above ground pool may function as the fence provided it restricts access by children, including having no access via a deck or porch, the sides/walls are at least four feet (4') in height and there is an automatic retractable ladder or a removable ladder. The ladder must be removed or retracted when the pool is not being attended.
- A zoning permit will be required for the fence.

Pool Covers:

- For an in-ground pool, an automatic pool cover can be used in lieu of fencing requirements provided it is certified and complies with ASTM F 1346-91 requirements.

Definitions

Swimming pool: any indoor or outdoor structure intended for swimming or wading. The structure may be constructed, installed or located in-ground, partially in-ground or above ground and may include permanent or temporary swimming pools.

Temporary pool: a pool which is installed for a period of not more than 180 days and removed from the site.