



Doylestown Township
Code Enforcement Department

SWIMMING POOLS SPAS & HOT TUBS

Any person who wishes to construct, add to, modify or operate any swimming pool or hot tub, shall first secure a permit from Doylestown Township.

The required permit application forms are:

- Building Permit
- Electrical Permit
- Zoning Permit for fence (if applicable)

Construction must comply with the ICC 2009 Codes and Electrical work with the NEC 2008 and Doylestown Township Code Sec 175-16 H-6.

Permit application forms are available at the Township or from the Township website, doylestownpa.org.

Two (2) copies of a plot plan and all plans, drawings, specifications, maps or other data that shall satisfactorily indicate the location, specific dimensions, area, depth, method of fencing, latching, alarming of doors, if required, and method and location of the emptying of the pool, are required to be submitted with the application.

Contractors and homeowners are to co-ordinate with sub-contractors to submit all permit applications and accompanying plans and information at one time. **PARTIAL APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

PERMIT REVIEW will be completed within fifteen (15) days upon receipt of a complete application. Upon permit approval, you will be given a call when the permit is ready for pickup, and you may start construction as soon as permit fees and **ESCROW** are paid in full.

ESCROW

A \$500.00 curb and sidewalk escrow is required. This escrow is established prior to the release of the building permit and is released after the final inspection if there has been no damage to the public sidewalk or curb.

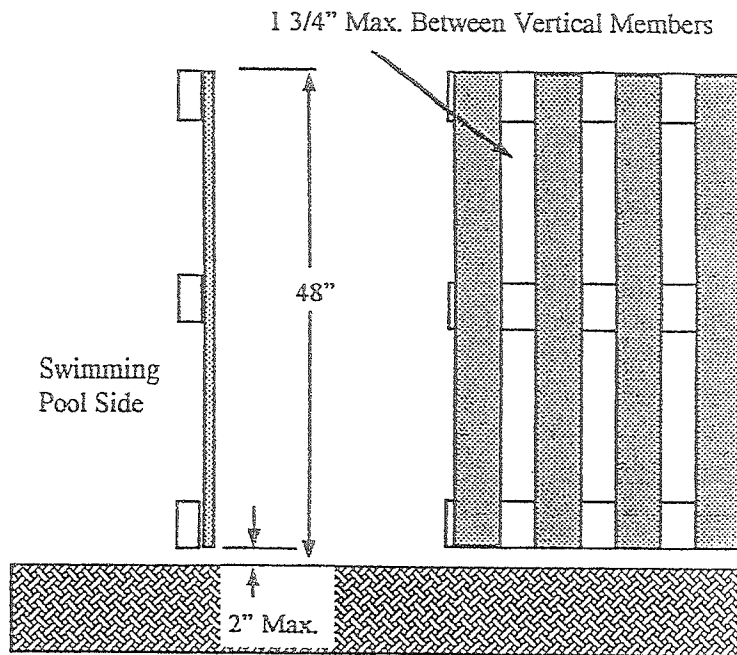
THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS TO BE SHOWN ON THE PLAN OR PROVIDED WITH THE APPLICATION. FAILURE TO DO SO WILL RESULT IN REJECTION OF THE APPLICATION AND DELAY IN PERMIT APPROVAL.

LOCATION:

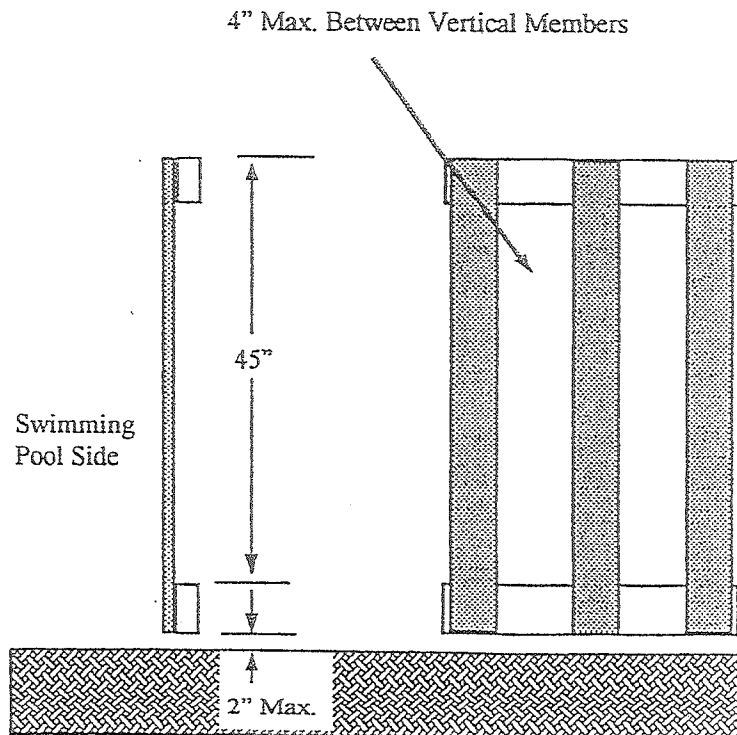
The waters edge of pools and hot tubs can be located no closer than 10 feet horizontally from overhead wiring and 15' from any property line, or 25' from any subsurface sanitary sewer system. There is no minimum clearance from subsurface sanitary sewer systems for above-ground pools or hot tubs.

IN-GROUND POOL BARRIERS:

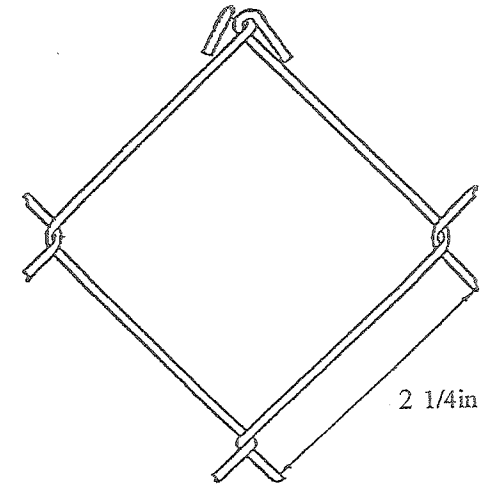
1. Barriers shall be a minimum of 48" high above grade measured from the side of the barrier that faces away from the pool.
2. The distance under the barrier to the ground is limited to 2" maximum.
3. Openings in the barrier shall not allow the passage of a 4" diameter sphere.
4. Solid barriers (walls, solid type wood fences, etc.) shall not contain any indentations or protrusions, except for normal tooled masonry joints, or construction tolerances.
5. Barriers with horizontal and vertical members and the distance between the tops of the horizontal members is less than 45", the horizontal members shall be on the pool side of the fence. Spacing between the vertical members shall not exceed 1-3/4" in width. Decorative cut-outs shall not exceed 1-3/4" in width. (Picket fences, aluminum fences with vertical balusters, etc.)



Horizontal Members Spaced @ Less Than 45"



6. Where barriers are composed of horizontal and vertical members and the distance between the tops of the horizontal members is 45" or more, spacing between the vertical members shall not exceed 4" maximum. Decorative cut-outs shall not exceed 1-3/4" in width.
7. Chain link fence mesh is limited to 2-1/4" square. Larger mesh shall be provided with slats to reduce the openings to 1-3/4" maximum.
8. Barriers constructed with diagonal members, such as a lattice fence, the maximum opening formed by the diagonal members shall not be more than 1-3/4".
9. Gates or fences with diagonal cross bracing (rack bracing) will require the spacing of vertical members no more than 1-3/4" apart.



CHAIN LINK FENCE MESH

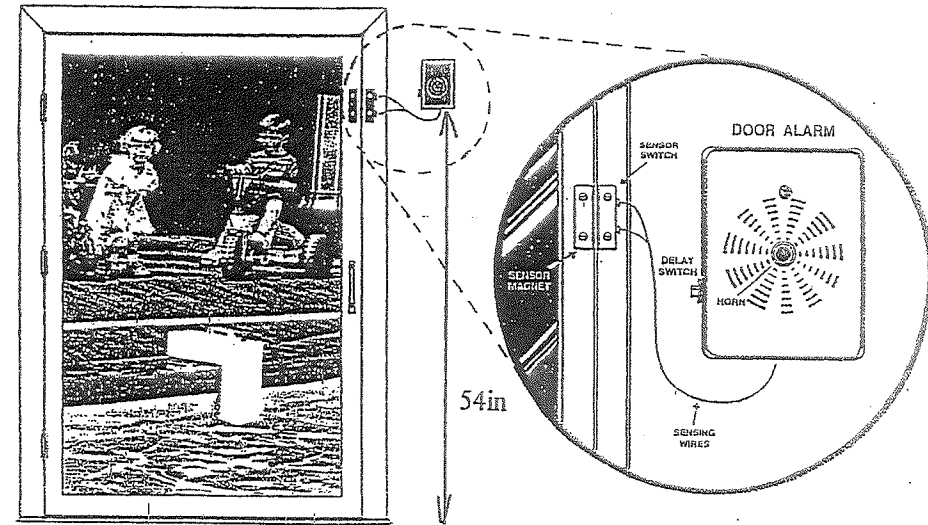
BARRIERS SHALL BE LOCATED SO AS TO PROHIBIT PERMANENT STRUCTURES, EQUIPMENT OR SIMILAR OBJECTS FROM BEING USED TO CLIMB BARRIERS.

HOT TUBS AND SPAS WITH COVERS:

A residential spa or hot tub with a safety cover complying with ASTM F1346 is exempt from the barrier requirements.

GATES:

1. A locking device is required on all gates.
2. Pedestrian access gates shall open outward away from the pool, and shall have self-closing and self-latching devices. Other gates shall have a self-latching device.
3. The release mechanism (for the self-latching devices) shall be a minimum of 54" from the bottom of the gate.
4. If the release mechanism is less than 54" from the bottom of the gate, the release mechanism shall be located on the pool side of the gate, a minimum of 3" from the top of the gate, and the gate and barrier shall have an opening no greater than 1/2" within 18" of the release mechanism.



POOL DOOR ALARM

HOUSE DOORS:

Where a wall of the house or a building serves as part of the barrier and contains a door that provides direct access to the pool, an alarm shall be connected to the door(s) which produces an audible warning when opened. Alarm shall be listed and labeled in accordance with UL 2017. The alarm shall automatically reset under all conditions. The alarm shall be equipped with a manual deactivation device to deactivate temporarily the alarm for a single opening from either direction (touchpads or switches). All touchpads or switches shall be installed a minimum 54" above the threshold of the door. Pool door alarms are available from home improvement stores.

Or

Doors with direct access to the pool through that wall shall be equipped with a self-closing and self-latching device with a release mechanism 54" minimum above the floor. Swinging doors shall open away from the pool area.

Or

The pool shall be equipped with a power safety cover having specifications complying with ASTM F1346.

ABOVE GROUND POOL BARRIERS:

Specific requirements for barrier construction shall be the same for in-ground pool barriers.

1. The 48" high barrier is measured from finished ground level to the top of the pool, or, to the top of the barrier mounted to the pool structure.
2. Barriers mounted to the top of the pool structure may have an opening between the top of the pool frame and the bottom of the barrier limited to the passage of a 4" sphere.
3. If the above-ground pool has a catwalk around the top of the pool, there shall be a 36" high guard around the top of the pool.
4. Access ladders or steps shall be capable of being secured, locked or removable to prevent access.

Or

The ladder or steps shall be surrounded by a barrier.