

CITY OF WHITTIER
DEPARTMENT OF BUILDING AND SAFETY
SWIMMING POOL & SPA REQUIREMENTS

POOL COMPANY _____ POOL ADDRESS _____

OWNER'S NAME _____ DATE _____

The following requirements are in addition to those shown on the engineering and site plans for the installation of a swimming pool, spa or hot tub on residential property.

1. Prior to the plastering and filling of the pool with water, a five-foot (5') minimum height barrier shall be installed, inspected, and approved by this department. This barrier shall entirely encompass the pool, or the yard containing the pool, and any openings leading directly to the enclosed space (including doors from the dwelling, garage, or other building not entirely located within the protective barrier) shall be suitably protected. Construction and opening protection shall be as specified on the reverse side of this sheet. At the time of fence and gate inspection, all in-pool lighting fixtures shall be available for inspection.
2. Pool equipment, including heaters, shall be located not less than five feet (5') from interior side property lines in the R-1, R-2, R-3 and R-4 zones, and not less than ten feet (10') from interior side or rear property lines in the R-E and H-R zones, unless otherwise approved by the Planning Department.

For installation in zones other than those listed above, or on corner or reversed-corner lots, please consult the Planning Department.

3. If no profile or grades are indicated on the plans, it shall be assumed by this department that there is no grade elevation difference of more than $\frac{1}{2}$ " per foot within twenty feet (20') of the pool structure. If this is *not* the case, new plans shall be submitted to this department, which clearly indicate elevations, drainage patterns, and necessary precautions and/or devices provided to ensure the stability of the pool and adjacent areas.

Note: *The Building Inspector will stop the construction of the pool if it is discovered that the site conditions are not as represented on the plans.*

4. Edison Company owned electrical service entrance conductors over pools shall maintain clearances as required by the Southern California Edison Company. The clearances are 12' above the water and a 12' radius from water's edge and 16' above diving platforms or towers for triplex connectors.
5. All metallic conduit, metallic piping systems, pool equipment, pool reinforcing steel, lighting systems, fixtures, metal parts of ladders, diving boards, etc., and any metal structures within 5' of the waterline of the pool, shall be bonded together and connected to a common ground.
6. Pool wastewater shall be disposed of in an approved manner to a public sewer by means of a properly trapped receptor ("P-trap") installed in accordance with the requirements of the California Plumbing Code. Pools equipped with an automatic backwash system must have a permanent line equal in diameter to the discharge opening and shall be installed from the filter to the receptor.

The following additional items are required by the Engineering Department when so indicated:

1. A six-inch high, concrete curb is required at the edge of decking and pool equipment slab where the edge of either is within 15' of the top of a slope.
2. Final grading and drainage must be approved by the Engineering Department before permission to fill the pool can be granted.

NOTE: *ALL EXCAVATED MATERIAL MUST BE (A) REMOVED FROM THE CITY OF WHITTIER, OR (B) TAKEN TO THE CITY OF WHITTIER MUNICIPAL LANDFILL, OR (C) PLACED ON AN APPROVED SITE IN CONFORMANCE WITH A VALID GRADING PERMIT FOR THAT SITE.*

THE SWIMMING POOL AND SPA SAFETY ACT OF 2006

SECTION 115922 & 115928.5 of the Health and Safety Code

Effective January 1, 2007, the suction outlet of the pool or spa for which a permit is issued shall be equipped to provide circulation throughout the pool or spa as prescribed below:

The swimming pool or spa shall have at least two circulation drains per pump that shall be hydraulically balanced and symmetrically plumbed through one or more "T" fittings, and that are separated by a distance of at least three feet in any dimension between the drains and additionally;

- (a) *suction outlets that are less than 12 inches across shall be covered with antientrapment grates that cannot be removed except with the use of tools.*
- (b) *Any backup safety system that an owner of a new swimming pool or spa may choose to install in addition to the requirements shall meet the standards as published in "Guidelines for Entrapment Hazards: Making Pools and Spas Safer."*
- (c) *Whenever a building permit is issued for the remodel or modification of a single family home with an existing swimming pool, toddler pool, or spa, the permit shall require that the suction outlet of the existing swimming pool, or spa be upgraded so as to be equipped with an antientrapment cover meeting current standards of the American Society for Testing and Materials or the American Society of Mechanical Engineers.*

Barrier Specifications and Guidelines

Height: The top of the barrier shall be at least 60" (5') above grade measured on the side facing *away* from the pool.

Openings: The maximum vertical distance between grade and the bottom of the barrier shall be 2"; measured on the side away from the pool (may be increased to 4" where grade is a solid surface such as concrete decking). All other openings shall not allow passage of a 4" diameter sphere, with minimum dimensions as indicated below.

Construction:

- A. Masonry or stone
 - 1. If solid units are used, the wall shall have no indentations or protrusions other than tooled masonry joints (no recessed or staggered block, decorative boulders, or other "step" type items).
 - 2. If decorative block, or open pattern masonry, is used, the openings shall not exceed 1¾" in width.
- B. Fabricated fencing (wrought iron, wood, etc.)
 - 1. Spacing and location of members.
 - a. Where the distance between the tops of horizontal members is *less than 45"*, the members must be on the pool side of the fence. The spacing between vertical members, or the width of any decorative cutout in a vertical member, cannot exceed 1¾".
 - b. Where the distance between the tops of horizontal members is *45" or more*, the members may be on either side. The spacing between vertical members must be less than 4", and the width of any decorative cutout in a vertical member cannot exceed 1¾".
 - c. Where diagonal latticework is used, the maximum dimension of the opening cannot exceed 1¾". (This equals a square measuring 1¼" on a side)
- C. Woven wire fencing (Chain-link, etc.)*
 - 1. Maximum mesh size for woven wire fencing is 1¼" square unless the fence is provided with approved slats, fastened at the top or bottom, which reduce the maximum dimension of the openings to no more than 1¾".

***Check with Planning Department for use of chain-link fencing in front yards and on corner lots.**

Gates:

Access gates must comply with the above requirements for height and spacing of members. Gates leading to the pool area shall be single-leaf, maximum four feet (4') in width, shall swing away from the pool, and shall be self-closing and equipped with a self-latching mechanism. Latches shall accommodate a locking device (lock need not be installed). Where the release mechanism of the latching device is less than 54" from the bottom of the gate (including any extension chain, etc.), (1) the latching device must have a release mechanism placed no lower than 54" above the floor. *These requirements shall also be applicable to an access door from a garage to a pool area where the garage forms a portion of the required barrier.*

Doors from dwelling to pool area:

Where a wall of a dwelling serves as part of the barrier, doors with direct access to the pool area 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 continuously for a minimum of 30 seconds, immediately after the door is opened, and be capable of being heard throughout the house during normal household activities. The alarm shall automatically reset under all conditions. The alarm system shall be equipped with a manual means, such as a touch pad or switch, to deactivate the alarm for a single opening. Such deactivation shall last for no more than 15 seconds. The deactivation device shall be located at least 54" above the threshold of the door. In lieu of alarm protection, doors opening directly to the pool area may be equipped with self-closing, self-latching hardware with the release mechanism located a minimum of 54" above the floor. *Openings serving indoor swimming pools, spas and hot tubs shall also comply with these requirements.*

Revised 5/11/95 to reflect new ordinance #2654 and on 1/1/07 for H&S Code

Acknowledged _____ Date _____

Approved for permit _____