



## CITY OF WATERTOWN

Department of Building Inspections

309 Lewis Ave S, PO Box 279

Watertown, MN 55388

Phone (952) 955-2681 – Fax (952) 955-2695

### RESIDENTIAL SWIMMING POOL REQUIREMENTS

All swimming pools, hot tubs, spas and other water tanks exceeding 24 inches in depth and 5,000 gallon capacity must be fenced as required below:

Temporary swimming pools (those made of rubber, plastic, or inflatable vessel which can be erected without permanent support that is put up and taken down on an annual basis, typically bought from a big box store like Target, Walmart, or Menards) greater than 24 inches in depth and more than 5,000 gallons shall require a one time lifetime permit. The temporary swimming pool, if dismantled or removed, shall be put up in the same location annually. A new permit shall be required if the location of the temporary swimming pool changes or the size or dimensions of the pool changes. Temporary swimming pools less than 24 inches in depth and less than 5,000 gallons are exempt from a permit.

#### PERMITS:

**Building Permits** are required for construction of above ground or in-ground swimming pools with a water capacity exceeding 5,000 gallons.

**Plumbing Permits** are not required for swimming pool plumbing when only circulating the pool water, and separated from the sanitary sewer and portable water supply.

**Plumbing Permits** are required if swimming pool plumbing is connected to the domestic portable water supply, or sanitary sewer.

**Electrical Permits** are required for the extension of circuits or new circuits serving swimming pool equipment. Installation of junction boxes, ground fault circuitry, overhead wire, pool grounding, etc. must conform to National Electric Code requirements. Electrical is done by the State of Minnesota Board of Electricity (651) 284-5026.

#### INSPECTIONS REQUIRED:

The following inspections must be requested:

- **Site/Footing Inspection:** To approve pool location, reinforcement and footing prior to placement of concrete.

- **Framing Inspection:** After pool installation, and prior to backfill.
- **Final:** Upon completion of pool and fencing.

Additional inspections may be required for plumbing and electrical work if permits are issued for that work.

**Please call (952) 955-2681 to arrange an inspection. Have your permit number available when calling for an inspection.**

**SETBACK AND POOL LOCATIONS:**

Referenced City Ordinance 354, Section 62-488

- All swimming pools and spas shall be at least 10 feet from underground or overhead utility lines, walkway, or other easements, both public and private.
- The filter unit, pump, heat unit, any other noise making mechanical equipment shall be located at least 25 feet from any residential structure on adjacent property.
- All swimming pools and spas shall be at least six feet from any side or rear lot line, and five feet from any principal building. Pool decks and patios and other related structures must be setback
- No swimming pool or spa shall be constructed within any required front or corner side yard set back, buffer area, or easement.

Private swimming pools located on the site of multiple-family dwellings shall have no part of the water surface, any pumps, filters, or other apparatus located less than 50 feet from any lot line or easement.

**REQUIRED INFORMATION FOR PERMIT ISSUANCE:**

- Certificate of Survey
- Site plan drawn to scale indicating lot dimensions, location and size of existing and proposed structure(s), setbacks from property lines, and proposed pool location and size drawn to scale.
- Two copies of construction plans showing proposed designs and materials. Drawing must be drawn to scale on paper.
- The location, size, and a statement as to the types of equipment to be used for the pool or spa including filter unit, pump, wiring, heating unit, fencing, and the pool or spa.

**FENCING:**

Referenced City Ordinance 354, Section 62-487

All permanent swimming pools exceeding 24 inches in depth and 5,000 gallons must be completely fenced in:

- Swimming pool fences must be a minimum 4 feet in height and non-climbable
- The fence must not permit the passage of a 4” sphere through openings in the fence
- Fences shall be of non-corrosive material.
- All fence opening points of entry onto the pool shall be equipped with gates or doors which must be equipped with self-closing and self-latching devices placed at a sufficient height so as to be non-accessible to small children.

*Fencing Exceptions:*

- (1) Where an aboveground pool structure has walls that are at least 4 feet in height, the pool may serve to meet the fencing requirements; however, the access to the pool must provide equivalent protection to prevent unauthorized entry. Those property owners with temporary swimming pools shall have the discretion to construct a fence. The City does not require a fence.
- (2) Spas which incorporate a hard cover when not in use.
- (3) The fencing requirement may be waived, in lieu of a mechanical cover so as to prohibit access to the pool water when the cover is deployed.

\*\*Note: The fence shall be completely installed and inspected before filling the pool. A separate permit is required for fences. No swimming pool or spa shall be occupied or used at any time prior to a final inspection and approval of the pool or spa and permanent fence by the Building Official.