

Outdoor pools that are left unenclosed and unsupervised pose a hazard to young children. In the interest of preventing senseless tragedy, it is therefore important to follow the regulatory requirements governing their installation.

PERMIT REQUIRED

Installation of any reservoir used for bathing purposes and having a depth of at least 0.6 meters (2 feet) requires a permit. An application form may be completed online or in person with the assistance of a Northwest Regional Service Commission development officer.

LOCATION

- In the back or side yard or at a distance equivalent to the front setback of the existing main building
- At least 2 meters away from the rear and side property lines, not necessarily including enclosures
- It is prohibited to install a pool directly below overhead electrical power lines.

FENCE, ENCLOSURE AND ACCESS

The owner of the outdoor pool must erect and maintain around it an enclosure, which may be formed in part by a building or other structural wall, according to the following dimensions:

- minimum height of 1.5 meters (5 feet)
- maximum height of 2.5 meters (8 feet 2 inches)
- minimum distance of 1 meter from the water in the pool.

In the case of an above-ground or semi-in-ground pool, the enclosure may be erected either around it or directly on its edge as long as the prescribed heights are maintained.

HOT TUBS (SPAS)

Installation of a hot tub does not require a permit. However, as an accessory structure, its installation must respect the regulated setbacks applicable in the zone where it is to be installed.

SURFACE AREA

Swimming pools are excluded from lot occupancy standards for the area of the lot and the percentage of the area occupied by accessory structures.

