

Building & Zoning POOL FAQ

The Building Code requires the following for all temporary or permanent above-ground &/or in-ground pools and requires a permit:

- 1) If the pool has a pump - Every pool pump shall be located between 6 and 10 feet to a single, locking/grounding type exterior GFCI receptacle with an in-use cover. All wiring must be permanent – no extension cords. No wiring/cords may run into the interior of the building through doors, windows, etc.
- 2) If the pool has a pump - Pool water shall be intentionally bonded by means of a conductive surface area not less than 9 square inches installed in contact with the pool water.
- 3) **All** pools under 48” require a 48” high fence with a self-latching gate or an approved hard cover specifically manufactured for that pool.
- 4) Pools 48” and above may be approved with a lockable, fold up or removable stair instead of a fence and self-latching gate.
- 5) Spas & hot tubs will allow a listed lockable cover in lieu of a fence and shall be inspected through the permit process for electrical criteria.

Zoning requires the following:

- 1) A zoning permit is required for every regulated pool and fence put up in the Borough*
- 2) No permanent pool shall be put up without a filtration system
- 3) All pools under 48” require a 48” fence with a self-latching gate
- 4) If the pool is four feet in height or over and has a lockable, retractable or removable ladder a fence and gate is not required
- 5) Spas may need a zoning permit depending on where they are placed.
- 6) Permanent pools shall be at least 10 feet from all property lines
- 7) Temporary pools (those that will be removed at the end of the season) shall be located at least 10 feet from all property lines if at all possible and will still need to meet all applicable building code requirements as noted above including a fence
- 8) Pools may not be filled until a fence is erected
- 9) Pool water may not be discharged into a public street or alley
- 10) All zoning and building code criteria shall be in compliance prior to use.

*These rules apply to every pool, including temporary pools that are 24” in height and over, and those with or without a pump. Certain pools may also need a building permit application to be submitted and inspection conducted by the Building Inspector prior to use as noted above.

Please contact the Codes Office with fence and zoning questions at 717-665-2461 X 223 or Andy Nelson at Commonwealth Codes 717-664-2347 X 405 with specific questions about electrical &/or bonding requirements.