

SWIMMING POOLS AND SPAS FAQ'S

When is a Building Permit needed for a Swimming Pool?

If the water in the pool is designed to be 24" deep or greater, a Building Permit is required.

This includes in-ground pools, above-ground (semi-permanent) pools, inflatables, other temporary and seasonal pools, hot tubs, spas, etc.

Temporary and Seasonal Pools, such as inflatables, need a permit each year they are put up.

Where can I put the Pool or Spa?

Pools and Spas are 'Accessory Structures' under Salisbury Zoning and must comply with all property line setbacks.

A Pool Application needs a Site Survey or Plot Plan document provided to verify that it is placed within the property setbacks.

The Site Plan must show property lines, septic systems, wells, house, flood zone, wetlands

A Zoning Waiver may be applicable for temporary pools – speak to the Building Inspector.

What needs to be provided with the Permit application?

1. In-ground pools –
 - a. An registered design professional's wet-stamped drawings
 - b. Site Plan or Plot Plan
 - c. A Contract with the Pool Installer
 - d. A copy of the Contract for Fencing showing the code specified gates and fencing
 - e. A copy on the info on the door chime to be installed

2. Above-ground pools – pictures and specifications from the manufacturer
 - a. Pool - catalogue pictures and specifications from the manufacturer
 - b. Lockable Ladders – catalogue pictures and specifications from the manufacturer
 - c. Site or Plot Plan (signed zoning waiver if allowed)
 - d. Contract for Fencing showing the gates, if applicable

What other Approvals might be needed?

A Swimming Pool and Spa will need a signoff from the Conservation Department that there are no wetlands nearby; you must talk to them before a permit is approved.

All Building Permits need signoffs from the Tax Collector, Assessor and DPW before we issue the Permit.

In-ground and above ground (semi-permanent) pools may need Electrical permits for grounding and pump wiring.

The in-ground pool will need an excavation inspection and an as-built Site Survey or Plot Plan to show where it is actually installed.

Are Barriers to the Pool area required?

Swimming Pools and Spa's need a 4' high fence around the pool area.

Any gates in the fence around the pool area must be self-closing, self-latching and the latch must be 54" above the ground.

Any house doors that lead directly into the pool area must have chimes on the doors.

In-ground pools under construction need to be protected from unauthorized entry if they fill up with rain water.

If you are installing an above-ground pool and don't plan on fencing your pool area, then you must use a lockable ladder to control access into the pool.

What codes and regulations apply for Pools and Spas?

We follow the 2015 International Swimming Pool and Spa Code under the State of Massachusetts 9th Edition of the Building Code.

This FAQ is a simplified description of the code, more specific details may apply.

What other requirements are there for Pools?

Temporary Pool motors must be plugged into a GFCI outlet.

When can I use the Pool or Spa?

A Pool or Spa cannot be legally used until it has had its final inspection from the Building Inspector. This occurs after the pool is completed and inspected by the Electrical inspector first.

Why are there so many rules and regulations for Pools and Spa's?

Nearly 4100 children die every year in accidents!