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## Definitions

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**Barrier:** A fence, wall, building wall or combination thereof that completely surrounds the swimming pool and obstructs access to the swimming pool.

**Swimming Pool:** Any structure intended for swimming or recreational bathing that contains water over 24 inches deep. This includes in-ground, aboveground and on-ground swimming pools, hot tubs and spas.

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## Requirements for the installation of a residential swimming pool.

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For specific questions please contact the Planning and Public Works Department. The following is required:

- A building permit..
- An electrical permit.
- A heating permit is required when installing a heater.

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## Location

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A wall of a swimming pool shall not be located less than 6 feet from any rear or side property line and shall not encroach on any front yard required by the Galesburg Municipal Code.

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## Electrical

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Wiring methods used in conjunction with swimming pools, spas, hot tubs or hydromassage bathtubs shall be installed in accordance with the 2014 National Electrical Code. Overhead and underground electrical from pool must be maintained.

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## Pool Heaters

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Pool and spa heaters shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's installation instructions.

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## Plumbing

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Pools shall be filled from a potable water source with proper backflow protection in place.

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## Safety Glazing

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Glazing in walls, fences, and doors enclosing indoor and outdoor swimming pools, hot tubs and spas where the bottom edge of the pool or spa side is less than 60 inches above a walking surface and within 60 inches horizontally of the water's edge shall be safety glazing.

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## **Barrier Requirements**

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These design controls are intended to provide protection against potential drownings and near drownings by restricting access to swimming pools, spas, and hot tubs.

- The top of the barrier shall be at least 48 inches above grade measured on the side of the barrier that faces away from the swimming pool. The maximum dimension between grade and the bottom of the barrier shall be 2 inches.
- Where the barrier is mounted on top of an above ground pool the maximum clearance between the top of the pool structure and the bottom of the barrier shall be 4 inches.
- Openings in barriers shall not allow passage of a 4-inch diameter sphere.
- Solid barriers which do not have openings, such as masonry or stone wall, shall not contain indentations or protrusions except for normal construction tolerances and tooled masonry joints.
- When a barrier is composed of horizontal and vertical members and the distance between the tops of the horizontal members is less than 45 inches, the horizontal members shall be located on the pool side. Spacing of the vertical members shall not exceed 1.75 inches. Spacing within vertical cutouts shall not exceed 1.75 inches.
- When a barrier is composed of horizontal and vertical members and the distance between the tops of the horizontal members is 45 inches or more, spacing of the vertical members shall not exceed 4 inches. Spacing within vertical cutouts shall not exceed 1.75 inches.
- Maximum mesh size for chain link fences shall be a 2.25 inch square unless slats fastened at the top and bottom reduce the opening to not more than 1.75 inches.
- When a barrier is composed of diagonal members, such as a lattice fence, the maximum opening formed by the diagonal members shall not be more than 1.75 inches.
- When an above ground pool structure is used as a barrier or where the barrier is mounted on top of the pool structure, and the means of access is a ladder or steps; the ladder or steps must be capable of being secured, locked or removed to prevent access.
- When a wall of a dwelling serves as part of a barrier 1 of the following conditions must be met:
  1. Pool must have a powered safety cover in compliance with ASTM F1346

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## **Access Gates**

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- Shall comply with the barrier requirements mentioned above.
- Shall open away from the pool, self-closing, and self-latching.
- When a release mechanism is less than 54 inches from the bottom of the gate, it shall be located on the pool side at least 3 inches below the top of the gate and no opening greater than 1/2 inch within 18 inches of release mechanism.

Specifications –PLEASE NOTE: This handout is only standard pool information and other requirements of the currently adopted residential code may apply for specific pool projects. Please contact the Building Official for any additional code requirements.

**Should I contact anyone before I install my pool?**

Yes, please contact The City of Galesburg, Inspections Division at 345-3619 and J.U.L.I.E. at 1-800-892-0123 before you dig to make sure all utilities are located.

What happens if I cannot make my fence conform to the City's requirements?

The City of Galesburg has an appeals process if you can't comply with the regulations. The cost of filing an appeal is \$75.00. Please contact City Staff for further information about this process at 345-3617.