

# Western Washtenaw Construction Authority

## Building and Trade Permits

### Swimming Pools, Spas and Hot Tubs Codes

Any Structure that contains water over 24 inches in depth and which is used or intended to be used for swimming or recreational bathing. This includes above ground pools, in ground pools, hot tubs and spas, hereafter referred as pools.

1. **Permits:** All pools will require a permit prior to installation. A completed application, health dept. approval, zoning approval and construction documents that would include size, shape, and type of construction are necessary. Building permits covers the installation of the pool. If the pool equipment is permanently “hard wired” into the electrical system an electrical permit is required. If there is a water heater a mechanical permit will be required. If connections to household water are made a plumbing permit is required. A Certificate of Use and Occupancy shall be issued when complete. Failure to complete the permit may result in legal action.
2. **Inspections:**
  - a. Footing inspection shall take place once excavation has taken place. For above ground pools all sod and vegetative material shall be removed. Suspect soils with low bearing capacity will be disapproved.
  - b. Final building takes place after all work is complete including the enclosure.
  - c. Mechanical Inspectors shall observe all underground piping, gas piping (including pressure test) and mechanical equipment installation.
  - d. Electrical inspector shall observe all underground electrical installations, service connections, lighting, outlets, or other devices before being covered. Final electrical inspection will take place when energized.
3. **Enclosures:** See section 421.10.1
  - a. All pool enclosures shall have a minimum height of 48 inches to the top of the barrier. Maximum openings shall not allow the passage of a 4-inch sphere. The bottom of the barrier shall be within 2 inches of the ground. It shall not create a ladder effect.
  - b. Chain link shall have a mesh size not greater than 1 ¼ inches.
  - c. Gates: Pedestrian gates shall open outward, be self closing, self latching, and be capable of locking. The release mechanism, when located less than 54 inches must be located at least 3 inches below the top of the gate, on the pool side of the gate, and any openings within 18 inches of the latch shall be less than ½ inch.
  - d. Where the wall of a dwelling unit serves as part of the barrier and contains a door that provides direct access to the pool, one of the following shall apply:
    1. An alarm shall sound when the door is opened.
    2. Doors having access to the pool shall have self closing, self latching devices not less than 54 inches above the finish floor on the inside. Swinging doors shall open away from the pool area.
    3. The pool may be installed with an approved power safety cover.