



SWIMMING POOLS

City of Savage Building Inspections Department
6000 McColl Drive
Savage MN 55378
(952) 882-2650 fax (952) 882-2656

DEFINITIONS:

Swimming Pool, Hot Tub or Spa

Any outdoor structure which is intended for swimming, wading or recreational bathing and contains, or is capable of containing, water over 24 inches deep. The structure may be constructed, installed or located in-ground, above-ground or on-ground and may include permanent or temporary swimming pools, hot tubs and spas. Any regulation applicable or with reference to the term "swimming pool" within this chapter shall also include and be applicable to an outdoor hot tub or spa.

Swimming Pool Barrier

A fence, wall, building wall or combination thereof which completely surrounds the swimming pool and obstructs access to the swimming pool.

Storable Swimming or Wading Pool

A pool with nonmetallic, molded polymeric walls or inflatable fabric walls constructed on or above the ground and is so constructed that it may be readily disassembled for storage and reassembled to its original integrity.

PERMIT REQUIREMENTS:

A building permit shall be required before work is commenced on the construction, alteration, addition to, or remodel of a swimming pool.

Application for Permit

An application for a permit shall be submitted to the Building Official on forms provided by the City and shall include the following:

1. Two sets of plans, specifications and pertinent explanatory data relative to design, operation and maintenance.
2. The length, depth, and width of the swimming pool, the swimming pool deck and appurtenances.
3. A site plan of the subject parcel showing the following:
 - a. Location of the swimming pool, the pumps, filter, wiring, protective fencing, back-flush and drainage outlets.
 - b. Location of all structures on the building lot including house, garage, fencing or other improvements.

- c. Location of existing underground or overhead utilities (electric, telephone, gas, etc.), utility easements, water systems, buried sewage disposal systems, trees, and other similar features.
- d. Grading plans and finished elevations around the swimming pool.
- e. Locations of structures on adjacent lots.

Fees

Building permit fees for a swimming pool shall be the same as those charged for a building permit as established from time to time by the City Council.

Storable swimming and wading pools must be disassembled and stored between the dates of October 15 and April 15 each year.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

All pools constructed within the City shall meet the following requirements:

General Construction

1. Construction of pools shall be undertaken so as to avoid hazard, damage or considerable inconvenience to adjacent property.
2. All wiring, installation of heating units, grading, installation of pipe or other construction shall be subject to inspection.
3. Back-flush water or water from the swimming pool shall be directed onto the owner's property or onto approved public drainage ways and shall not drain onto adjacent private land. Drainage onto public streets or other public drainage ways shall require written approval of the Public Works Director.
4. All swimming pool lighting shall be directed toward the pool and not toward adjacent property.
5. Filling of swimming pools from fire hydrants, or other public facilities shall require approval of the Public Works Director.
6. Swimming pool heaters shall have approved pressure relief valves.
7. Gas piping shall meet S.B.C. 1345-2620.
8. Overhead wires or services shall meet requirements of Article 680 of the National Electrical Code.

Fencing

1. The swimming pool, hot tub or spa area shall be surrounded with a barrier consisting of fencing, screening or other enclosure or any combination thereof, of sufficient density to prevent children from gaining uncontrolled access. If fences are used, they shall be at least four feet in height. The bottoms of the fences shall not be more than four inches from the ground, and no opening in the fence shall be larger than four inches. Only non-corrosive material and vertical slats may be used as fencing or screening.

2. All fence openings or points of entry into the pool shall be equipped with gates or doors. Such gates and doors shall be equipped with self-closing and self-latching devices placed at a height and location so as to be inaccessible to small children. The fence must be completely installed, less a 16-foot section (or larger, if approved by the building official) for construction access, prior to the footings inspection. The construction access must be blocked off with temporary fencing during periods when construction has ceased. The construction opening must be enclosed with permanent fencing prior to the final inspection.
3. **Exceptions:** The following situations are exceptions to the fencing requirements:
 - a. Fencing is only required around the ladder or entrance to an above ground swimming pool that: 1) is at least four feet above ground around the entire perimeter of the pool; 2) has exterior walls that are nonclimbable.
 - b. Storable swimming or wading pools are exempt from the fencing requirements provided all means of access into the pool are removed and the pool is covered when it is not in use.
 - c. Hot tubs or spas with a locking safety cover which complies with ASTM Standard F 1346-91 shall be exempt from these fencing requirements, provided the cover is locked at all times when the hot tub or spa is not in use.

Location

Utilities

Swimming pools shall not be located within ten feet (measured horizontally) from underground or aboveground utility line. Swimming pools and perimeter walks shall not be located within any private or public utility, drainage, walkway or other easement.

Single Family Residential Lots

For swimming pools constructed on single-family residential lots, swimming pools shall not be located within eight feet of any rear lot line nor within five feet of any side lot line nor within six feet of any principal structure or frost footing.

Swimming pools shall not be located within any required front yard. The filter unit, pump, heating unit and any other noise-making mechanical equipment shall be located at least 25 feet from any residential structure on adjacent property and not closer than eight feet to any lot line.

Multi-Family Residential Lots

Public swimming pools and swimming pools constructed for use for more than one family are subject to rules and regulations of the State Health Department. For swimming pools constructed on multi-family lots intended for and used by occupants and guests of occupants of multi-family dwellings, no part of the water surface of the swimming pool shall be closer than 50 feet to any lot line and no pumps, filter or other apparatus used in connection with the pool shall be located closer than 50 feet to any lot line.

The swimming pool shall be adequately fenced to prevent uncontrolled access from the street or adjacent property, and contain the same features described under the fencing paragraph of this handout. Adequate screening, including but not limited to landscape, shall be placed between the pool area and any adjoining single-family district lot lines. All deck areas, adjoining patios, or other areas used in conjunction with the pool, shall be located at least 15 feet from any lot line in an adjoining single-family district.

PROHIBITED ACTS AND CONDITIONS

During any use of a swimming pool, nuisances such as undue noise, lighting of adjacent property, health and safety hazards, damage to vegetation on adjoining property and the like, shall not be permitted.

VARIANCES:

Any variance deemed reasonable may be granted by the City Council to avoid unnecessary hardship or unnecessary expense in the compliance with this chapter. The variances shall be applied for on an application form prescribed by the City and upon payment of the fee set forth by City Council resolution.

LIABILITY OF OWNER:

The lot owner upon which any swimming pool is constructed within the City shall be liable for damages to any business or private property caused during pool construction.

VIOLATIONS:

Any person violating the provisions of this Chapter shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. Each day of continuing violation shall constitute a separate offense.