

SWIMMING POOLS

A BUILDING PERMIT IS REQUIRED FOR ALL INGROUND AND ABOVE GROUND SWIMMING POOLS CONSTRUCTED IN CAROLINE COUNTY. WADING POOLS LESS THAN 24 INCHES DEEP DO NOT REQUIRE A PERMIT.



IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS

- A barrier at least 4 feet (48 inch) high shall be installed.
- Final electrical and plumbing inspections must be approved prior to the final building inspection. The final building inspection includes the verification of the proper fence, gate and latches.
- The final inspection will not be approved until all required swimming pool safety devices are installed and fully operational.
- The property owner must be made aware that the fence and safety devices are an integral part of the pool and no final approval for the filling of the pool or its use will be given until the approved devices are in place.
- The pool contractor must assure that the property owner clearly understands the conditions that exist in the proper order to put the pool into use.
- All swimming pools require approved County inspected electrical connections. Final electrical inspections include verification of the door alarms where applicable/required.

BARRIER REQUIREMENTS

- The barrier must completely surround the swimming pool and must obstruct access to the swimming pool.
- In the case of an above-ground pool, the barrier may be at ground level or mounted on top of the pool structure; however, if the barrier is mounted on top of the pool structure, the space between the top of the pool structure and the bottom of the barrier cannot exceed 4 inches. The pool structure itself can serve as a part of the required barrier, provided that the pool structure is sufficiently rigid to obstruct access to the pool. However, where 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, then:
 - the ladder or steps shall be capable of being secured, locked or removed to prevent access, or the ladder or steps shall be surrounded by a barrier.
 - when the ladder or steps are secured, locked or removed, any opening created shall not allow the passage of a 4-inch diameter sphere.
 - barriers shall be located so as to prohibit permanent structures, equipment or similar objects from being used to climb the barriers.
- A building wall can form part of the required barrier; however, where a wall of a dwelling serves as part of the barrier, at least one of the following requirements must be satisfied:
 - the pool must be equipped with a powered safety cover.
 - all doors with direct access to the pool through that wall must be equipped with an alarm.

