

Swimming Pools



Village of Hoffman Estates

Code Enforcement
1900 Hassell Road
Hoffman Estates, IL 60169
(847) 781-2631
www.hoffmanestates.org/permits

Permit Procedure*:

- Complete and sign a *Building Permit Application*.
- All contractors must be registered, licensed and bonded accordingly.
- Submit 2 copies of a scaled plat of survey with the pool location and dimensions indicated. Setbacks from the property lines, structures and electrical lines must be indicated.
- Submit 2 copies of the manufacturer's specifications/instructions.
- Submit 2 sets of the grading plan if grading/drainage changes are present.
- For in-ground pools submit 2 sets of stamped architectural plans.

*If your pool or spa is 24" or more in depth (or holds 1,000 gallons or more of water), a permit is required. This includes air filled and other temporary-style pools.

Pool Requirements:

- Village ordinance requires the pool to be located at least 5' from any building (house, detached accessory structure, deck, balcony, or porch) if the structure has a height greater than the water level of the pool. This does not apply to spas.
- The pool/spa shall be erected so that no portion is closer than 10' from the rear or side lot lines; this includes the filter, pump, heater, etc.
- The pool/spa may not be installed over an easement or in any front yard.
- All electrical wiring, equipment and lighting must conform to the National Electrical Code.
- The pool/spa must be located at least 5' from any buried electrical wires and 10' from any overhead power lines.
- At least one 120 volt GFI receptacle shall be located between 10' and 20' from the inside wall of the pool.
- A single, twist-lock, GFCI protected receptacle that provides power to the water pump shall be located between 5' and 10' from the inside wall of the pool.
- Extension cords are not permitted; all wiring must have ground-fault protection.
- Other than storable pools, the flexible cord on the water pump filter shall not exceed 3' in length and must have a twist-lock male plug.
- Any water needed to complete the installation of the pool must be limited to less than 24 inches deep or less than 1,000 gallons until a time when all the barrier requirements have been met.
- The water supply must include a vacuum breaker or a backflow prevention device.
- If a deck is being installed as part of the pool project; a separate deck permit is required and additional requirements may apply.

Fence and Barrier Requirements:

- The top of the barrier shall be at least 48 inches above grade measured on the side of the barrier which faces away from the swimming pool. The maximum vertical clearance between grade and the bottom of the barrier shall be 2 inches measured on the side of the barrier which faces away from the swimming pool. Where the top of the pool structure is above grade, such as an above-ground pool, the barrier may be at ground level, such as the pool structure, or mounted on top of the pool structure. Where the barrier is mounted on top of the pool structure, the maximum vertical clearance between the top of the pool structure and the bottom of the barrier shall be 4 inches.
- Openings in the barrier shall not allow passage of a 4-inch-diameter sphere.

- Solid barriers which do not have openings, such as a masonry or stone wall, shall not contain indentations or protrusions except for normal construction tolerances and tooled masonry joints.
- Where the 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 swimming pool side of the fence. Spacing between vertical members shall not exceed 13/4 inches in width. Where there are decorative cutouts within vertical members, spacing within the cutouts shall not exceed 13/4 inches in width.
- Where the barrier is composed of horizontal and vertical members and the distance between the tops of the horizontal members is 45 inches or more, spacing between vertical members shall not exceed 4 inches. Where there are decorative cutouts within vertical members, spacing within the cutouts shall not exceed 13/4 inches in width.
- Maximum mesh size for chain link fences shall be a 21/4-inch square unless the fence has slats fastened at the top or the bottom which reduce the openings to not more than 13/4 inches.
- Where the barrier is composed of diagonal members, such as a lattice fence, the maximum opening formed by the diagonal members shall not be more than 13/4 inches.
- Access gates shall comply with the requirements of Items 1 through 7 above, and shall be equipped to accommodate a locking device. Pedestrian access gates shall open outward away from the pool and shall be self-closing and have a self-latching device. Gates other than pedestrian access gates shall have a self-latching device. Where the release mechanism of the self-latching device is located less than 54 inches from the bottom of the gate, the release mechanism and openings shall comply with the following:
 - a. The release mechanism shall be located on the pool side of the gate at least 3 inches below the top of the gate; and
 - b. The gate and barrier shall have no opening larger than 1/2 inch within 18 inches of the release mechanism.
- Where a wall of a dwelling serves as part of the barrier, one of the following conditions shall be met:
 - a. The pool shall be equipped with a powered safety cover in compliance with ASTM F 1346; or
 - b. Doors with direct access to the pool through that wall shall be equipped with an alarm which produces an audible warning when the door and/or its screen, if present, are opened. The alarm shall be listed and labeled in accordance with UL 2017. The deactivation switch(es) shall be located at least 54 inches above the threshold of the door; or
 - c. Other means of protection, such as self-closing doors with self-latching devices, which are approved by the governing body, shall be acceptable as long as the degree of protection afforded is not less than the protection afforded by item (a or b) described above.
- 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:
 - a. The ladder or steps shall be capable of being secured, locked or removed to prevent access; or
 - b. The ladder or steps shall be surrounded by a barrier which meets the requirements of Items 1 through 9 above. 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 to prohibit permanent structures, equipment or similar objects from being used to climb them.
- Spas or hot tubs with a safety cover which complies with ASTM F 1346 shall be exempt from the provisions herein.

Inspection Requirements

- Prior to permit issuance, an on-site inspection of the proposed location must be completed. Please have all utilities marked prior to inspection by calling J.U.L.I.E. (811).
 - An inspection is required prior to covering any underground piping for electrical, plumbing or mechanical.
 - Additional inspections are required for in-ground pools and will be outlined during permit issuance.
 - A final inspection is required when pool construction, electrical, grading landscaping and fence/barrier requirements are complete is completed.
 - Call Code Enforcement at (847) 781-2631 to schedule appointments.
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