

# Swimming Pools, Hot Tubs, and Spas

## Frequently Asked Questions:

### ***Do I need a permit?***

Yes, if it is intended for swimming or recreational bathing and contains water over 24 inches deep. *Permits required: building, excavation & electrical*

An inspection is also required. No one will be allowed in the pool until it passes inspection.

### ***Do I need a fence?***

Yes - barriers such as fences and walls are required for pools containing over 24 inches of water. The pool area must be completely contained within these barriers. The specific requirements are as follows:

- Yard must be fenced with at least a **4 ft** fence with a child-proof lock on each gate.
- Any door, within a wall or barrier, with direct access to the pool area must have a child-proof lock.
- Any ladders or steps must be secured or removed to prevent access when not in use

### ***Are there specific location requirements for my pool, hot tub, or spa?***

Yes - Pools, Hot Tubs, and Spas are referred to as Accessory Structures. This means they must meet the zoning requirements of the area where they will be located.

- Minimum distance to any fence line is **6 feet**.
- Pool must be at least 10' (lateral) from overhead power lines.
- Pools are a prohibited use for front yards (this includes both street-side frontages on all corner lots).

### ***Is there anything else I should know?***

Yes, there are also special electrical requirements that are very important. Please consult a qualified electrician for the full wiring safety techniques.

- All metal parts in proximity of the pool must be bonded
- Wiring is to be 18" underground (using underground wiring and/or plastic conduit attached to GFI protected receptacle). Pump is to be plugged in to receptacle (receptacle to be mounted on a 4x4 pole approx. 18" above grade).
- Equipment cords have specially designed lengths, plugs and receptacles types for wet locations
- Grounding is required between the service panel and the pool equipment
- Lighting and Landscape fixtures may require extra protection
- No extension cords are allowed.
- Electric can be installed by the homeowners. If installation is performed by the pool installer or electrician, then that person/company must have a valid electrical contractor's license with the City of Granite City.

Be sure to check with local ordinances for additional specific regulations. If you have any questions or doubts regarding electrical requirements please consult a qualified electrician.

### ***What is the next step?***

Complete and submit your permit application with site plan. This can be obtained at City Hall.

**PLEASE NOTE:** These guidelines are not a comprehensive presentation of all the ordinances involved in placing, erecting, or constructing a pool, hot tub, or spa.

If you have questions or concerns please contact the Granite City Building and Zoning Department at (618) 452-6218.