

**CITY OF HAMILTON
BUILDING DEPARTMENT
PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL SWIMMING POOL REQUIREMENTS**

Required inspections are to be scheduled by the permit applicant at least one working day in advance by calling 785-7360. The following inspections are required in order:

- A **soils** inspection must be scheduled after pool is located and digging is complete to verify soil conditions and pool location.
- An electrical **bonding** inspection must be scheduled to verify that the pool and all perimeter components are properly bonded before backfilling soil or placing concrete.
- An **underground electric** inspection must be scheduled before backfilling underground electric lines. This can be completed at the same time as the bonding inspection.
- A **final electric** inspection must be scheduled after all electric work is complete.
- A **final building** inspection must be scheduled after the final electric inspection has been approved and all work is complete for the pool and all barrier components, before the pool can be used or occupied.

All overhead power lines must be at least 27 feet clear in any direction from the highest possible water level of the pool and all surfaces adjacent to the edge of the water and at least 18 feet from all observation stands, towers and diving platforms. These clearances apply for the entire area within 10 feet from the inside wall of the pool, measured horizontally.

Barrier Requirements. All swimming pools shall be provided with a barrier which shall comply with all of the following items before the final inspection can be approved:

1. 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.
2. The maximum vertical clearance between the finished ground level and the bottom of the barrier shall be 2 inches. All other openings in the barrier shall not allow passage of a 4-inch-diameter sphere.
3. 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, so as not to create a "ladder effect".
4. 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 2 inches in width. Where there are decorative cutouts within vertical members, spacing within the cutouts shall not exceed 2 inches in width.
5. 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 2 inches in width.
6. Maximum mesh size for chain link fences shall be a 2.25-inch square unless the fence is provided with slats fastened at the top or the bottom which reduce the openings to not more than 2 inches.
7. 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 2 inches.
8. Access gates shall comply with the requirements listed 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. **Where the release mechanism of the self-latching devices is located less than 54 inches from the finished ground level**, the release mechanism and openings shall comply with the following:
 - 8.1 The release mechanism shall be located on the pool side of the gate at least 3 inches below the top of the gate, and
 - 8.2 The gate and barrier shall have no opening greater than 0.5 inch within 18 inches of the release mechanism.