



City of Santa Barbara
Building & Safety Division
**Pool and Spa Plan Submittal
Requirements**

Community Development
630 Garden Street
805-564-5485

General Requirements:

- ❑ Please refer to the Residential Plan Submittal Requirements for information required on plans and site plan requirements.
- ❑ Please note: Santa Barbara County Public Health Department must approve all public pools and spas.
- ❑ This handout is a summary of private swimming pool and spa building code requirements. Please review section 3109.4.4 of the 2010 CBC and SBMC Ordinance #5536 for detailed requirements.

Barrier Requirements:

Where new fencing is required because of a pool or spa installation, the permit for that fencing shall be obtained prior to, or concurrently with, the building permit for the pool. No water shall be placed in any pool or spa prior to the installation of safeguards specified on this handout and the approval of all associated work. The protective fencing enclosure is required around the entire pool, built-in spa, portable spa or yard as described below.

- ❑ The enclosure must be at least five-feet tall with openings, gaps, or holes that would not allow the passage of a four-inch sphere.
- ❑ The maximum vertical clearance from the ground to the bottom of the enclosure is two inches.
- ❑ The outside surface must be free of protrusions, cavities, or other physical characteristics that would serve as handholds or footholds that could enable a child below the age of five years to climb over.
- ❑ All gates or doors opening through the enclosure shall open away from the pool and be equipped with self-closing and self-latching devices placed no lower than 60 inches above the ground.
- ❑ Where the release mechanism of the self-latching device is located less than 60 inches above the ground, (i) the release mechanism shall be located on the pool side of the barrier and (ii) the gate and the barrier shall have no opening greater than ½ inch within 18 inches of the release mechanism.
- ❑ In addition to the enclosure which meets the above requirements at least one of the following drowning prevention features shall be provided:
 - (a) The pool shall incorporate removable mesh pool fencing that meets ASTM specifications F2286 standards in conjunction with a gate that is self-closing and self-latching and can accommodate a key lockable device.
 - (b) The pool shall be equipped with an approved power safety pool cover that meets performance standards of ASTM F1346.
 - (c) The residence shall be equipped with exit alarms on those doors providing direct access to the pool or spa.
 - (d) The all doors providing access to the pool shall be equipped with a self-closing, self-latching device with a release mechanism placed no higher than 54 inches above the floor.
 - (e) Swimming pool alarms that , when placed in pools, will sound upon detection of accidental or unauthorized entrance into the water. These pool alarms shall meet and be independently certified to the ASTM Standard F 2208 “Standard Specifications for Pool Alarms” which includes surface motion, pressure, sonar, laser and infrared type alarms.
 - (f) Other means of protection , if the degree of protection afforded is equal to or greater than that afforded by any of the devices set forth in items “a-d”, and have been independently verified by an approved testing laboratory as meeting standards for those devices established by the ASTM.

Plumbing Requirements:

- ❑ Provide pool piping schematic layout with all pipe sizes shown and types of material to be used.
- ❑ Provide anti-siphon devices on unprotected hose bibs on property.
- ❑ Discharge and drainage water from pools and spas must drain into the community sewer system.
- ❑ Provide on the fill line or nearest adjacent hose bib a R.P. device per CPC 603.4.22.
- ❑ Each outlet on a non-potable water line which may be mistakenly used for drinking or domestic purpose shall be posted: DANGER UNSAFE WATER
- ❑ Provide an approved method for draining the pool & spa into City sewer system. This can be by means of a 3” clean out and pool system drain with a 4” air gap to clean out.

Electrical Requirements:

- ❑ Provide at least one GFCI protected receptacle outlet located between 10 and 20 feet from the inside wall of the pool or spa for outdoor installations and between 5 and 10 feet for indoor installations. CEC 680.22/680.43
- ❑ Indicate on the plot plan any existing and proposed electrical service, panels, sub-panels and other equipment.
- ❑ Show location of utility pole/service entrance conductors and location – amperage of electrical service. Indicate on plot plan any existing overhead wires and their height above the water. CEC 680.8
- ❑ Show all exterior lighting fixtures within 10 feet of pool or spa. All lighting of the pool area shall be so hooded that the light does not shine towards adjacent properties and public right-of-ways.
- ❑ Indicate all items to be bonded together including the reinforcing steel, fittings, motors, fixture shells, etc. CEC 680.26
- ❑ Show the location for all pool light junction boxes connected to wet niche lighting fixtures.
- ❑ Show the location of electrical disconnect for all equipment within 50 feet of pool or spa.
- ❑ Indicate the type of raceway(s) to be installed for wet niche fixture shells.
- ❑ Show all branch circuit wiring to all pool related equipment, motors, lighting, receptacle outlets, pool cover motors, lighting receptacle outlets, pool cover motors and controllers etc.
- ❑ Provide an accessible means to disconnect power from the motors and controllers that is within sight from the pool, spa, or hot tub equipment, at least 5 feet horizontally from the inside walls of the pool, spa, or hot tub. CEC 430.102 & 680.40
- ❑ Show required workspace in front of all electrical equipment. CEC 110.26
- ❑ Show feeders to sub-panels. Indicate raceway and conductor sizes and types.
- ❑ Show all over current devices and controllers including relays and timers.
- ❑ Provide general notes and equipment schedule for swimming pools and spas.