

Links and References

US Consumer Product Safety Commission

www.cpsc.gov

www.poolsafely.gov

Washington State Department of Health

www.doh.wa.gov/CommunityandEnvironment/WaterRecreation/PoolSafety

Washington Administrative Code

WAC 246-260-131

app.leg.wa.gov/wac/default.aspx?cite=246-260-131

2021 International Residential Code (IRC) Chapter 305: Barrier Requirements

https://codes.iccsafe.org/content/ISPSC2021P3/chapter-3-general-compliance#ISPSC2021P3_Ch03_Sec305

2021 International Residential Code (IRC) Chapter 42: Swimming Pools

<https://codes.iccsafe.org/content/IRC2021P2/chapter-42-swimming-pools>

Association of Pool and Spa Professionals

www.phta.org/

Safe Kids Worldwide

www.safekids.org

Spokane Valley Municipal Code (SVMC)

Chapter 19.165.180

<https://www.codepublishing.com/WA/SpokaneValley/>

What you will need to submit for review:

Documentation Required

- Residential Application
- Site Plan
 - Show full scale
- Plans/Design
 - In-Ground MUST be engineered
 - Above Ground provide Mfg Specs
- Barrier Details
 - Fencing, Gates, Structure Walls, etc...

Please note that additional mechanical and plumbing permits may be required.

You can apply on the Spokane Valley Permit Center Online Portal: [City of Spokane Valley Public Portal \(smartgovcommunity.com\)](http://City of Spokane Valley Public Portal (smartgovcommunity.com))



CITY OF SPOKANE VALLEY

Community & Public Works Dept.

Building Division
10210 E Sprague Ave
Spokane Valley, WA. 99206

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F: 509.720.5075
permitcenter@spokanevalleywa.gov



CITY OF SPOKANE VALLEY

COMMUNITY & PUBLIC
WORKS DEPARTMENT

BUILDING DIVISION

RESIDENTIAL SWIMMING POOLS, HOT TUBS & SPAS

NOTE: This brochure is NOT intended to be all inclusive. Please check with the Permit Center if you have questions

Is a Permit Required?

A permit **IS** required for the installation of **ANY** swimming pool, hot tub, or spa as described in this brochure in order to ensure the appropriate pool barrier, for safety, is installed.

A swimming pool, in-ground, above ground, or on-ground, are considered as any structure intended for swimming for wading that contains water more than 24" (2 feet) deep.



Pool Barriers

A pool barrier may be a fence, wall, structure wall, or any combination of those items. The barrier **MUST** completely surround the swimming pool and obstruct access to the swimming pool, for life/health safety, and shall comply with the following requirements.

Barriers shall be located so as to prohibit permanent structures, equipment or similar objects from being used to climb the barriers.



FENCES

The top of any barrier constructed **MUST** be, at a minimum, 48" (4 feet) above grade measured on the side of the barrier which faces away of the swimming pool.

The maximum vertical clearance between finished ground level and the barrier shall be 2" measured on the side of the barrier which faces away from the swimming pool.

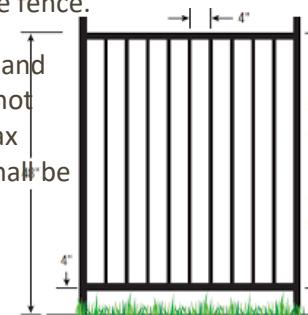
Where the top of the pool structure is above finished ground level, such as an above ground pool, the barrier shall be at finished ground level, such as the pool structure, or shall be mounted on top of the pool structure.

Where the barrier is mounted on the pool structure, the opening between the top surface of the pool frame and the bottom of the barrier shall not allow passage of a 4" diameter sphere.

Where the barrier is composed of horizontal and vertical members and the distance between the tops of the horizontal members is less than 45" the horizontal members shall be located on the swimming pool side of the fence.

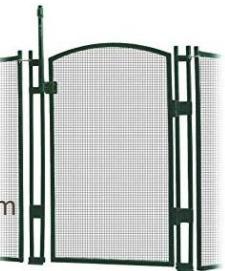
Spacing between vertical and diagonal members shall not exceed 1 3/4" in width. Max mesh size for chain link shall be a 2 1/4" square.

Solid barriers shall not contain indentations or protrusions, except for normal construction tolerances.



GATES

Gates **MUST** be self-latching & swing **OUTWARD**; away from the pool area.



Where the release mechanism of the self-latching device is less than 54" from the bottom of the gate:

- The release mechanism shall be located on the pool side of the gate at least 3" below the top of the gate; and
- The gate and barrier shall not have an opening greater than 1/2" within 18" of the release mechanism.

STRUCTURE WALL

Where a wall of a dwelling unit serves as part of part of the barrier and contains a door that provides direct access to the pool, one of the following shall apply:

- The pool is equipped w/a powered safety cover (ASTM F1346)
- Doors w/direct access shall have an alarm (UL 2017)

ABOVE GROUND STRUCTURES

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 fixed or removable ladder or steps, the ladder or steps shall be surrounded by a barrier which meets the requirements of this brochure. **A removable ladder shall not constitute an acceptable alternative to enclosure requirements.**