VILLAGE OF BEECHER BUILDING DEPARTMENT 625 Dixie Highway, P.O. Box 1154 Beecher, IL 60401 708-946-2261/ 708-946-3764 Fax www.villageofbeecher.org

# **SWIMMING POOLS**

This handout is for REFERENCE ONLY. For more details see specific code sections.

Subdivision covenants or homeowner's associations may either prohibit or have more restrictive requirements than Village ordinances. Please verify and submit approval letter from developer or homeowner's association along with your building permit application (if applicable)

A swimming pool requiring a BUILDING PERMIT is defined as any structure that contains water over 24 inches deep AND has a capacity of over 1,000 gallons.

#### **POOL REQUIREMENTS**

- 1. Pools must be at least 5' off of the property line.
- 2. Inflatable/portable (temporary when unattended) AND permanent pools shall be completely enclosed with a minimum four foot (4') barrier. Appropriate barrier shall include pool walls if at least 4' in height, a fence around the top of the pool, or a minimum 4' high fence in the yard. A solid or privacy fence is permitted on property line, in rear yard, where a permanent pool is present. If pool does not have an attached railing with a self-closing and self-locking gate, and yard is not currently fenced in, you will also need a fence with a self-closing and locking gate.
- 3. All pool wiring shall conform to Article 680 of the 2005 National Electric Code.
- 4. NO pool shall be located underneath overhead electrical wiring.

#### **CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS**

- 1. Existing grade should not be altered. Excavated spoils will need to be removed from site.
- 2. Extreme care is to be taken to protect the existing utilities, pavement, curbs, sidewalks. Pavement, curb and sidewalk should be ramped or planked to avoid damage. Any damage done to Village property will be the responsibility of the homeowner to replace or repair.

### **TO APPLY FOR A PERMIT**

- 1. Complete permit application.
- 2. Submit a copy of the plat of survey showing the proposed pool location.
- 3. Provide a copy of contractor's proposal or homeowner's proposal showing pool specifications, type of barrier, etc. Contractor <u>MUST</u> have a current license on file with the Village.
- 4. Contact J.U.L.I.E. (Utility Location Service) at 811 to locate underground utilities and to obtain dig number.
- 5. Submit approval letter from developer or homeowner's association, when applicable.

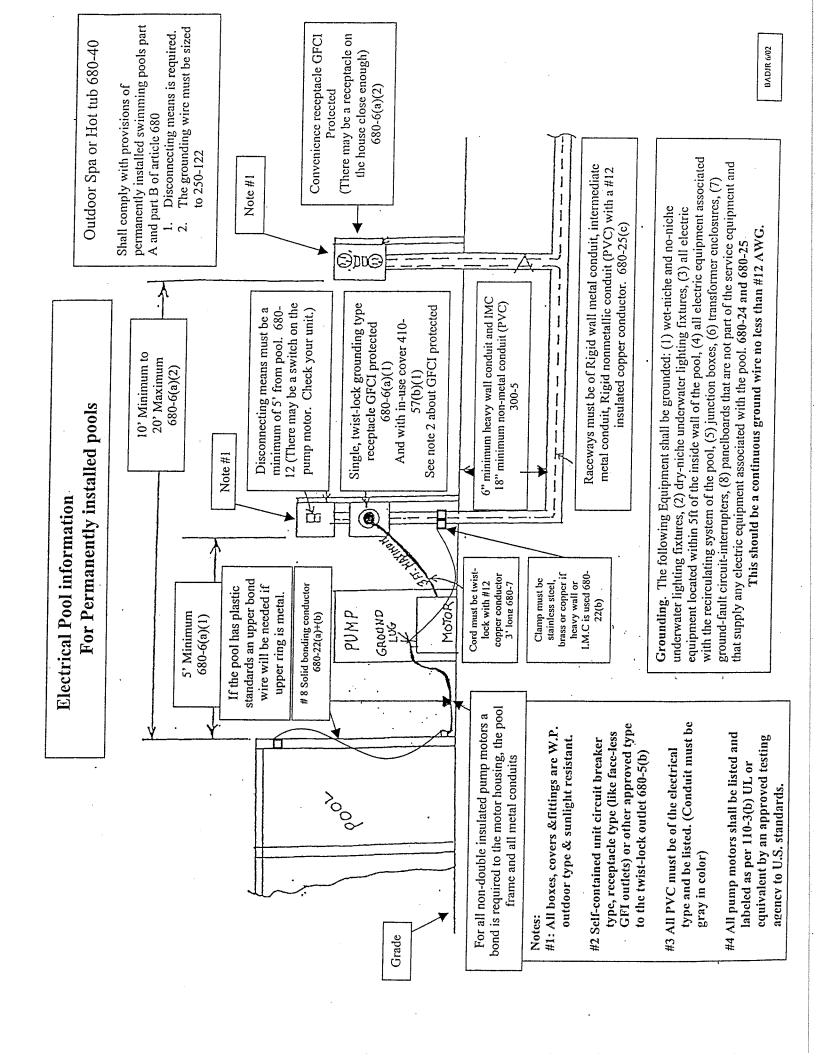
#### **INSPECTION REQUIREMENTS**

The permit holder is responsible for scheduling inspections. Inspections required are: 1) Underground piping from the house to the pool must be inspected prior to backfilling. 2) Final inspection. 4' BARRIER REQUIREMENTS MUST BE COMPLETED BEFORE FILLING THE POOL WITH WATER. DO NOT SWIM IN POOL UNTIL FINAL INSPECTION HAS BEEN COMPLETED!

(The inspector's checklist is attached.)

To schedule inspections, please call Independent Inspections at 1-800-422-5220. Please have your permit number available.

HOMEOWNER IS RESPONSIBLE TO FOLLOW ALL CODES AND ORDINANCES.



#### **INSPECTOR'S CHECKLIST - SWIMMING POOL REQUIREMENTS**

#### 1. 4' BARRIER IS REQUIRED

- A. Pool or fence is measured from the ground up on the outside of the barrier
- B. Barrier must completely surround the pool
  - 1. Maximum opening of the fence barrier is 4 inches.
  - 2. Maximum opening at the bottom of the fence barrier to the finish grade is 2 inches.
  - 3. Maximum opening for a chain link barrier is 1-1/4 inches.
- C. If the above ground pool serves as its own barrier, the following is required:
  - The ladder must be capable of being secured, locked or removed to prevent access OR
  - 2. The ladder must be surrounded by a minimum 4 ft. barrier with an approved gate OR
  - 3. If there is a deck with stairs a minimum 4 ft. barrier should be at the bottom of the stairs with an approved gate (see gate requirements)
- D. If a fenced-in yard serves as the barrier, the following is required:
  - 1. Fence must be minimum 4 ft. high and meeting the above barrier requirements
  - 2. An approved gate must be installed (see gate requirements)
  - 3. The house becomes part of the barrier
    - a. Approved alarm must be installed on all doors and screens (if present) with access to the pool

#### 2. Clearances: Minimums

- A. 5 ft. to underground electric
- B. 10 ft. measured horizontally from the inside of the walls of the pool (overhead)
- C. 22.5 ft. clearance from power lines in any direction to the water level (overhead)

# 3. Gate requirements

- A. Must swing outward away from the pool
- B. Be self-closing
- C. Be self-latching
- D. Latch location as follows:
  - 1. 4 ft. fence Release mechanism of the latch must be:
    - a. Located on the pool side of the gate
    - b. Located minimum of 3 inches from the top of the gate
    - c. There can be no opening greater than ½ inch within 18 inches of latch
  - 2. 5 ft. (maximum height) fence Release mechanism must be minimum of 54 inches above grade

## 4. Electrical requirements

- A. Convenience outlet must be a GFI outlet 10 ft. to 20 ft. from the pool with a weatherproof cover.
- B. At least one convenience receptacle shall be located a minimum of 5 ft. from and not more than 10 ft. from the inside wall of the spa or hot tub.
- C. Pump motor
  - 1. Maximum 3 ft. cord allowed
  - 2. Twist lock plug, GFI protected with a weatherproof cover is required
  - 3. I.M.C. conduit must be buried a minimum 6 inches underground
  - 4. #12 copper ground wire is required
- D. Switches must be a minimum 5 ft. from the pool
- E. Light fixtures must be a minimum 5 ft. from the pool or 12 ft. above
- F. All metal parts must be bonded with a minimum #8 copper wire

\*\*POOL MAY NOT ENCROACH ONTO ANY EASEMENT\*\*\*