GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR SWIMMING POOL

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REQUIREMENTS APPLY TO: IN-GROUND, ABOVE GROUND, & OTHER STRUCTURES CLASSIFIED AS 'POOLS'

Definition of a swimming Pool-Any structure intended for swimming or recreational bathing that contains water over 24 inches deep.

- 1. No portion of the swimming pool or associated structures shall be permitted to encroach upon any easement or right-of-way.
- 2. Front and side yard setbacks shall comply with the required setbacks specified for the zoning district where the pool is located.
- 3. Rear yard setbacks shall be a minimum of 15 feet.
- 4. A pool shall not be less than 4 feet between the pool wall and any building on the lot.
- 5. For an aboveground pool, the rear yard does not have to be fenced in, provided, the pool is not sunk into the ground and the sidewalls of the pool are at least 4 feet high and rigid so that someone cannot climb into the pool and the ladder is capable of being secured, locked or removed to prevent access.
- 6. An in-ground pool and an aboveground pool sunk into the ground where the side walls are not 4 feet above grade requires a fence.
- 7. The fence shall be a minimum of 4 feet above grade. The maximum vertical clearance above grade and the bottom of the fence shall be 2 inches measured on the side of the fence which faces away from the swimming pool. If the fence is a chain link, then the mesh size cannot exceed 2.25 inches unless the fence has slats fastened at the top or the bottom which reduces the openings to not more than 1.25 inches. Where the fence is composed of diagonal members, such as a lattice fence, the maximum openings formed by the diagonal members shall not be more than 1.25 inches.
- 8. Access gates shall be equipped with a locking device. Gates shall open outward away from the pool and shall be self closing and have a self latching device.
- 9. Where a wall of a dwelling serves as part of the barrier, all doors with direct access to the pool shall be equipped with an alarm which produces an audible warning when the door and its screen are opened. The alarm shall sound continuously for a minimum of 30 seconds immediately after the door is opened and be capable of being heard throughout the house during normal household activities, or the pool shall be equipped with a powered safety cover in compliance with ASTM F 1346, or other means of protection, such as self closing doors with self latching devices, which are approved by the governing body.
- 10. A pool must be located a minimum of 10 feet away from overhead electrical lines.
- 11. When applying for a pool permit, a site plan shall be submitted showing the location of the proposed pool in relation to property lines and the dwelling and any other structure located on the property.

BUILDING CODE REFERENCES: Chapter 42 – Swimming Pools, of the 2015 Michigan Residential Code ZONING CODE REFERENCES: Section 5.03 (4) & (5), and Section 7.03 (5)

BUILDING DEPT. FORMS UTILZED:

- Residential Building permit application
- Electrical permit application if pool has a filter system and bonding
- Mechanical permit application if pool has a heater

OTHER PERMITS:

- Installation of an in-ground pool requires a Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control permit from the Washtenaw County Office of Water Resources; call 734-222-3978
- Properties in Condominium Associations require furnishing of an approval letter from the Homeowners Association board.