

Swimming Pool Enclosure

Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code

720.1 General Requirements. Outdoor swimming pools shall be provided with an enclosure which shall comply with the following:

- A. Shall be at least 4 feet in height and have a maximum vertical clearance to grade of (2) inches.
- B. Where a picket - type fence is provided, horizontal openings between pickets shall not exceed (3 1/2) inches.
- C. Where a chain - link fence is provided, the openings between links shall not exceed (2 3/8) inches.
- D. Enclosure shall be constructed so as not to provide footholds.
- E. Pickets and chain - link twists shall extend above the upper horizontal bar.
- F. Such enclosure shall have railings and posts within the enclosure, which shall be capable of resisting a minimum lateral load of (150) lbs. applied between posts and at top of posts respectively. Enclosure fence material or fabric shall be capable of withstanding a concentrated lateral load of (50) lbs. applied anywhere between supports on an area (12) inches square, without failure or permanent deformation. Gates provided in the enclosure, shall be self closing and self latching with the latch handle located within the enclosure and at least (40) inches above the grade.
- G. A wall of a dwelling is permitted to serve as part of the enclosure under the following conditions:
 - I. Windows in the wall shall have a latching device at least (40) inches above the floor.
 - II. A swinging door in the wall, shall be self closing and self latching.
 - III. A sliding door in the wall, shall have a self latching device.

720.2 Exemptions

- A. Above ground pools with at least (46) inches between pool decking or pool top and adjoining grade, are exempt from the requirements of Part 720.1 provided that their access ladder or steps can be blocked in an approved manner when not intended for use.
- B. A pool less than (24) inches deep is exempt from the requirements of Part 720.1.

Outdoor Water Pools

1. **Definition** - Outdoor Water Pools shall for the purpose of this Ordinance be construed to mean swimming pool, tank, depression or excavation in any material, dike, or berm constructed, erected, excavated or maintained which will cause the retaining of water to a greater depth than (18) inches and having a larger plan surface area of water greater than (100) square feet, except such as shall hereinafter be excluded. The word Pool shall be construed to mean Outdoor Water Pool.
2. **Permits** - Permits for the construction, erection, maintenance of such pool shall be issued by the Building Inspector and shall be subject to all applicable provisions of applicable codes or ordinances of the Town of Watertown and the State of New York.
3. **Materials of Construction** - No pool shall be built, constructed, or maintained except of materials having adequate strength to retain the water contained therein. They shall be designed in accordance with the sound engineering practice and the applicant shall furnish complete plans, data and specifications to enable the building inspector to evaluate the structure.
4. **Water Disposal** - Water overflowing from the pool, and when the pool is emptied, the water therefrom shall be disposed of on the owner's land and restrained from flowing on the land of adjoining property owner or any abutting street. The applicant shall show in his application the plans for the disposal of water.
5. **Fencing** - Adequate fencing shall be provided to prevent accidental entry and unauthorized use of the pool. Such fencing may be erected so as to completely enclose the pool itself, or the particular yard in which the pool is situated, or the entire property; except that where the pool is constructed in connection with multi - family housing, the pool itself shall be enclosed.

Such fencing shall be constructed of chain link fabric not less than (4) feet high of number (9) gauge wire erected on a framework of galvanized steel members as listed below, or other approved equal.

Line Post : (1 5/8" O.D.) (*outside diameter*) round posts or equivalent structural sections.

End and gate posts - (2" O.D.) round posts or equivalent structural sections.

Top Rail - (1 3/8" O.D.) pipe

All posts shall be set in concrete to a depth of thirty (30) inches, eight (8) inches in diameter, spaced not over ten (10) feet apart. Gates to give entrance to the enclosure shall be locked whenever the pool is unattended.

If some other type of fencing than specified above is preferred, plans and specifications thereof may be submitted for the approval of the Building Inspector. In evaluating such request for approval, the Building Inspector shall give due consideration to the adequacy and durability of the proposed fence to insure the safety and welfare of the general public.