



Swimming Pool Information

◆The City of Abilene has a swimming pool and spa ordinance. Sometimes there are questions as to whether or not a swimming pool or spa permit is required. **The answer is yes!** All spas must be permitted and inspected and all swimming pools (above ground and in ground) that meet the following criteria shall be permitted and inspected.

Any constructed or prefabricated pool used for swimming, diving, or recreational bathing and having a depth of 24” or more at any point and a capacity of 5,000 gallons or more requires a permit.

The Process:

◆Obtain setback information from Planning and Development Services.

◆Submit Site Plan.

Provide dimensions of pool/spa, and setbacks from property lines, structures, easements, high wires, etc.

◆Building & Electrical permits shall be obtained by licensed & registered contractors, from City of Abilene, Building Inspections Department. 555 Walnut St. / Suite 100 / Abilene, Texas. See Exceptions below. **

Additional Information

◆All electrical shall comply with general requirements as defined in chapters 1-4 and specific requirements as defined in Article 680 of the National Electrical Code.

◆**Location:** Must meet Zoning set-back requirements.

Minimum 3’ from all property lines.

(Except in case of easements)

Must not be located over an easement.

Must be a minimum of 10’ measured horizontally to overhead utility lines.

Must be a minimum of 5’ measured from underground utility lines.

◆Install according to the manufacture’s instructions and be certified by U.L. or an approved laboratory.

◆Fence or Barriers: Swimming pools or spas which are an accessory use to a single- family residence shall be completely surrounded by a wall or fence, at least four (4) feet high with self – closing and positive latching four (4) feet high gates. When fences have horizontal members spaced less than 45 inches apart, the horizontal members shall be placed on the pool side of the fence. **Any decorative design work on the side away from the swimming pool, which renders the fence easily climbable, is prohibited.** The opening spacing of members or framework shall be spaced such that the passage of a 4-inch-diameter sphere is not allowed. Gates may be of the same design requirements as the fence and shall be self-closing and positive latching.

◆Spas and Swimming Pools for any use other than single family residences require an Operators permit to be obtained from the Environmental Health Section.

◆The design, installation, construction, alteration or modification of swimming pools, aboveground pools, and spa systems shall require a city swimming pool contractor’s license. **Exceptions to this shall be:

1. **A homeowner who installs a pool or spa accessory to a single-family dwelling in which he/she resides and owns, provided he/she signs an affidavit acknowledging swimming pool/spa minimum requirements, and verifies that the work will be performed by the owner. The affidavit shall be on a form provided by the building inspection department.
2. **Pools or spas designed by an architect or engineer licensed by the State of Texas.

◆Any Metal within 5ft. of the pool is required to be grounded. Examples: grab bars, ladders, slides, windows on adjacent structures, fences, etc.

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Development Service Center

Ph: (325) 676-6232

Fax: (325) 676-6288

Environmental Health Section

Ph: (325) 437-4590

Planning and Development Services

Ph: (325) 676-6382

Location:

City Hall

555 Walnut Street

Room 100

City of Abilene Homepage:

www.abilenetx.com