

# SWIMMING POOLS

## DO I NEED A PERMIT FOR A SWIMMING POOL?

A permit is **required** to construct and install any permanent pool — in ground or above — capable of being used for swimming, wading or bathing having a depth of 2 or more feet at any point. A seasonal pool designed to be set up and used for the spring/summer season and then taken down and stored during the fall/winter **will not** require a permit. However, such a pool shall follow proper safety fencing requirements listed under Enclosure of Pools.

## WHAT DO I NEED TO OBTAIN A PERMIT?

- A building permit application must be completed to include all contractors performing work on the project.
- A site plan, drawn to scale, showing the location of the pool and distances from pool to property lines and overhead power lines.
- Plans and specifications for the swimming pool to include proper safety fencing requirements listed under Enclosure of Pools.

## WHAT INSPECTIONS ARE REQUIRED?

- Structural, plumbing and electrical work shall be inspected before covering.
- Final inspection when all work is completed and the pool and enclosure is in place.

## MAINTENANCE

The owner of every swimming pool shall be responsible for maintaining the pool in good sanitary condition and shall prevent water from the pool from overflowing onto adjacent public or private property.

If pools are temporary pools (generally inflatable, and up less than six months) then they do not need a permit, but they are still required to abide by the enclosure requirements. Contact the Pott County Zoning Department for permits or more information @ (785) 457-3551.

## ENCLOSURE OF POOLS

Every pool with a depth of more than 24 inches at any point shall be enclosed by a fence or wall. The pool shall be completely enclosed by a substantial fence or wall not less than 48 inches in height. The fence or wall may be solid or shall be designed so that no portion of the fence or wall would permit the passing of a 4-inch sphere through the fence or wall. The fence or wall cannot be constructed with features, which could be used for climbing over the fence or wall.

Gates must be self-closing and must have a latch or other mechanism, which shall engage automatically upon closing. Where the release mechanism of the self-latching device is located less than 54 inches from the bottom of the gate, the release mechanism must be located on the poolside of the gate, inches or more below the top of the gate. The gate and barrier must be constructed so there is no opening greater than a 1/2 inch within 18 inches of the release mechanism. The door of a dwelling, which opens onto a pool enclosure, must be equipped with an alarm.

## LOCATION OF POOLS

Swimming pools shall be located with a minimum 3-foot side yard setback. The pool may not be placed in a required front yard (both street frontages on a corner lot are considered front yards). The pool may not be placed closer than 3 feet to any structure on the lot. The pool may not be placed in an easement or under overhead electrical lines.

## RENTERS

**I am renting. Do I need to notify my landlord before installing a pool?**

Yes, you need to notify your landlord (property owner) and get written permission prior to proceeding with the purchase, permit and placement of a swimming pool.