



# City of Shasta Lake

## DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT

4477 Main Street, PO Box 777, Shasta Lake 96019

(530) 275-7430 [permit@cityofshastalake.org](mailto:permit@cityofshastalake.org)

*Building & Planning  
Divisions*

## Residential Swimming Pools and Spas Permits and Barrier Requirements

### SWIMMING POOLS

The California Building Code states that no person, firm, or corporation shall install any inground swimming pool or any aboveground pool having a capacity of 5,000 gallons or more of water or 24 inches deep without first having obtained a building permit from the Building Official. Regardless of pool size, a permit will be required for any plumbing or electrical work.

### SPAS AND HOT TUBS

Spas and hot tubs, whether permanent or portable, are regulated under the provisions of the National Electrical Code and the Uniform Plumbing Code. An electrical permit is required when an electrical circuit servicing the spa or hot tub is installed. A plumbing permit is required to install a gas line if the spa or hot tub is heated by fuel gas.

### HOW TO APPLY FOR A PERMIT

Applicant must include the following plans with their completed Building Permit Application.

- A site plan drawn to scale (1/8 inch = 1 inch minimum) showing the relationship of the proposed pool to the property lines, all buildings, utility lines, and the location of the easements and rights-of-way. Include lot drainage, fence location, location of the pool equipment, and the associated equipment utilities.
- Plans, specifications, and steel schedule (stamped by an engineer) covering the construction and installation of the pool and equipment. Include manufacturer's data on equipment (e.g., heater, diving board, and filter).

### SETBACK REQUIREMENTS

Swimming pools shall not be constructed within 20 feet of a front property line; within 5 feet of the one side property line and 12 feet opposite side property line; or within 15 feet of a rear property line. All setbacks shall be measured from the inside face of the pool wall.

All swimming pools shall be set back a minimum of 6 feet from any residential or accessory-type structure on the property. Furthermore, no portion of an inground pool shall encroach into the area created by an imaginary line traversing at a 45-degree angle away from the bottom of the foundation of any residential or accessory structure unless a supporting engineered wall is constructed in conjunction with the pool.

Swimming pools, pool decking, and mechanical or utility appurtenances for the pool cannot encroach into any open-space easement. Such structures may encroach into a public-utility easement upon first obtaining approval from the City Engineer. If approval is granted, an encroachment permit is required to be issued in conjunction with the swimming pool permit.

### ACCESSORY STRUCTURES

For associated detached patio covers, pool houses, spa enclosures, or other covered structures in excess of 120 square feet or closer than 6 feet to the main structure, consult the Building Division for requirements before installing.

### BARRIER REQUIREMENTS

An outdoor swimming pool shall be provided with a barrier that shall be installed, inspected, and approved **prior** to plastering or filling with water. The barrier shall comply with the following:

1.) The top of the barrier shall be at least 60 inches above grade, measured on the side of the barrier which faces away from the swimming pool. The maximum vertical clearance between grade and the bottom of the barrier shall be 2 inches measured on the side of the barrier which faces away from the swimming pool. The maximum vertical clearance at the bottom of the barrier may be increased to 4 inches when the barrier is mounted on the top of the aboveground/on ground pool structure.

2.) Openings in the barrier shall not allow passage of a 4-inch diameter sphere.

(a) When the barrier is composed of horizontal and vertical members and the distance between the tops of the horizontal members is **less than 45 inches**, they shall be located on the pool side of the enclosure and the vertical members shall not be spaced more than 1.75 inches apart.

(b) When the barrier is composed of horizontal and vertical members and the distance between the tops of the horizontal member is **more than 45 inches**, the vertical members shall be spaced not more than 4 inches apart.

3.) Chain-link and similar wire-type fences can be used as the barrier. Maximum mesh size for links shall be 2.25 inches squared unless the fence is provided with slats fastened at the top or the bottom which reduce the openings to no more than 1.75 inches.

4.) Solid barriers that do not have openings, such as masonry or stone walls, shall not contain indentations or protrusions which render the barrier easily climbable.

5.) Access gates shall comply with the requirements of Sections (1) through (4). Pedestrian access gates four feet wide and less shall be self-closing, have a self-latching device, and shall accommodate a lock. Where the release mechanism of the self-latching device is located less than 60 inches from the bottom of the gate: (1) the release mechanism shall be located on the pool side of the barrier at least 3 inches below the top of the gate and (2) the gate and barrier shall have no opening greater than (½) inch within 18 inches of the release mechanism.

Pedestrian gates shall swing away from the pool. Any gate other than pedestrian-access gates shall be equipped with lockable hardware or padlocks and **shall remain locked at all times** when not in use and shall be located next to a compliant pedestrian-access gate.

6.) Where a wall of a Group R, Division 3 Occupancy dwelling unit serves as part of the barrier and contains door openings between the dwelling unit and the outdoor swimming pool which provide direct access to the pool, a separation fence meeting the requirements of Sections (1) through (5) above shall be provided.

## EXCEPTIONS

When approved by the Building Official, two of the following may be used:

(a) Self-closing and self-latching devices installed on all doors with direct access to the pool, with the release mechanism located a minimum of 60 inches above the floor and open away from the pool.

(b) A listed pool door alarm installed on all doors with direct access to the pool. The alarm shall sound continuously for a minimum of 30 seconds immediately after the door and its screen, if present, are opened and be capable of providing a sound pressure level of not less than 85 dBA when measured indoors at ten feet. The alarm shall automatically reset under all conditions. The alarm system shall be equipped with a manual means, such as a touch pad or switch, to temporarily deactivate the alarm for a single opening. Such deactivation shall last no longer than 15 seconds. The deactivation switch shall be located at least 54 inches above the floor.

(c) The pool shall be equipped with an approved safety cover.

(d) Other means of protection may be acceptable, so long as the degree of protection afforded is not less than that afforded by any of the devices described above.