



CITY OF AUBURN

Building, Planning & Public Works Department

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Swimming Pool Safety Barrier Requirements

The intent of the swimming pool barrier requirements is to prevent uncontrolled access by children from a street or adjacent properties and from the home. The City of Auburn swimming pool requirements comply with the State Health and Safety Code Section 115920 to 115927 and Auburn Municipal Code 150.003; Section 3109.2 Customers have the choice of the following A or B below when choosing a Pool Barrier.

A. Fencing around property utilizing the house as part of a fence to prevent access to pool must meet the following requirements:

I. Fencing:

- a. Minimum of 60" (inches) in height above the ground.
- b. Opening between the ground and bottom of the fence is not more than 2" (inches)
- c. Openings in the fence shall not allow passage of a sphere equal to or greater than 4" (inches).
- d. An outside surface free of protrusions, cavities or other physical characteristics that would serve as handholds or footholds that could enable a child below the age of five years to climb over. Horizontal members shall be spaced at least 48" (inches) apart. Chain link may be used provided that the openings are not greater than 1 3/4 inches in any dimension. Welded Wire fencing may be used provided that the spacing between vertical wires is not greater than 1 3/4".**

II. Gate(s):

- a. Minimum of 60" (inches) in height above the ground.
- b. Access gates shall open away from the swimming pool.
- c. Shall be a self-closing, self-latching with latching device to be a minimum of 60" (inches) above the ground.

III. Doors giving direct access to swimming pool area:

- a. Shall be equipped with self-closing, self-latching device placed no lower than 54" (inches) above the floor or see Section IV (a) below.
- b. Garage man door shall be considered as a gate; shall comply with Gate Requirements see Section II above.

IV. Sliding doors and windows with a sill height less than 48 inches giving direct access to swimming pool area:

- a. Shall be equipped with an audible alarm with the sound of sufficient volume which can be heard

throughout the dwelling. The alarm device shall be approved by the Chief Building Official.

V. Safety Pool Cover:

- a. Safety pool cover complying with American Society for testing and materials (ASTM), in compliance with standard F1346-91 or approved by Chief Building Official may be used in lieu of alarm devices that are required for doors and sliding doors.

B. Fencing around pool only will meet the following requirements:

I. Fencing:

- a. Minimum of 60" (inches) above ground.
- b. Openings between the ground and bottom of fence is not more than 2" (inches)
- c. Openings in fence shall not allow passage of a sphere equal to or greater than 4" (inches).
- d. Access gates through the enclosure shall open away from the swimming pool and shall be self-latching device placed no lower than 60" (inches) above the ground.
- e. An outside surface free of protrusions, cavities or other physical characteristics that would serve as handholds or footholds that could enable a child below the age of five years to climb over.
Horizontal members shall be spaced at least 48" (inches) apart. Chain link may be used provided that the openings are not greater than 1 3/4 inches in any dimension. Welded Wire fencing may be used provided that the spacing between vertical wires is not greater than 1 3/4".

The Requirement for a Barrier **DOES NOT** apply to any of the following:

- a. Public swimming pools.
- b. Hot tubs or spas with locking safety covers that comply with the American Society for Testing Materials – Emergency Performance Specification (ASTM – F1346-91)
- c. An apartment complex or any residential setting other than a single-family home.
- d. Automatic pool covers complying with ASTM F1346-91 including the following:
 1. The operating controls shall be in a fixed location and in line of sight of the complete pool cover or by its operating process.
 2. Switching devices shall be key operated or locked way or otherwise located in an inaccessible location. An inaccessible location shall be at a height at least five (5) ft above the deck.