

POOL REQUIREMENTS

Swimming Pool Contractors, General/Building/Residential Contractors & Property Owners Involved with Residential Swimming Pool Construction

The 2000 Florida Legislature adopted a bill that creates residential swimming pool safety installation requirements.

Effective October 1, 2000 all new residential pools must have AT LEAST ONE of the following safety features in order to pass final inspection and receive a certificate of completion:

1. Isolation from the home by an enclosure (barrier) meeting the following requirements:
 - at least 4' high on the outside
 - not passable or climb-able by small children
 - around the pool perimeter, separate from other fences/walls around the yard unless they are situated on the perimeter of the pool, being used as part of the enclosure and meeting the same requirements as the enclosure
 - placed sufficiently distant from the water's edge to prevent a child or elderly person from falling into the water immediately if they do get past the enclosure not situated close to any permanent structure or equipment that could be used to climb over the enclosure.
2. An approved pool safety cover.
3. All doors and windows providing direct access to the pool shall be equipped with appropriate exit alarms. Evidence of approval of a nationally recognized testing agency (such as UL2017) certifying the device to meet or exceed the minimum performance standards established by law must be on site for final inspection. The inspector must have access to the home in order to final a pool protected by an alarm system.
4. All doors (does not include windows) providing direct access from the home to the pool have self-closing, self-latching devices with the release mechanism mounted at least 54" high.
NOTE: The building wall may be used as part of the enclosure if it doesn't have unprotected windows or doors opening onto the pool.
5. A swimming pool alarm that, when placed in a pool, sounds an alarm upon detection of an accidental or unauthorized entrance into the water. Such pool alarm must meet and be independently certified to ASTM Standard F2208, titled "Standard Safety Specification for Residential Pool Alarms," which includes surface motion, pressure, sonar, laser and infrared alarms. For purposes of this paragraph, the term "swimming pool alarm" does not include any swimming protection alarm device designed for individual use, such as an alarm attached to a child that sounds when the child exceeds a certain distance or becomes submerged in water.

For above ground pools, the walls of the pool may be used as the enclosure/barrier, but any ladders or steps must be securable or removable or protected by a barrier.

A barrier is defined as "a fence, dwelling wall, or non-dwelling wall, or any combination thereof, which completely surrounds the swimming pool and obstructs access to the swimming pool, especially access from the residence or from the yard outside the barrier."

All gates providing access to a residential pool must open outward, be self-closing, latching, and locking with the release mechanism mounted on the inside, out of the reach of small children over or through it.

All applicants must submit documentation to assure compliance with this rule.

THE ENCLOSED "NOTICE OF REQUIREMENTS" IS TO BE SIGNED AND SUBMITTED AT PERMIT APPLICATION AND MUST BE POSTED ON THE JOB SITE IT WILL BECOME PART OF THE PERMIT FILE AND DOCUMENT PROPER NOTICE TO THE OWNER.

RESIDENTIAL SWIMMING POOL SPA AND HOT TUB ACT

NOTICE OF REQUIREMENTS

**A COPY OF THIS FORM MUST BE POSTED ON THE JOB SITE AND THE ORIGINAL IS
REQUIRED TO BE TURNED IN AS PART OF THE APPLICATION PACKAGE**

PERMIT # _____

I (we) acknowledge that a new swimming pool, spa or hot tub will be constructed or installed at _____, and hereby affirm that one of the following methods will be used to meet the requirements of Chapter 515, Florida Statutes. *(Please print street address)*

____ The pool will be isolated from access to the home by an enclosure that meets the pool barrier requirements of Florida Statute 515.29;

____ The pool will be equipped with an approved safety pool cover that complies with ASTM F1346-91 (Standard Performance Specifications for Safety Covers for Swimming Pools, Spas and Hot Tubs);

____ All doors and windows providing direct access from the home to the pool will be equipped with an exit alarm that has a minimum sound pressure rating of 85 decibels at 10 feet. The inspector must have access to the home in order to final a pool protected by an alarm system. Evidence of approval from a nationally recognized testing agency (such as UL2017) certifying compliance with the minimum performance criteria required by law must be on-site for the final inspection.

____ All doors providing direct access from the home to the pool will be equipped with self-closing, self-latching devices with release mechanisms placed no lower than 54" above the floor or deck;

____ A swimming pool alarm that, when placed in a pool, sounds an alarm upon detection of an accidental or unauthorized entrance into the water. Such pool alarm must meet and be independently certified to ASTM Standard F2208, titled "Standard Safety Specification for Residential Pool Alarms," which includes surface motion, pressure, sonar, laser and infrared alarms. For purposes of this paragraph, the term "swimming pool alarm" does not include any swimming protection alarm device designed for individual use, such as an alarm attached to a child that sounds when the child exceeds a certain distance or becomes submerged in water.

I understand not having one of the above installed at the time of final inspection, or when the pool is completed for contract purposes, will constitute a violation of Chapter 515, F.S. and will be considered as committing a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable by fines up to \$500 and/or up to 60 days in jail as established in chapter 775, F.S.

Contractor's Signature & Date

Owner's Signature & Date

Contractor's Name (PLEASE PRINT)

Owner's Name (PLEASE PRINT)