

CITY OF FRONTENAC



Swimming Pool Guide

The following information was compiled as a guide for residents who wish to construct a private pool. In order to obtain a permit two sets of plans must be submitted for review. The plans are required to be of architectural quality, but must provide enough information to determine that all construction will be built to minimum code standards. Typically, the more detailed a plan is, the faster we can issue a permit. The following is a list of common code requirements to incorporate in your plans.

The drawings must include the following information:

- Manufacturers make, model, and type if pre-manufactured
- Reinforcing steel placement, steel diameter, and steel specifications (bonding locations)
- Location, types of material, and height of access barriers
- Circulation equipment and location
- Drainage system
- Audible warning system if utilized
- Cross sectional view of the pool illustrating wall slope, floor slope, and depth

- A completed plot plan including a north arrow, property lines and all known utility easements, (sewer lateral), site drainage, locations and specifications of decking, pool stairs, steps, ladders, handrails, seats, lighting, circulation equipment, dimensions, and all existing structures on the same property. Plans must include location of pool equipment. Pool equipment will be required to be screened, a landscaping plan will be required, along with approval of the City's Architectural Review Board.
- Depending on the amount of additional hard surface, (decking around the pool and or impervious area) the City may require storm water remediation in order to help reduce over loading the existing storm water infrastructure. Engineered plan required.
- The City has specific requirements to the fences surrounding the pool as it pertains to fences in both the R-1 and R-2 areas, these are in addition to code requirements (see fence guide)
- All construction must meet or exceed the requirements of the 2006 International Residential Code, along with the current codes adopted by St. Louis County for both Electrical and Mechanical if the pool is heated.
- The pool, pool deck or the pool equipment is not to be in the side or rear yard set backs or in any easements. Minimum set back requirements for accessory structures are determined by the zoning of the property.
- All drains are to be VGB compliant to help reduce the risk of suction and entrapment dangers.
- All metallic parts within 5 feet of the pool, i.e. handrails, lights, ladders, pool frame are to be bonded to a common bonding grid with a solid copper conductor not smaller than #8.
- Overhead electrical lines must not be located above the pool and the area extending 10 feet horizontally from the inside walls of the pool. Underground wiring must not be located under the pool or within the area of 5 feet from the inside of the pool wall.
- All pools are required to have a barrier/fence of at least 48 inches in height, measured from finished grade. If the fence is a scalloped style the lowest point of the scallop must be at least 48". The maximum vertical clearance between finish grade and the bottom of the barrier shall be 2 inches.
- If the residence is going to serve as part of this barrier, several different options are available, however additional requirements apply which can be discussed with building department staff.
- Openings shall be a maximum of 4 inches, however if the barrier is constructed of vertical and horizontal members and the distance between the horizontal members is less than 45 inches, then the spacing between the vertical members shall not exceed 1 ¾ inches.
- **NOTE:** As part of the clean water act, the city of Frontenac requires all pool water to be discharged to the sanitary sewer system, or pumped out to a disposal service truck.



- All gates must swing out away from the pool and be self-closing and latching and be equipped to accommodate a locking device. Where the latch release is located less than 54 inches from the bottom of the gate then it must be located on the pool side of the gate at least 3 inches below the top of the gate and the gate and barrier shall not have an opening greater than ½ inch within 18 inches of the latch release.
- A tree protection plan is required to ensure the preservation of our maturing trees.

The preceding information is meant to be a helpful guide and applies to most simple residential pools. However, it does not include all of the requirements that may apply. The plan reviewer may determine additional information is needed. In order to help you with your design a sample plan is included.

If you have any questions please contact the Building Department at 994-3200.

