



CITY OF PHILADELPHIA
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSES & INSPECTIONS

Construction Services Division
Municipal Services Building - Concourse Level
1401 John F. Kennedy Boulevard
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19102

EZ PERMIT STANDARDS
POOLS AND SPAS

For pools and spas accessory to an
Existing One Family Dwelling.
Deviations from these standards require submission of
construction and site plans.
REVISED 11/18

EZ Pool and Spa Permit Standards

Obtain permits for above-ground or in-ground swimming pools and spas (including hot tubs) accessory to an Existing One Family Dwelling without submitting plans by meeting the Conditions and Design Limitations below.

(Deviations will require submission of plans to the Department with your permit applications.)

Prefabricated swimming pools where the pool is less than 24 inches deep, does not exceed 5,000 gallons and is installed entirely above ground does not require a building permit.

All work shall be performed in accordance with the 2015 International Swimming Pool and Spa Code (ISPSC), 2015 International Residential Code (IRC) and the 2014 National Electrical Code (NEC).

Special Flood Hazard Area: If a subject property is located within a Special Flood Hazard (Floodplain), EZ Pool and Spa application MAY ONLY be submitted at Permit Services at 1401 JFK Blvd, MSB, Concourse Level. Additional documentation required.

Conditions

- Pools and spas located in flood hazard areas, as indicated by the 2015 IRC, shall comply with Section 304.2 of the 2015 ISPSC.
- The pool or spa, accompanying structure and equipment must not be located in the front or side yard, and not within two feet of any property line or structure on the lot. In-ground pools shall be a minimum distance from property lines equal to the depth of the pool adjoining such property line.
- The installation of any deck that is associated with the pool or spa shall be in accordance with Section 306 of the ISPSC.
- Pools and spas may not be located on elevated structures such as decks or roofs.
- Separate permits are required for all electrical and plumbing installations associated with the installation of the pool or spa.
- An above-ground pool may have an access platform of up to 50 square feet included as part of this permit.

Design Limitations

- Pipe, fittings and components shall be listed and labeled in accordance with NSF50 or NSF14.
- Portable spas shall be listed and labeled in accordance with UL1563 or CSA C22.2 No. 218.1.
- The pool or spa is required to be installed in accordance with the Manufacturer’s Specifications, and shall meet the following standards:

MATERIAL	STANDARD
Fiberglass Reinforced Plastic	IAPMO Z124.7
Plastic	IAPMO Z124.7
Stainless Steel (Type 316, 316L, 304, 304L)	ASTM A 240
Tile	ANSI A108/A118/A1361
Vinyl	ASTM D 1593

- Water supplies for pools and spas shall be protected against backflow.



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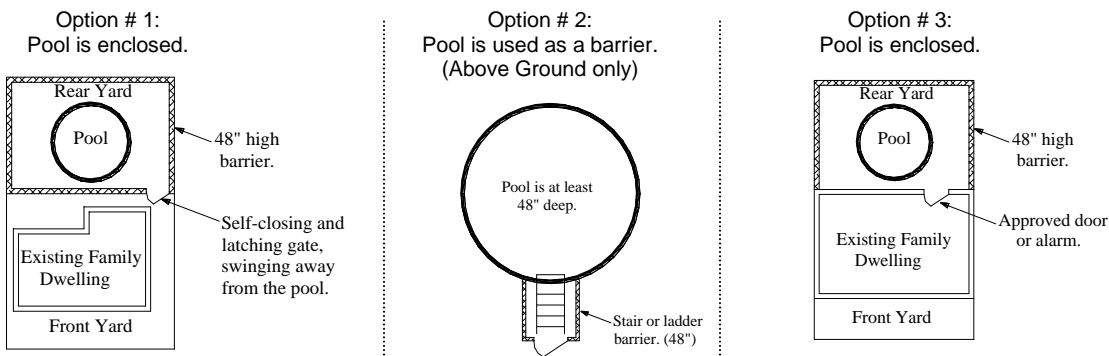
- Pools shall be equipped with a permanent water recirculating system.
- Filter backwash shall be discharged to the building drainage system.
- Water must be properly treated and free of scum, debris, and foreign matter. Discharge water must not create a nuisance to an adjoining property.
- Suction entrapment avoidance for pools and spas shall be provided in accordance with /APSP 7.
- Where the depth below the design waterline of a pool or spa exceed 42 inches, handholds are required along the perimeter.
- Safety signs that are provided by the pool and ladder manufacturer shall be posted in accordance with the manufacturer’s instructions.

Barriers

- Top of barrier shall not be less than 48” above ground.
- Vertical distance between grade and bottom of barrier (soft surfaces) shall be ≤ 2”
- Vertical distance between grade and bottom of barrier (hard soft surfaces) shall be ≤ 4”
- Pool wall may serve as a barrier for an on-ground pool where top of pool wall is at least 48 inches above grade and pool manufacturer allows wall to serve as barrier.
 - Ladders on steps used as a means of access to the pool shall be capable of being secured, locked or removed to prevent access.
- Openings in barrier shall be < 4”
- Where a wall of a dwelling or structure serves as part of the barrier and where doors or windows provide direct access to the pool or spa, the barrier must comply with Section 305.4 of the ISPSC.

Barrier Options

- Access to pools, spas and hot tubs must be restricted to prevent against potential drowning accidents. One of the three barrier options shown below is required for any pool, spa or hot tub.



Gates

- Gates shall open outward away from pool or spa, shall be self-closing and shall have a self-latching device.
- Where release mechanism of self-latching device is located less than 54” from grade, release mechanism shall be located on pool or spa side of the gate not less than 3” below the top of the gate, and the gate and barrier shall not have openings > 1/2” within 18 inches of the release mechanism.

AP # _____

Applicant’s Signature _____