Swimming Pool Safety Requirements

What is required?

Pools must be isolated form the home by one of the following methods:

1. ENCLOSURE – An approved fence, wall, or barrier serving as an enclosure that separates the pool form the house

2. SAFTEY COVER – An approved pool safety cover that complies with ASTM standard F1346-91

3. EXIT ALARMS – Approved exit alarms installed on all doors that provide direct access from the house into the pool area.

> *Note: per Rocklin city zoning code section 17.08.150, a five-foot fence with self-latching gates shall surround all pools.*

What are the requirements for an enclosure?

Enclosures are intended to keep children from entering the pool area and must meet the following minimum construction requirements:

1. Enclosures must be at least five feet high.

2. The maximum gap between the bottom of the enclosure and the ground must not exceed two inches.

3. Gaps or voids in the enclosure must be less than four inches

4. The enclosure shall be free of handholds or footholds that could allow a child below the age of five to climb into the pool area.

5. Enclosure access gates must open away from the pool area, be equipped with a self closing / latching device with a release mechanism placed not lower than 60 inches above the ground.

What about hot tubs and spas?

Hot tubs or spas that have a locking safety cover that complies with the American Society for Testing Materials-Emergency Performance Specifications (ASTM-ES 13-89) are exempt from these requirements.

Key Definitions

A. "Swimming pool" means any in ground or above ground structure intended for swimming or recreational bathing that contains water over 18 inches deep including hot tubs, spas, portable spas, and non-portable wading pools.

B. "Enclosure" means a fence, wall, or other barrier that serves to isolate a swimming pool from access to the home.

C. "Approved safety pool cover" means a manually or power-operated safety pool cover that meets all of the performance standards of the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM), in compliance with standard F1346-91.

D. "Exit alarm" means devices that make audible, continuous alarm sounds when any exit door or window, that permits access from the residence to the pool area that is without any intervening enclosure, is opened or is left ajar. Exit alarms may be battery operated or may be connected to the electrical wiring of the building.