

Residential Swimming Pool Requirements

The 2009 Michigan Residential Building Code (in part) states that any swimming pool containing water over 24 inches deep requires a Building Permit, and may also require an Electrical, Plumbing or Mechanical Permit depending on the circumstances.

Any swimming pool containing over 24 inches of water requires a barrier. A barrier is defined as a fence, wall, building wall, or combination thereof which completely surrounds the swimming pool and obstructs access.

Barrier Requirements (summary):

- A barrier shall be at least 48 inches above the ground with a maximum vertical clearance of no greater than 2 inches between the ground and the bottom of the barrier.
- Openings in a barrier shall not allow the passage of a 4 inch diameter sphere. (Where chain link fence or lattice is used, the maximum mesh opening shall be no greater than 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ inch.)
- A barrier shall not be climbable.
- Access gates shall open outward away from the swimming pool, be self-closing and have a self-latching device.
- When a building wall with a door is used as part of a barrier, the door shall be equipped with an alarm capable of sounding a warning when the door and/or its screen is opened.
- When an above ground swimming pool (in whole or in part) is used as a barrier and the means of access is a ladder or steps, the means access shall be capable of being secured, locked, removed or surrounded by a barrier to prevent access.



A Zoning (Land Use) Permit is also required indicating where the swimming pool will be located on the property. Please contact the Bath Charter Township Building Department at (517) 641-4238 for complete Permit and Code requirements.