B SWIMMING POOL SAFETY ACT REQUIREMENTS

CITY OF STOCKTON

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT – BUILDING & LIFE SAFETY DIVISION
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Assembly Bills 2977 and 382 were passed that amended Sections 11592, 115924 and 115928 of the Health and Safety Code, which is known as the Swimming Pool and Safety Act. In 2017 Senate Bill 442 was passed that amended Sections 7195 of the Business and Professions Code and Sections 115922 and 115925 of the Health and Safety Code. The following information is also published in Appendix CI of the California Residential Code.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

When a building permit is issued for the construction of a new swimming pool or spa or the remodeling of an existing swimming pool or spa at a private single-family home, the respective swimming pool or spa shall be equipped with at least **two** of the following seven drowning prevention safety features identified below:

1. An enclosure that meets the requirements of the "Enclosure Design" below and isolates the swimming pool or spa from the residence. **Note:** This option refers to an enclosure around the pool itself, the property fence (already required by code) shall not be considered as one of the two required safety features.
2. Removable mesh fencing around the pool or spa that meets American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) Standard F2286 in conjunction with a gate that is self-closing and self-latching and can accommodate a key lockable device.
3. A manually or power-operated safety pool cover that meets all of the performance standards of ASTM F1346-91.
4. All doors providing direct access from the residence or attached garage to the pool or spa shall be equipped with exit alarms. The exit alarm may cause either an alarm noise or a verbal warning.
5. All doors providing direct access from the residence or attached garage to the pool or spa shall be equipped a self-closing, self-latching device with a release mechanism placed no lower than 54 inches above the floor.
6. An alarm that meets ASTM Standard F2208 that, when placed in the pool or spa, will sound upon detection of accidental or unauthorized entrance into the water. **Note:** Based on the size and/or shape of the pool multiple alarms may be required.
7. Other means of protection, if the degree of protection afforded is equal to or greater than that afforded by any of the features set forth above and has been independently verified by an approved testing laboratory as meeting standards established by ASTM or American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME).

ENCLOSURE DESIGN - An enclosure shall have <u>all</u> of the following characteristics:

a) Any access gates through the enclosure open away from the pool/spa and are self-closing with a self-latching device placed no lower than 60 inches above the ground.

b) A minimum height of 60 inches.

c) A maximum vertical clearance from the ground to the bottom of the enclosure of two inches.

d) Gaps or voids, if any, do not allow passage of a sphere equal to or greater than four inches in diameter.

e) An outside surface free of protrusions, cavities, or other physical characteristics that would serve as handholds or footholds that could enable a child below the age of five years to climb over.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Whenever a building permit is issued for the construction of a new swimming pool or spa, the pool or spa shall meet all of the following requirements:

1. The swimming pool or spa shall either have at least two circulation suction outlets per pump that shall be hydraulically balanced and symmetrically plumbed through one or more "T" fittings, and that are separated by a distance of at least three feet in any dimension between the suction outlets, or be designed to use alternatives to

suction outlets, including, but not limited to, skimmers or perimeter overflow systems to conduct water to the recirculation pump.

2. The circulation system shall have the capacity to provide a complete turnover of pool water not less than once every 12 hours.
3. Suction outlets shall be covered with anti-entrapment grates, as specified in the ANSI/APSP performance standard that cannot be removed except with the use of tools. Slots or openings in the grates or similar protective devices shall be of a shape, area, and arrangement that would prevent physical entrapment and would not pose any suction hazard to bathers.

Whenever a building permit is issued for the remodel or modification of an existing swimming pool, toddler pool, or spa, the permit shall require the suction outlet to be upgraded so as to be equipped with anti-entrapment grates.

GENERAL INFORMATION

“Swimming pool” or “pool” means any structure intended for swimming or recreational bathing that contains water over 18” deep. “Swimming pool” includes in-ground and above-ground structures and includes, but not limited to, hot tubs, spas, portable spas and non-portable wading pools.

“Enclosure” means a fence, wall, or other barrier that isolates a swimming pool from access to the home.

“Exit alarms” means devices that make audible, continuous alarm sounds when any door or window, that permits access from the residence to the pool area that is without 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.

Hot tubs or spas with locking safety covers that comply with the American Society for Testing Materials Emergency Performance Specifications (ASTM F1346) are exempt.

Public swimming pools and spas, including apartment complex pools/spas are subject to Chapter 31B of the California Building Standards Code as enforced by the Environmental Health Department.

Swimming pools and spas are also subject to the International Swimming Pool and Spa Code (ISPSC) as adopted by the City of Stockton.