



Town of Gates

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Swimming Pools: What you need to know

- *Swimming pools, spas and hot tubs need to be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's specification with a temporary barrier installed during installation or construction and needs to be in place until a permanent barrier is installed.*
- *Temporary and permanent barriers need to be at least 48 inches above grade and no more than 72 inches above grade, built of rigid construction, with a self-closing and self-locking gate that is lockable when unattended.*
- *All gates need to open outward, away from the pool, securely lock with a key, combination or other child proof lock sufficient to prevent access to the pool through such gate when the swimming pool is not in use or supervised.*
- *All gates latches must be located within the enclosure and must be located at least 40 inches above grade.*
- *All gate latch handles less than 54 inches from the bottom of the gate must be located at least 3 inches below the top of the gate and neither the gate, nor the barrier, can have any openings greater than ½ inch within 18 inches of the latch handle.*
- *Spas and hot tubs do not need a permanent barrier provided it has an approved safety cover installed.*
- *All above-ground swimming pools less than 48 inches tall and in-ground swimming pools need to have a permanent barrier installed.*
- *All above-ground swimming pools 48 inches or taller with an approved safety ladder or approved safety measure attached to it's surrounding deck or platform do not need a permanent barrier installed.*
- *Where an above-ground pool structure is used as a barrier or where the barrier is mounted on top of the pool structure and the means of access is a ladder or steps, the ladder or steps must be secured, locked or removed to prevent access or be surrounded by an approved permanent barrier.*
- *The location of all swimming pools must be at least 10% of the lot width, but never less than 5 feet, away from all side and rear lot lines.*
- *Pool location must be at least 15 feet away from any structure with a foundation, 20 feet from any active well, septic tank, leach bed, etc. and at least 10 feet from any overhead electrical service lines.*
- *All electrical works needs to be inspected by an independent third party agency, approved by the Town of Gates, as to conform to the New York State Electrical Code.*
- *An acceptable pool alarm device, capable of detecting a child entering the water and giving an audible alarm must be installed, used and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications.*
- *The pool alarm device must be audible at poolside, as well as inside the house where the pool is located.*
- *The pool alarm device cannot be located on a person or be dependent on devices located on a person for its operation.*
- *Where applicable, multiple pool alarm devices may be required to provide detection capabilities at every point on the surface of the swimming pool.*