

Residential Swimming Pools and Spas



Reference: City of Marion Code of Ordinances

Permit Requirements: All pools (soft side, above ground, storable, permanent) capable of holding water to 24 inches or more in depth require a building permit. An electrical permit would also be required prior to the Swimming pool permit is issued and any electrical installation takes place.

Storable Pool: A pool that can be disassembled for storage or transport. This includes portable pools with flexible or nonrigid walls that achieve their structural integrity by means of uniform shape, a support frame or a combination thereof, and that can be disassembled for storage or relocation.

Permanent Pool: A pool that is inground or above ground that is designed to remain year-round in the same location. It achieves its structural integrity from the construction of the sides regardless shape or design.

Applying for a permit:

Complete a Building Permit Application and Site Plan showing all required information.

The site plan should show the following:

- Property pin locations, property lines, and dimensions of lot.
- Proposed pool location with distances to other structures on the property and to property lines.
- Location of all overhead and underground utilities, easements alleys, etc.
 - **Note:** Pools shall not be closer than six (6) feet from existing structures and shall not be placed in any easements or required yard setbacks.
- Directional arrows for the flow of surface water drainage.
- Pool size, depth, and construction.
- Fence construction and location (see below for more information).
- Any deck construction plans if being built.
- Electrical requirements for the pool.

Email the application and all completed plans to buildingpermits@cityofmarion.org or go to the City of Marion website for information about applying through the Online Permit Service portal.

Barrier Requirements:

During construction, the barrier shall be in place prior to excavation.

All outdoor swimming pools 24 inches or more in depth (including in-ground, above-ground, or on-ground pools) shall be surrounded by a barrier, which shall comply with the following:

Barrier Exception: A barrier is not required for an inground pool when it is equipped with a powered safety cover that complies with ASTM F1346

Height:

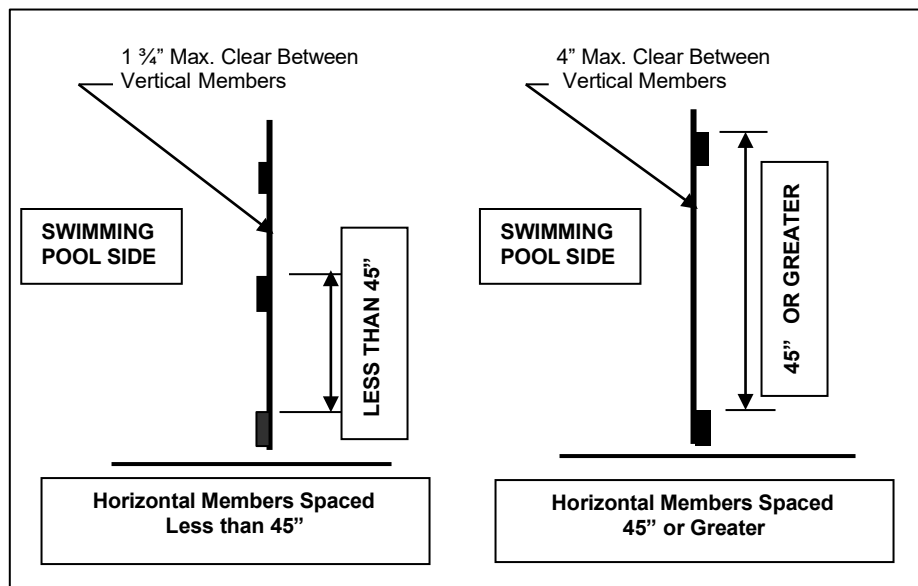
- 48 inches above grade measured from the outside face of the barrier.

Openings:

- 2" maximum between grade and bottom of barrier.
- 4" maximum between top of above-ground pool wall and bottom of barrier when barrier is attached to top of pool wall.
- All other openings shall not allow the passage of a 4" diameter sphere.
 - **Exception:** pools equipped with a powered safety cover that complies with ASTM F1346

Climbability:

- Solid barriers (masonry, stone wall, etc.) must not have any protrusions or indentations except for normal construction joints.
- When the barrier has horizontal members less than 45" apart, they must be located on the inside of the barrier facing the swimming pool. In this case, the space between vertical members must be 1 3/4" or less.
- Decorative cut-outs within a vertical member must not have openings greater than 1 3/4".
- When the barrier is composed of horizontal and vertical members and the distance between the tops of the horizontal members is 45" or more, the spacing between vertical members shall not exceed 4".



- Chain link fence maximum mesh size shall be 2 1/4" square unless the fence has slats fastened at the top or bottom which reduce the openings to 1 3/4".
- Diagonal member barriers (lattice fence) shall have a maximum opening formed by the diagonal members of not more than 1 3/4".

Access Gates:

- Must meet height, opening, and climb ability requirements for barriers.
- Pedestrian access gates must be self-closing, lockable, self-latching, and must open outward.
- Where the latching mechanism is less than 54" from bottom of the gate, the release mechanism must be located on the pool side of the gate and be at least 3" from the top of the gate. There shall be no openings larger than 1/2" within 18" of the latch.

- Latches located greater than 54” from the bottom of the gate may be located on both sides.

Door Alarms or Cover:

When the dwelling serves as part of the barrier, **ONE** of the following conditions shall be met:

1. The pool shall be equipped with a powered safety cover in compliance with ASTM F 1346; **OR**
2. Doors providing direct access to the pool shall be equipped with an alarm which produces an audible warning when the door or screen is opened:
 - Audible alarm shall sound within 7 seconds and sound continuously for 30 seconds.
 - Alarm shall be capable of being heard throughout the house.
 - Alarm shall automatically reset under all conditions.
 - The alarm system shall be equipped with a manual means (touchpad or switch) located at least 54” above the threshold to temporarily deactivate the alarm (15 seconds minimum) for a single opening; **OR**
3. Other means of protection, such as self-closing doors with self-latching devices, can be approved by the Marion inspection department.
 - Where an above-ground pool structure is used as a barrier or the barrier is mounted on top of the pool side, and the means of access is a ladder or steps:
 - Ladder or steps shall be capable of being secured or locked to prevent access; **or**
 - Barrier around steps or ladder shall meet all of above guidelines.

Electrical / Utility Requirements:

The following electrical/utility concerns shall be followed when installing a pool:

- Pools shall not be placed over any underground wires within five feet measured horizontally or under any overhead electric wires within ten feet measured horizontally from the inside wall of the pool.
- Permanently Installed Pools, as defined above, shall be provided with at least one 120 volt GFCI protected receptacle a minimum of six feet and not more than 20 feet from the inside wall of the pool.
- All electrical wiring for the pool use or within 20 feet and accessible from the pool area shall be in compliance with the current City of Marion Electrical Code and the National Electrical Code.
- Permanently installed pools, as defined above, shall be provided with equipotential bonding as required by NEC Article 680.26

