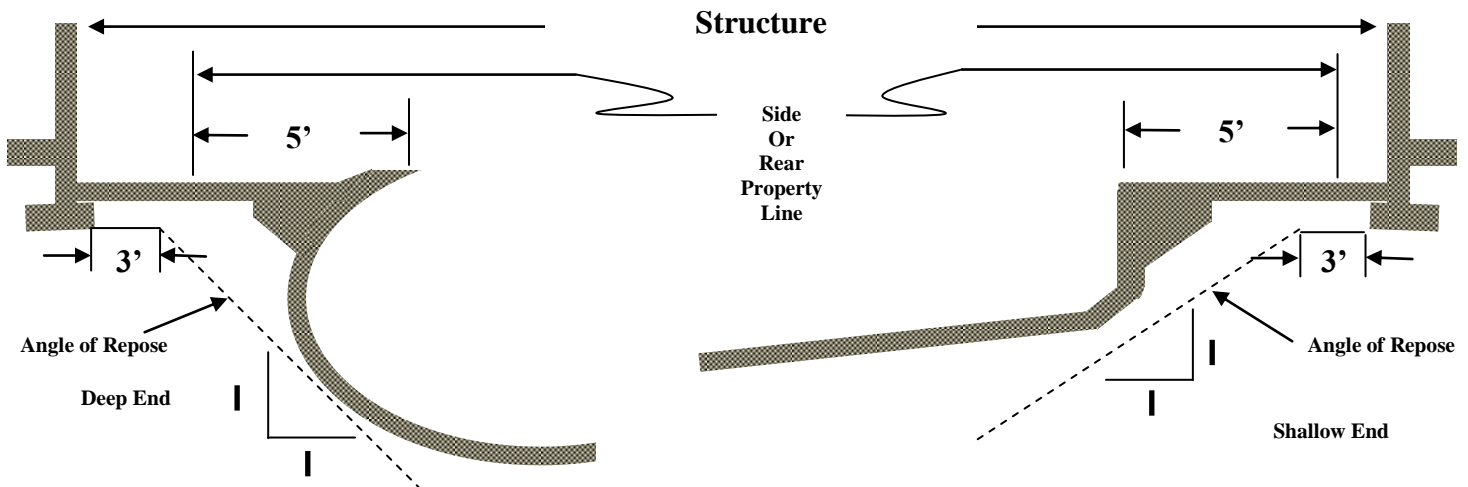




## **SWIMMING POOL PERMIT REQUIREMENTS**



### **Setbacks**

Swimming pools shall not be constructed in required front setbacks or closer than 5 feet to any rear lot line or side lot line. On the street side of any corner lot, where the rear lot line abuts a side lot line, no pool shall be located closer than 10 feet to such side lot line.

### **Clearances**

There shall be a minimum 4 feet of clearance from obstructions around the entire pool. When built adjacent to a structure, the pool shall be located as not to intercept the angle of repose of the structure (see diagram above). Where the pool intercepts the angle of repose, the structural design of the pool shall incorporate the additional foundation loads.

### **Backwash**

The **main drain** for all swimming pools, above and in-ground, and/or fountains and spas **shall not be** directly connected to either the sanitary sewer or the storm drain system. Drainage from the main drain of these pools shall be to the sanitary sewer by temporary connection only. A permit from West Bay Sanitary Sewer District must be obtained prior to draining the pool. The **backwash drains** shall be directly connected to the sanitary sewer and be coordinated with West Bay Sanitary Sewer District, at 650.321.0384.

### **Pool Equipment**

All pool heating, filtering, and other motorized equipment are subject to the City of Menlo Park's noise ordinance, Chapter 8.06 of the Municipal Code and shall be housed in a weather tight structure provided with sound insulation. If the structure is more than 8 feet in height and/or more than 64 square feet and/or used for a dressing or storage room, it will require a separate building permit and will be regulated as an Accessory Building. The flue for the pool heater shall not be closer than 4 feet to the property line as per UMC.

### **Fences**

Pools shall be enclosed by a fence or solid structure with a minimum height of 5 feet and a maximum height of 7 feet. The fence shall be designed such that any openings, other than a door or gate, are no larger than 50 square inches, except rectangular openings having no horizontal dimension exceeding 4 inches, may have a greater area. All gates leading into the area shall be self-closing and have self-latching devices. The latch shall be located no lower than 60 inches above the ground.

### **Required Clearance for Electrical Conductors**

Electric lines with a voltage of 0 to 750 volts shall have a minimum clearance of 22.5 feet above the water level and the pool deck and 14.5 feet above the diving platform. These clearances shall be maintained around the pool for a minimum distance of 10 feet as measured from the edge of the pool. All other supply conductors shall not be located less than 25 feet above the water level and the pool deck and 17 feet above the diving platform.

### **Required Information for all Swimming Pool Permit Applications**

- 1) Complete site plan showing all structures on site, dimensioned and to scale.
- 2) Structural landscape plan in relationship to decks, retaining walls, and drains.
- 3) Location of all utilities – gas, sewer, and electric drawn on site plan.
- 4) A soils investigation and report is required for all pools in the foothills area.

**See Also:**  
Zoning Ordinance, Chapter 16.70 – Swimming Pools



**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPT.**

701 Laurel Street  
Menlo Park, CA 94025  
650.330.6704  
2/11/14

**SWIMMING POOL AND SPA SAFETY ACT OF 2006**

Effective January 1, 2007,

Whenever a building permit is issued for remodeling or for construction of a new swimming pool or spa, at a private, single-family home, it shall be equipped with at least one of the following seven drowning prevention safety features:

- 1) The pool shall be isolated from access to a home by an enclosure that is 60 inches minimum height, maximum vertical distance from the ground to the bottom of the enclosure shall be 2 inches, gaps or voids do not allow passage of 4 inch sphere, the outside shall be free of cavities or other physical features which would allow climbing, all gates shall open away from pool and should be self-closing, self-latching placed no lower than 60 inches above the ground.
- 2) The pool shall be equipped with an approved safety pool cover that meets all requirements of ASTM Specifications F 1346.
- 3) The pool shall incorporate removable mesh pool fencing that meets ASTM Specifications F 2286 standards in conjunction with a gate that is self-closing and self-latching and can accommodate a key lockable device.
- 4) The residence shall be equipped with exit alarms on those doors providing direct access to the pool.
- 5) All doors providing direct access from the home to the swimming pool shall be equipped with a self-closing, self-latching device with a release mechanism placed no lower than 54 inches above the floor.
- 6) Swimming pool alarms that when placed in pools, will sound upon detection of accidental or unauthorized entrance into the water. These alarms shall meet and be independently certified to the ASTM Standard F 2208 "Standard Specification for Pool Alarms" which includes surfaced motion, pressure, sonar, laser, and infrared type alarms.
- 7) Other means of protection, if the degree of protection afforded is equal to or greater than that afforded by any of the devices set forth above, and have been independently verified by an approved testing laboratory as meeting standards for those devices established by ASTM or ASME.

Whenever a building permit is issued for remodeling or for 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 have at least two circulation drains 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 drains.
- 2) Suction outlets that are less than 12 inches across shall be covered with anti-entrapment grates, as specified in ANSI Standard A 112.19.8, that cannot be removed except with tools.

**See Also:**  
Zoning Ordinance, Chapter 16.70 – Swimming Pools