

Lower Allen Township Residential Swimming Pool Permit Submittal Guide

Code Reference: International Swimming Pool and Spa Code (ISPSA), Chapter 42

Swimming Pool definition: Any structure intended for swimming or recreational bathing that contains water over 24 inches deep. This includes in ground, above ground and on ground swimming pools, hot tubs and spas.

Permit Application Process

- Submit 2 copies of in ground swimming pool plans and specifications indicating the following: pool dimensions, wall slopes, floor slopes, surface cleaning devices, walkways, steps and ladders, diving/sliding boards, water supply, water treatment, drainage system, suction outlet fittings (cover), and accessory building(s). Accessory buildings include showers, dressing rooms, and equipment in buildings for plumbing and pool heaters. Include energy conservation items such as a pool cover for heated pools, system controls, and pipe insulation.
- Submit 2 copies of manufacturer's information sheets and/or manufacturer's installation instructions for any prefabricated pool assemblies and pool equipment (above ground pool assemblies, pumps, filters, heaters, above ground pool ladders).
- Submit 2 copies of the site plans, which must show pool and deck dimensions including distance from edge of water surface to property lines. Also, show location of all existing buildings and proposed buildings (including sheds, detached garages and accessory buildings), driveways, sidewalks, gas tanks, and overhead electric and communication cables. In addition, the lot area (the area contained within the entire property) and the lot coverage (the total area covered by all buildings, pools, driveways, and sidewalks) must be provided in square feet.
- Submit details for required barriers/fencing and pedestrian access gate latching.
- Submit structural framing plan of deck and stairs adjacent to pools for Code Official review and approval. Plans must accurately show structural framing that include footings, beam, post and joist layout, guardrails, stairways and handrails. Decks 30 inches or more above grade may need engineering.

Conditions to Consider That Affect Installation

- Barriers (fences) for swimming pools shall be at least 48 inches above the finished grade. Maximum vertical distance between grade and the bottom of the barrier shall be 2 inches. Openings in the barrier shall not allow the passage of a 4-inch diameter sphere. Special requirements apply to chain link fence, masonry walls and diagonal lattice. Access gates shall swing out and be self-closing and self-latching. Release

mechanism shall be at least 54 inches above bottom of the gate. Special requirements apply when the release mechanism is less than 54 inches.

- The Township requires that the pool NOT be filled until all required safety barriers are installed.
- If the house is part of the barrier/fencing, the door(s) and screen door(s) opening(s) into the pool area must be equipped with an approved U.L. listed alarm.
- Electrical work shall be installed in accordance with the International Residential Code (IRC) Chapter and the National Electrical Code (NEC) for Swimming Pools.
- Contact a Code Official for electrical code requirements such as:
 - Overhead wires and cable clearances
 - Underground wiring and/or conduit
 - Bonding of pool and wire mesh and/or rebar in concrete deck
 - Wiring methods and insulated ground wire requirements
 - Receptacle locations
 - Light fixtures, switch locations and landscape lighting
 - Ground fault circuit interrupter protection for receptacles and equipment
 - Disconnect locations

Inspection Requirements:

Pools shall not be used until a Code Official approves the Final Electrical and Final Pool Inspections.

- Shotcrete (In Ground) Pools require the following inspections:
 - 1) Pool reinforcing and pool plumbing prior to placement of Shot Crete (All rebar and wire mesh must be properly supported).
 - 2) Bonding requirements for pool equipment, light fixtures, metal accessories and concrete deck rebar, pool shell and wire mesh.
 - 3) Underground conduit and wiring prior to back fill.
 - 4) Underground gas piping testing if applicable (Design Installation Testing Certification Form must be submitted).
 - 5) Final electrical – ground fault protected receptacle(s), light fixture(s), landscape lighting, pool pump motor, bonding of metal fencing and equipment and energy requirements.
 - 6) Final Pool – fencing and/or barrier, door alarms, access gate hardware operation and pool cover.
- Metal Liner Panel (In Ground) Pools require the following inspections:
 - 1) Pool footings and pool plumbing prior to placement of concrete (All rebar, wire mesh and steps must be properly supported).

- 2) Bonding of all metal parts within 5 feet of the inside walls of the pool including but not limited to rebar, light fixtures, ladders, handrails, pump motors, filters, heaters and metal fencing.
 - 3) Underground conduit and wiring prior to back fill.
 - 4) Underground gas piping testing if applicable (Gas Test Certification Form must be submitted).
 - 5) Final electrical – ground fault protected receptacle(s), pool pump motor, filter, heaters, light fixture(s), landscape lighting and bonding of metal fencing and equipment, energy requirements.
 - 6) Final Pool – fencing and/or barriers, listed step assemblies (removable or fold up locking type), access gate hardware operation, and pool covers.
- Above Ground Pools require the following inspections:
 - 1) Bonding of all metal parts within 5 feet of the inside walls of the pool including but not limited to rebar, light fixtures, ladders, handrails, pump motors, filters, heaters and metal fencing.
 - 2) Underground conduit and wiring prior to back fill.
 - 3) Underground gas piping testing if applicable (Gas Test Certification Form must be submitted).
 - 4) Deck post footings if applicable. (Prior to pouring concrete)
 - 5) Framing of pool decking, stairs, handrails and guardrails if applicable.
 - 6) Final electrical – ground fault protected receptacle(s), pool pump motor, filter, heaters, landscape lighting and light fixture(s).
 - 7) Final Pool – installation performed in accordance with the pool manufacturers installation instructions, fencing or barriers, listed step assemblies (removable or fold up locking type) and fencing / gate hardware operation.

Lower Allen Township Residential Spa & Hot Tub Permit Submittal Guide

Code Reference: International Swimming Pool and Spa Code (ISPSC), Chapter 42

Submit 2 copies of manufacturer's installation instructions and specification sheets.

Submit information on the safety locking cover or barrier fencing.

Conditions to Consider That Affect Installation

- Existing decks must be capable of supporting the loads imposed by the spa or hot tub, that is, the weight of the unit, weight of the water and weight of all occupants. Submit a structural framing plan of the deck for Municipal review and approval. Corrective framing and structural work may be required. Review by a registered architect or structural engineer may be needed, for example, an elevated deck with hot tub.
- Overhead electric wires and communication cables require clearances based on both PPL and National Electrical Code rules and regulations.
- Glazed windows or doors enclosing or adjacent to a spa or hot tub spa that are less than 5 feet above a walking surface and within 5 feet horizontally must have approved safety glazing or an approved permanent barrier between the glazing and the spa or hot tub.
- Electrical wiring and equipment shall be installed in accordance with the 2021 International Swimming Pool and Spa Code (ISPSC) and National Electrical Code (NEC) Article 680. Electrical requirements are different for inside and outdoor installations. Contact a Code Official for electrical code information such as:
 - Overhead wires and cable clearances
 - Wiring methods, disconnect and insulated ground wire requirements
 - Receptacle outlet location(s) (new & existing)
 - Light fixture, ceiling fan and switch location(s)
 - Ground fault circuit interrupter protection
 - Landscape lighting and wiring
 - Bonding requirements: pumps, metal fencing, gutters/downspouts, etc.