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Inspection Guidelines for Swimming Pools, Spas and Hot Tubs (ISPSC)

The following checklist is greatly abbreviated from the fifty-one (51) page ICC *International Swimming Pool and Spa Code*. It is provided as a summary list of major issues and design features to look at, rather than a comprehensive, detailed list of design and equipment requirements.

(FENCE)

- A. ___ 4 foot non-climbable barrier around the perimeter of the pool and spa, including portable pools, =/ $< 2''$ - $4''$ barrier ground clearance, $< 4''$ barrier openings; chain link openings $< 1 \frac{3}{4}''$
- B. ___ Barrier Requirements: self-closing and self-latching gates or door. (Ask neighbors to do the same if they have pools or spas.) Pedestrian access gates shall open outward away from the pool and self-latching release mechanism or device shall be located on the pool side of the gate at least 3'' inches below the top of the gate.
- C. ___ If the house serves as the fourth side of a fence around a pool or spa, install and use a door or pool alarm and or a pool or spa cover. The audible alarm shall activate with in 7 seconds continuously for a minimum of 30 seconds.
- D. ___ Pool and spa covers maintained in good working order and repair.

E. ___ Anti-entrapment safety drain covers. The suction outlet (drain) cover, marked “VGB 2008” protects from entrapment of fingers or hair.

F. ___ Life-saving equipment such as life rings, floats or a reaching pole available and easily accessible.

G. ___ Decks, ramps, etc. with a surface that has been so treated or constructed to significantly reduce the chance of a user slipping; cleanable.

H. ___ Deck steps with 3 or more risers must have handrails.

I. ___ On ground pool decks flush with the top rail of the pool-gap openings closed off or capped. Cantilevered decks – not more than 1” above top rail.

J. ___ Appropriate safety signage. Post local emergency numbers in pool area and keep a phone with in easy reach.

Call the Building and Zoning Department about permitting for new pools and spas and whether a permit is required for any modification being made to an existing pool, spa or deck.