



## 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.