



# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Building & Construction Division • Permits & Inspections

City Hall • 215 Sycamore St Muscatine, IA 52761

563.262.4141 • www.muscatineiowa.gov

## OUTDOOR POOL FENCING REQUIREMENTS

Per Muscatine City Code, all outdoor pools which are more than 24 inches in depth are required to be entirely enclosed by an at least 4-foot fence, wall or barrier. As your project's scope of work fits this criterion, please review the code sections below which detail the requirements for pool fencing and sign the acknowledgment.

### CITY CODE SECTIONS

#### 10-22-4 Fencing Required Around Outdoor Pools

A swimming pool, or other contained body of water of more than 24 inches or more in depth at any point and is intended for swimming, shall be enclosed by a fence or wall meeting the following criteria:

- A. Be entirely enclosed by at least a four-foot wall, fence or other barrier as measured on the exterior side of the wall, fence or barrier.
- B. Have no openings in the wall, fence or barrier through which a spherical object 4 inches in diameter can pass.
- C. Have a vertical clearance between grade and the bottom of the wall, fence or barrier of less than 2 inches, as measured from the side of the wall, fence or barrier that faces away from the pool. When a wall, fence or barrier is composed of vertical and horizontal members and the distance between the tops of the horizontal members is greater than or equal to 45 inches, spacing between vertical members shall not be greater than 4 inches.
- D. When a wall, fence or barrier is composed of vertical and horizontal members and the distance between the tops of the horizontal members is less than 45 inches, the horizontal members shall be located on the swimming pool side of the wall, fence or barrier. Spacing between the vertical members shall not be greater than 1¾ inches.
- E. If there are decorative cutouts on any vertical member, spacing within the cutouts shall not exceed 1¾ inches.
- F. When a wall, fence or barrier is composed of diagonal members, the openings formed by the diagonal members shall not be greater than 1¾ inches.
- G. Mesh size for chain link fences shall not be greater than a 2¼ inch square, unless the fence is provided with slats fastened at the top or bottom which reduce the size of the openings to 1¾ inches.
- H. Gates for the enclosure shall:
  - 1. Be self-closing and self-latching.
  - 2. The latch shall be located:
    - i. At least 54 inches above the underlying ground or;
    - ii. Be located on the pool side of the gate with a release mechanism at least 3 inches below the top of the gate and no opening greater than ½ inch within 24 inches of the release mechanism.
  - 3. Open outward from the pool.
- I. The wall, fence or barrier shall not contain openings, handholds or footholds accessible from the exterior side of the enclosure that can be used to climb the wall, fence or barrier.
- J. Solid barriers which do not have opening(s) shall not contain indentations or protrusions except for normal construction tolerances and tooled masonry joints.
- K. When an aboveground pool structure is used as barrier or where the barrier is mounted on top of the pool structure, and the means of access is a ladder or steps, then the ladder or steps shall be:
  - i. Capable of being secured, locked, or removed to prevent access, without creating any openings that would allow the passage of a 4 inch sphere, or;
  - ii. Surrounded by a wall, fence or barrier that meets all requirements contained within this Chapter.

### ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I hereby acknowledge that I have reviewed the City's fencing requirements for swimming pools in its entirety. I certify that I understand that, as the property owner, I am responsible for fulfilling these requirements at my own expense prior to utilizing the swimming pool.

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_