



**CITY OF DARIEN**  
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## **POOLS, ABOVE AND IN-GROUND**

Revised: February 2025

### **General Information**

1. **A building permit is required.** The following is required:
  - a. Building permit application filled out.
  - b. 1 copy of the plat of survey, with the pool drawn on it, noting dimensions of the pool, pool deck and the dimensions to all lot lines and to the house.
  - c. 2 sets of plans, indicate all electrical work.
  - d. (Grading plan, may be required.)
  - e. All contractors are required to be licensed.
2. A swimming pool is any above-ground or in-ground structure used or capable of being used for swimming, wading or bathing, 24-inches or more in depth, or with a surface area exceeding 75 square feet, *including inflatable pools.*
3. **Pools and all other detached accessory structures shall not exceed 30% of the rear yard area** (the land area behind the house), and ***are not permitted within the side or front yard*** (that area in front of a house or directly to the side of a house, for example.)
4. **Detached accessory structures are to be at least 5 feet from side and rear lot lines, (15 ft if a corner lot) and they are to be located outside easements.**
5. Pools are not to drain onto adjacent properties.
6. **Electrical and pool final inspections are required for all pools. If pool is heated, gas line inspection is also required.**

### **Fence, Safety Barrier Requirements**

1. All pools are required to be surrounded by a fence, either surrounding the yard, the pool area or pool itself. Such fence, including gates, is to be at least 4 feet tall or extend at least 4 feet above the adjacent grade.

2. Gates are to be self-closing/self-latching and open outward, away from pool. Latches must be placed at least 4 feet above grade.
3. A separate fence permit is required.
4. The house may act as part of the required safety barrier, provided:
  - a. If there is a door from the house to the pool, there shall be an audible alarm on the door or a power safety cover.
  - b. Doors opening onto the pool area shall be self-closing, self-latching with a release 54 inches above the floor and swing away from the pool area.
  - c. A deck which opens onto the pool shall require a safety barrier and shall comply with the safety barrier requirements including stairs and gates.
  - d. A deck which opens onto the pool and which provides direct access to a house door shall be an alarm on the door or power safety cover.
5. A fence is not required if the following conditions are met, related to above ground pools:
  - a. The walls of the pool are at least 3 feet in height from every point along the adjoining ground of the pool, and the pool has a fence or other barrier that is permanently attached around the entire pool as part of the pool structure and is at least 24 inches in height above the pool deck/rim.
  - b. The pool entrance or stairway is latched or hinged, which locks at the top.
  - c. There are not any openings or gaps between the fence and pool larger than 4 inches, except doors and gates.

## **Electrical Code Requirements**

**The City has adopted the 2020 National Fire Protection Association National Electrical Code (Electrical Code), as amended.** A copy of the local amendments is available upon request.

1. Overhead utility wires are not permitted within 10 feet horizontally of the wall of the pool, unless they are 22.5 feet above the water line. (Section 680.8 NEC)
2. Underground wires are not permitted within 5 feet horizontally of the pool.
3. A receptacle for the pool pump motor shall be permitted between 6-10 feet from the inside wall of the pool or fountain, shall be single (not duplex) and of the locking and grounding type. It shall be protected by a ground-fault circuit interrupter (GFI).
4. Other receptacles on the property shall be located at least 6 feet from the inside wall of the pool.
5. A single receptacle is required on general purpose branch circuit, more than 20ft from inside from the inside wall of the pool (Section 680.22 NEC)
6. All 125 volt receptacles located within 20 feet of the inside wall of the pool shall be protected by a ground fault circuit interrupter (GFI).

7. Lighting fixtures, lighting outlets and ceiling suspended fans (including paddle fans) shall not be installed within 5 feet of the inside walls of the pool and 12ft. minimum above the water level.
8. Switching devices shall be at least 5 feet horizontally from the inside of the pool wall.
9. For plug-in motors, the motor can be plugged into a receptacle, provided:
  - a. Must be GFI protected.
  - b. Must have weather proof cover that stays closed during operation.
  - c. Rigid HW conduit is not permitted for installation of underwater pool lighting. Fixtures need to be installed in brass or PVC type conduit
10. Burial depth to comply with Table 300.5 2020 NEC (18in – PVC ok)
11. Comply with bonding requirements Article #680 2020 NEC
12. The pool shall comply with the 2021 International Residential Code, 2021 International Energy Conservation Code and 2020 National Electric Code.
13. Comply with Section 403.10.3, International Energy Code, if the pool is to be heated.
14. Provide a barrier in compliance with Section 305 2021 International Swimming Pool and Spa .Code.

### **Gas Line Requirements (Heater)**

**The City has adopted the State mandated 2014 Illinois State Plumbing Code.**

1. Gas line trench must be minimum 18 inches in depth.
2. Gas and electrical lines **may not** be in same trench.
3. Gas and electrical lines may cross only if electrical line is insulated.
4. Underground gas line may be PVC.
5. All gas lines shall comply with 2021 International Fuel and Gas Code.

I have read this document and fully understand what is required regarding pool installation.