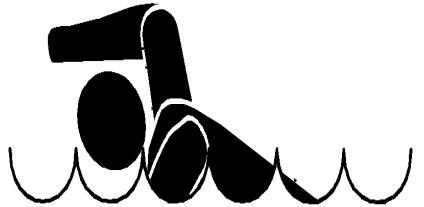


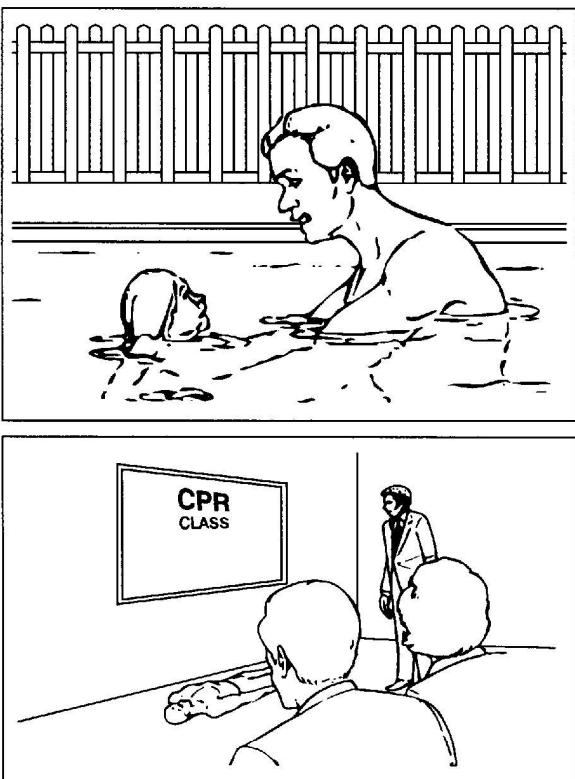
# Permit Review Checklist

## Swimming Pools 780 CMR 421.0



### RULES FOR POOLS

- Instruct babysitters about potential pool hazards to young children and about the use of protective devices, such as door alarms and latches. Emphasize the need for constant supervision.
- Never leave a child unsupervised near a pool. During social gatherings at or near a pool, appoint a "designated watcher" to protect young children from pool accidents. Adults may take turns being the "watcher." When adults become preoccupied, children are at risk.
- If a child is missing, check the pool first. Seconds count in preventing death or disability. Go to the edge of the pool and scan the entire pool, bottom and surface, as well as the pool area.
- Do not allow a young child in the pool without an adult.
- Do not consider young children to be drown proof because they have had swimming lessons. Children must be watched closely while swimming.
- Do not use flotation devices as a substitute for supervision.
- Learn CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation). Babysitters and other caretakers, such as grandparents and older siblings, should also know CPR.
- Keep rescue equipment by the pool. Be sure a telephone is poolside with emergency numbers posted nearby.
- Remove toys from in and around the pool when it is not in use. Toys can attract young children to the pool.
- Never prop open the gate to a pool barrier.



**NOTE:** To obtain detailed barrier recommendations, write CPSC, Pool Barriers, Office of Information & Public Affairs, Washington, DC 20207. For more information, call the CPSC's toll-free hotline at 1-800-638-2772 or visit its website at <http://www.cpsc.gov>.

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### PERMIT REQUIRED

- Pools 24" or greater in depth and or;
- Pools with a surface area 250 square feet or greater and or;
- Pools equipped with a permanent water recirculating system and or;
- Pools involving structural materials

### APPLICATION

- Completed Application (110.4)
- Insurance / Waiver (111.6)
- HIC info (108.3.6) *inground pools only*
- Homeowner Exempt (108.3.5)
- Agent Authorization (110.5)
- Town Treasurer signature on application verifying paid taxes

### DOCUMENTATION (110.7)

#### Two Sets of Documents showing:

**421.3.1** Construction documents shall accurately show dimensions and construction of the pool and appurtenances and *properly established distances to lot lines (see instrument survey)*, buildings, walks and fences, as well as details of the water supply system, drainage and water disposal systems, and all appurtenances pertaining to the swimming pool. Detailed construction *documents* of structures, vertical elevations and sections through the pool showing depth shall be included.

- Barrier and gate detail (421.10)
- Diving board detail (421.11)
- Step or ladder location (421.5.5)
- Water Heating (J4.5)
  - Type of fuel
  - Type of pool cover (J4.5.7.2)
  - ON-OFF switch location (J4.5.7.1)
  - Time clock location (J4.5.7.3)

#### Instrument Survey Showing:

- Pool location in relation to,
  - Septic System
  - House and other structures
  - Property lines
- Barrier location
- Mechanical and electrical equipment location (421.11)
- Potable water source (421.6)

### SOFTSIDE INFLATABLE POOLS

Soft side inflatable swimming pools offer an affordable, quick and manageable alternative to traditional above ground pools. However, soft side pools present an immediate safety danger to young children. The soft climbable sides lack the necessary barrier protection required by law to prevent unauthorized access into the pool. The installation of additional barrier protection in the form of fence and ladder enclosure is required for this type of swimming pool.

### PRIVATE SWIMMING POOLS

Swimming pools intended to be used in connection with an occupancy in Use Group R-3 & R-4 (one and two family dwellings) and which is available only to the family and guest of the householder.

### PUBLIC, SEMI-PUBLIC SWIMMING POOL

Swimming pools intended to be used by the general public not in connection with Use Groups R-3 & R-4. Refer to Chapter 4, §421.0 of the Massachusetts State Building Code for additional code requirements.

### REQUIRED INSPECTIONS

Required inspections will be noted on the permit card along with contact telephone numbers. Please note that concealment of structural components or utility lines prior to inspection shall result in a delay of the project until said component is exposed for inspection.

### Pool Egress

At least one means of egress shall be provided from private pools. Steps shall be slip resistant with handrails on both sides, except where there are not more than 4 steps or where the steps extend the full width of the side or end of the pool. (421.5.5)

### Water Supply

Pools shall be provided with potable water supply, free of cross connections with the pool or its equipment. (421.6)

### Drainage System

Pools shall be so equipped to be emptied completely of water and discharge shall be designed in a manner that will not create a nuisance to adjoining property (421.6.2)

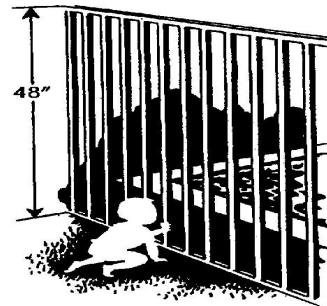
# UNDERSTANDING BARRIERS

## 780 CMR 421.10

**421.10 Enclosures for private swimming pools, spas and hot tubs:** In lieu of any zoning laws or ordinances to the contrary, private swimming pools, spas and hot tubs shall be enclosed in accordance with 730 CMR 421.10.1 through 421.10.4 or by other approved barriers.

**421.10.1 Outdoor private swimming pool:** An outdoor private swimming pool, including an in-ground, above ground or on-ground pool, hot tub or spa shall be provided with a barrier which shall comply with the following.

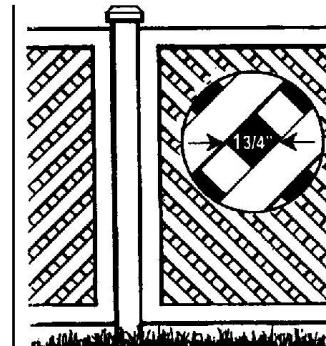
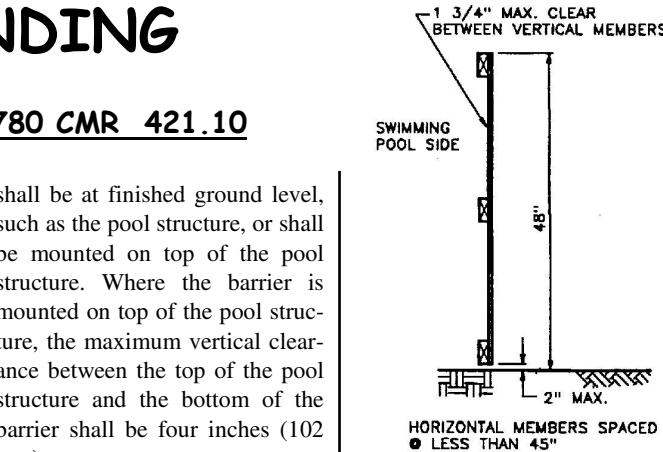
1. The top of the barrier shall be at least 48 inches (1219 mm) above finished ground level measured on the side of the barrier which faces away from the swimming pool.



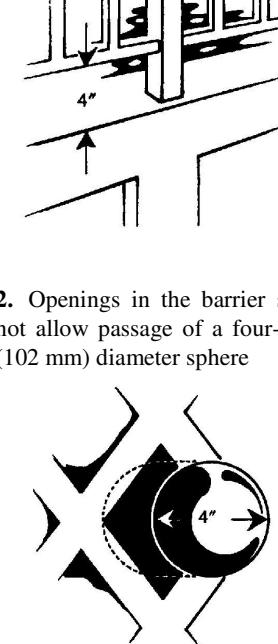
The maximum vertical clearance between finished ground level and the barrier shall be two inches (51 mm) measured on the side of the barrier which faces away from the swimming pool. Where the top of the pool structure is above finished ground level, such as an above-ground pool, the barrier



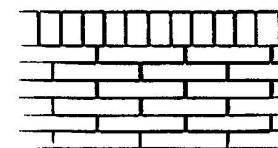
shall be at finished ground level, such as the pool structure, or shall be mounted on top of the pool structure. Where the barrier is mounted on top of the pool structure, the maximum vertical clearance between the top of the pool structure and the bottom of the barrier shall be four inches (102 mm).



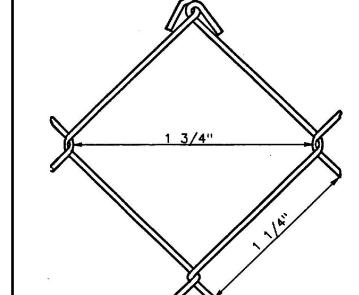
2. Openings in the barrier shall not allow passage of a four-inch (102 mm) diameter sphere



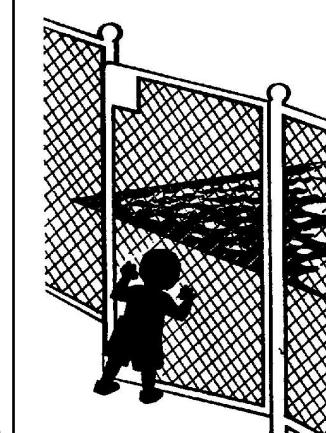
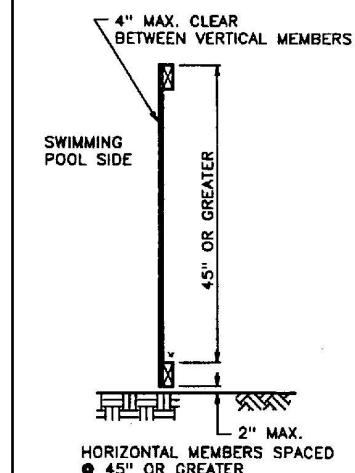
3. Solid barriers shall not contain indentations or protrusions except for normal construction tolerances and tooled masonry joints.



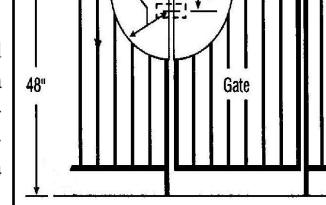
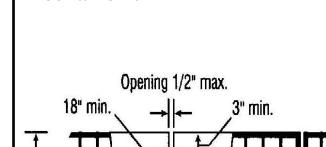
4. Where the barrier is composed of horizontal and vertical members and the distance between the tops of the horizontal members is less than 45 inches (1143 mm), the horizontal members shall be located on the swimming pool side of the fence. Spacing between vertical members shall not exceed 1 3/4 inches (44 mm) in width. Decorative cutouts shall not exceed 1 3/4 inches (44 mm) in width.



5. Where the barrier is composed of horizontal and vertical members and the distance between the tops of the horizontal members is 45 inches (1143 mm) or more, spacing between vertical members shall not exceed four inches (102 mm). Decorative cutouts shall not exceed 1 3/4 inches (44 mm) in width.



6. Maximum mesh size for chain link fences shall be a 1 1/4 inch (32 mm) square unless the fence is provided with slats fastened at the top or the bottom which reduce the openings to not more than 1 3/4 inches (44 mm)



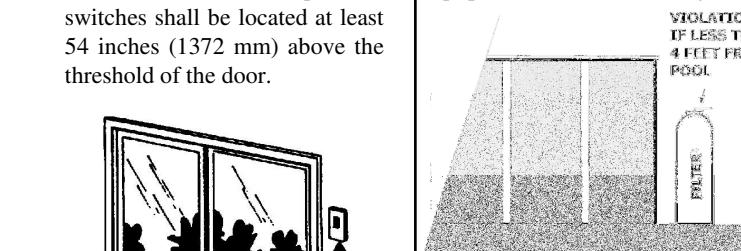
7. Where the barrier is composed of diagonal members, such as a lattice fence, the maximum opening formed by the diagonal members shall be not more than 1 3/4 inches (44 mm) in width. Decorative cutouts shall not exceed 1 3/4 inches (44 mm) in width.

9. Where a wall of a dwelling serves as part of the barrier, one of the following shall apply:

9.1. All doors with direct access to the pool through that wall shall be equipped with an alarm which produces an audible warning when the door and its screen, if present, are opened. The audible warning shall commence not more than seven seconds after the door and screen door, if present, are opened and shall sound continuously for a minimum of 30 seconds. The alarm shall have a minimum sound pressure rating of 85 dBA at ten feet (3048 mm) and the sound of the alarm shall be distinctive from other household sounds such as smoke alarms, telephones and door bells. The alarm shall automatically reset under all conditions. The alarm shall be equipped with manual means, such as touchpads or switches, to deactivate temporarily the alarm for a single opening from either direction. Such deactivation shall last for not more than 15 seconds. The deactivation touchpads or switches shall be located at least 54 inches (1372 mm) above the threshold of the door.

421.10.2 Indoor private swimming pool: All walls surrounding an indoor private swimming pool shall comply with 780 CMR 421.10.1, item 9.

421.10.3 Prohibited locations: Barriers shall be located so as to prohibit permanent structures, equipment or similar objects



from being used to climb the barriers.

421.10.4 Exemptions: The following shall be exempt from the provisions of 780 CMR 421.0.

1. A spa or hot tub with an approved safety cover.

**“Approved Safety Cover”** means a pool cover that meets all the performance standards of ASTM F 1346-91 and has a permanent label affixed to the cover or supporting product documentation verifying compliance.

2. Fixtures which are drained after each use.

10. Where an above-ground pool structure is used as a barrier or where the barrier is mounted on top of the pool structure, and the means of access is a fixed or removable ladder or steps, the



# CODE OF LITTLETON REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the requirements of the Massachusetts State Building Code § 421.0, the following is required by the Code of Littleton:

**S 152-1** ...such fence or structure shall not be more than twenty-five (25) feet from the outside edge of the apron of the pool, unless otherwise approved by the Littleton Board of Appeals...

**S 173-31** Swimming pools twenty-four (24) inches in depth or greater or having a surface area 250 square feet or greater shall be set back from the side and rear property line ten (10) feet, and from the front property line thirty (30) feet.

