

# City of Fort Atkinson

Building Inspection Department  
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# Swimming Pools Hot Tubs

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## Building Permit is required

Items needed for approval:  
– Permit Application form completed.  
– Detailed site plan showing distances to all lot lines from existing and proposed structures.  
Erosion Control Plan with site plan showing control measures. (For in-ground pools only).

## Setbacks

Setback in feet

Zoning	Front or Street Side	Interior Side	Rear
R-1	NP	8'	8'
R-2	NP	8'	8'
R-3	NP	8'	8'

NP=Not Permitted

– **Note:** 30% of gross lot area must remain green space.

[Swimming pools or hot tubs may not be located within any easements.](#)

[Check with the Jefferson County Register of Deeds office for deed or plat restrictions prior to construction. The City of Fort Atkinson does not have nor enforce this information](#)

## Inspections

**Floating Slab Inspection** is needed before any concrete is poured.

**Rough Trades Inspections (when applicable)** are needed when trades (i.e. electrical, plumbing, HVAC) are complete prior to any interior finished surfaces are applied.

**Final Inspection** is needed when structure is totally complete.

**Site Erosion Control Inspection** is conducted periodically during the construction process by the Building Inspection Department.

## Swimming Pool Enclosures

– All outdoor, in-ground swimming pools shall have a fence or other solid structure not less than four (4) feet in height, completely enclosing the pool with no opening therein (other than doors or gates) larger than three (3) inches square. Such a fence or solid structure shall not be located within six (6) feet of the

swimming pool. All gates or doors opening through the enclosure shall be kept securely closed and locked at all times when not in actual use and shall be equipped with a self-closing and self-latching device designed to keep and be capable of keeping such door or gate securely locked at all times when not in actual use. The use of safety or hard pool covers does not satisfy or eliminate the requirement for a fence.

- All outdoor, above-ground swimming pools shall have an approved barrier around the pool. Approved methods are a fence as described above for in-ground pools or:
  - The pool must be constructed of a solid wall of durable material and is more than three (3) feet above the level of the ground immediately adjacent to the pool. Such a solid pool wall barrier shall not be located within six (6) feet of any other wall or fence or other structure which can be readily climbed by children. Every entrance to a pool, such as a ladder, must be secured or adequately safeguarded to prevent unauthorized entry into the pool.



### IMPORTANT

- Pools such as the one shown above are considered permanent pools and must adhere to the information provided within this document. In this case a fence as described for in-ground pools would be required, as this pool does not have solid walls.

## Other Information

### General Pool Electrical Requirements

- A receptacle that provides power for pool or associated equipment shall be permitted between 5 ft. and 10 ft. from the inside wall of the pool or hot tub, and, where so located, shall be of the locking (twist-lock) and grounding types and shall be protected by a ground

fault circuit interrupter (GFCI). All other receptacles shall be at least 10 feet from the inside wall of the pool or hot tub.

- An additional 125-volt GFCI convenience receptacle is required to be installed within 20 ft. but not closer than 10 ft. to the inside wall of a pool or hot tub.
- Cord lengths for permanent pools (those not meeting the definition of a storable pool) shall not be longer than 3 ft. in length.
- A disconnecting means shall be provided and be accessible (located within sight from all pools and hot tub equipment) and shall not be located within 5 ft. from the inside wall of the pool or hot tub.
- All metal parts of a pool and its associated metallic equipment, metal piping, raceways, fixed metal ladders, towers, platforms, diving structures, door frames, etc. that are not separated from the pool by a permanent barrier and located within 5 ft. of the pool, must be bonded with a #8 solid copper conductor. This conductor is not required to be extended or attached to any remote panelboard, service equipment or electrode (ground rod). It is only intended to bond these metallic pieces together.
- Any electrical installations over the top of a pool or hot tub or over the area extending 10 ft. from the edge of the pool or hot tub including utilities shall be reviewed with an electrical inspector prior to issuance of the permit. There shall not be any electrical installations (including underground) within 10 ft. of a pool.

#### **General Hot Tub Requirements**

- All hot tubs shall be protected by a ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI). A disconnecting means shall be provided and be accessible. This disconnect shall be located within sight and be at least 5 ft. from the inside walls of the tub.

#### **Outdoor Hot Tubs**

- A cord and plug is permitted to feed the hot tub but it cannot be longer than 15 ft. in length and must be GFCI protected.
- A convenience 125-volt GFCI protection receptacle is required a minimum of 10 feet and a maximum of 20 ft. away from the inside walls of the hot tub.

#### **Indoor Hot Tubs**

- A cord and plug connection is permitted if the unit is rated 20 amperes or less and GFCI protected unless the unit is GFCI protected.
- Receptacles, wall switches, and electrical devices and controls not associated with a hot tub are required to be at least 5 ft. away. Receptacles within 10 ft. are required to be GFCI protected.
- Lighting fixtures, etc. located over the hot tub shall be a minimum of 7 ft. 6 inches above the maximum water level and be GFCI protected. GFCI protection is not required if they are located more than 12 ft. above the maximum water level. Fixtures less than 7 ft. 6 inches over the hot tub shall be GFCI protected and meet the following requirements:

- Recessed fixture with a non-metallic lens (or electrically isolated) and suitable for a damp or wet location.
  - Surface-mounted fixture with a glass or plastic globe and a non-metallic body or a metallic body isolated from contact. Such fixtures shall be suitable for a damp or wet location.
- Important changes in pressure treated woods have resulted in the requirements for specific fasteners, such as bolts, screws, etc. Please ask your supplier regarding the types of fasteners needed.
  - Not all pressure treated (green or brown) lumber is rated for ground contact. Foundation posts must be suitable for ground contact.
  - All construction related methods must comply with the current Chapter COMM 21 and 22 of the Wisconsin Uniform Dwelling Code.
  - All wiring methods must comply with the current National Electric Code and Chapter COMM 16 of the Wisconsin Administrative Code.
  - All plumbing methods must comply with the current Chapters COMM 81-84 of the Wisconsin Administrative Codes.



**(800) 242-8511**

<http://www.diggershotline.com/>

Plan ahead! Give Diggers Hotline a call at least three working days prior to the start date of your excavation. The call center is open 24 hours a day and 365 days a year, but the busiest times are Monday and Tuesday mornings.