

BOROUGH OF COPLAY  
98 South 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Coplay, PA 18037

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## SWIMMING POOL CODE

*This information is accurate to the best of our ability and is set forth as a guide only. For specific questions, please contact the Borough Office.*

# POOL MILESTONES

## *Above Ground Pool*

1.  **Plan Review:** A set of approved plans must be on site for all inspections. Pool is set in place, trench is dug with conduit installed, electrical wiring is completed, and all necessary fencing, gates, and alarms are in place.
2.  **Open Trench.**
3.  **Pump and motor** are in place.
4.  **Bonding is complete.**
5.  **Call for inspection.**

## *In-ground Liner Pool*

1.  **Plan Review:** A set of approved plans must be on site for all inspections.
2.  **Frame is set,** collar is poured, bonding is complete, trenches are dug, conduit is completed, and potting compound is installed.
3.  **Equal potential bonding grid** is in place.
4.  **Pool electrical wiring** is completed, fences and gates are installed, all alarms are in place and working: pool is completed.

## *In-ground Formed Pool (poured concrete)*

1.  **Plan Review,** a set of approved plans must be on site for all inspections.
2.  **Steel rebar** is in place, bonding is complete, trenches are dug, conduit is installed, potting compound is installed.
3.  **Equal potential bonding grid is in place.**
4.  **Pool electrical wiring** is completed, fence and gates are installed, all alarms are in place and working: pool is completed.

## DEFINITION

Pools in this Code refer to all private pools. This includes any structures intended for swimming, recreational bathing or wading that contains water over twenty-four (24) inches deep. This also includes in-ground, above ground, and on-ground pools, hot tubs, spas, and fixed-in-place wading pools. Prefabricated swimming pools accessory to single family dwellings which are less than twenty-four (24) inches deep, do not exceed 5,000 gallons and are installed entirely above ground are not regulated herein.

## PERMITS AND PLANS REQUIRED

**Permits:** No swimming pool as defined herein or appurtenances thereto shall be constructed, installed, enlarged, altered, or used until the required permits and inspections have been obtained from the appropriate Municipality.

### **IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT:**

1. The application for building permit must be submitted by the contractor or their agent. Only when the property owner is doing the actual installation of the pool may they sign the permit application as the applicant. This is the Municipality's way of assuring that the permit is issued to the person directly responsible for the work being done, and as well, Pennsylvania State Law requires all contractors to provide proof of Workmen's Compensation Insurance Coverage when applying for building permits, to protect the property owner if an accident should occur during construction. Furthermore, when work is done in violation of the Municipality Ordinances, the permit applicant is prosecuted (so if the homeowner has taken that responsibility for the contractor, *they* will be prosecuted, NOT the contractor).
2. Building and Electrical Permits are required. However, no separate fencing permit is required when installed in conjunction with the erection of a swimming pool, unless fencing is being installed by a different contractor other than the one installing the pool.

**Plans:** Plans shall accurately show the dimensions of all structures, proposed and existing, as well as construction type and materials of the pool and all appurtenances related thereto. A detailed plot plan, indicating all existing and proposed structures will also be required to be submitted, which accurately reflects the proposed distances to all property lines. Plans must also detail the type of barrier proposed to enclose the pool; including ladder enclosures, gates, door alarms where required, etc.

## INSPECTIONS

All pools, spas, and hot tubs require inspections. An electrical inspection must be performed prior to the covering or concealing of any electrical work servicing the pool. A FINAL building inspection is required PRIOR to using the pool. Please know that if a deck is constructed with the pool, additional inspections will be required. For specific information, contact the appropriate Municipality.

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT UNLESS AND UNTIL THE PROPER FENCING/BARRIER AND SELF LATCHING GATES ARE INSTALLED AND PROPER INSPECTIONS HAVE BEEN PERFORMED BY INSPECTORS AND APPROPRIATE MUNICIPALITIES, YOU MAY NOT USE THE POOL FOR SWUMMING PURPOSES. **NO POOL IS CONSIDERED COMPLETE AND APPROVED FOR USE UNTIL THE FINAL INSPECTION IS PERFORMED.** THEREFORE, IT IS IMERATIVE THAT YOU ARE SURE THE FINAL INSPECTION HAS BEEN DONE.

BARRIERS/FENCING (see attached drawings for additional information)

An outdoor swimming pool, including an on-ground, in-ground, or above 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 above grade, measured on the side of the barrier, which faces away from the swimming pool. The maximum vertical clearance between grade and bottom of the barrier shall be 2 inches measured on the side of the barrier, which faces away from the swimming pool.
2. Openings in fencing or barrier shall not allow passage of a 4-inch diameter sphere.
3. Solid barriers, which do not have openings, 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, the horizontal members shall be located on the swimming side of the fence. Spacing between vertical members shall not exceed 1.75 inches in width. Where there are decorative cutouts within vertical members, spacing within the cutouts shall not exceed 1.75 inches 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 or more, spacing between vertical members shall not exceed 4 inches. Where there are decorative cutouts within vertical members, spacing within the cutouts shall not exceed 1.75 inches in width.
6. Maximum mesh size for chain link fences shall be 1.25 inches square (measured on the diagonal); unless the fence is provided with slats fastened at the top or the bottom; then a standard chain link fence may be used.

7. Where the barrier is composed of diagonal members, such as a lattice fence, the maximum opening formed by the diagonal members shall be no more than 1.75 inches.
8. Where the barrier is mounted on top of the pool structure and the means of access to the pool is a ladder or steps, then the ladder or steps either shall be capable of being secured, locked or removed to prevent access, or the ladder or steps shall be surrounded by a barrier which meets the requirements of this code. When the ladder or steps are secured, locked, or removed, any opening created shall not allow the passage of a 4-inch diameter sphere.
9. Said barrier or fencing shall be a minimum of four (4) feet; but shall not exceed six (6) feet in height.
10. Dwelling unit as a Barrier. Where a wall of a dwelling unit is proposed as part of the barrier/enclosure, the following shall apply:
  - a. 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 are opened. The alarm shall sound continuously for a minimum of 30 seconds immediately after the door is opened and capable of being heard throughout the house during normal household activities. The alarm shall automatically reset under all conditions. The alarm shall be equipped with a manual means to temporarily deactivate the alarm for single opening. Such deactivation shall last no more than 15 seconds. The deactivation switch shall be located at least 54 inches above the threshold of the door.
11. Barriers shall be located so as to prohibit permanent structures, equipment, or similar objects from being used to climb the barrier.
12. Barrier exception: Swimming pools, hot tubs, or spas with an approved safety cover which complies with ASTM F 1346 may be exempt from this section.
13. Pool Covers: Heated pools shall be equipped with a vapor retardant pool cover on or at the water surface. Pools heated more than 90°F (32°C) shall have a pool cover with a minimum insulation value of R-12.
14. Gates. Access gates shall comply with the requirements of this Code, and shall be equipped to accommodate a locking device. Pedestrian access gates shall open outward away from the pool and shall be self-closing and have a self-latching device. Gates other than pedestrian access gates shall have a self-latching device. Where the release mechanism of the self-latching device is located less than 54 inches from the bottom of the gate, the release mechanism shall be located on the pool side of the gate at least 3 inches below the top of the gate, and the gate and barrier shall have no openings greater than 0.5 inches within 18 inches of the release mechanism.

ELECTRICAL INFORMATION (see attached drawing for additional information)

General: The construction and installation of electrical wiring for equipment in or adjacent to swimming pools, and to all appurtenances thereto shall comply with Chapter 43 of the International Building Code.

Overhead Conductor Clearances: The following parts of pools, outdoor spas, and hot tubs shall not be placed under existing service-drop conductors or any other open overhead wiring; nor shall such wiring be installed above the following:

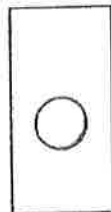
1. Pools and the areas extending 10 feet horizontally from the inside walls of the pool;
2. Diving structures; or
3. Observation stands, towers, and platforms.

Underground Wiring: underground wiring shall not be installed under or within the area extending 5 feet horizontally from the inside walls of pools and outdoor hot tubs and spas except where the wiring is installed to supply equipment for same.

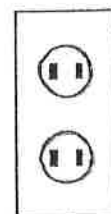
Receptacles

1. Location: a single, locking and grounding type receptacle which is protected by ground fault circuit interrupters and run in conduit, is required for the pump motor which shall be located not closer than 6 feet nor more than 10 feet from the pool, this measurement from the inside walls of the pool.
2. Where Required: At least one 125 Volt 15 or 20 ampere convenience duplex receptacle supplied by a general purpose branch circuit shall be located a minimum of 6 feet from and not more than 20 feet from the inside walls of the pool. This receptacle shall not be located more than 6 feet, 6 inches above the floor, platform or grade level serving the pool, spa, or hot tub.
3. GFCI Protection: All receptacles located within 20 feet of the inside walls of the pool, spa, or hot tub shall be protected by a ground fault circuit interrupter.

15 or 20 AMP  
GFCI Protected



Single Twist Lock Receptacle



Duplex Receptacle

4. GFCI Protection is required for cord connected and hard-wired pump motors.
5. Outlets for limited-energy systems – such as fire alarm, signaling, remote control, communication systems, and so forth – must not be installed less than 10 feet from the inside walls of a pool.

Conduit Burial: unless an exception applies, all conduit must be buried a minimum of 18 inches, and electrical conduit ONLY is permitted, no EMT (Electrical Metallic Tubing) or Aluminum (Aluminum conduit is not permitted to be installed for feeders in pool areas where subject to corrosion).

Certifications: All pool, spa, and hot tub equipment must have UL or other nationally recognized testing laboratory approval. Any pool equipment without such a rating is not permitted, and any pool equipment altered by consumer or contractor will violate the national rating and will NOT be acceptable.

Grounding and Bonding: All equipment shall be properly boded and grounded as required by this Code and all other applicable codes, including but not limited to Chapter 42 of the International Residential Code.

Switching Devices: Switching devices shall be located no less than 5 feet horizontally from the inside walls of the pools, except where separated from the pool, spa and hot tub by a solid fence, wall or other permanent barrier.

Disconnecting Means - E 4203.3: An accessible disconnecting means shall be provided and located within sight from all pools, spas and hot tub equipment, and shall be located no less than 5 feet from the inside walls of the pool, spa or hot tub.

Time Switches: Time Switches that can automatically turn off and on heaters and pumps according to a preset schedule shall be installed on swimming pool heaters and pumps.

Exceptions:

1. Where public health standards require 24-hour pump operation.
2. Where pumps are required to operate a solar-and-waste-heat-recovery pool heating systems.

Pool Heaters: All pool heaters shall be equipped with a readily accessible on-off switch to allow shutting off the heater without adjusting the thermostat setting. Pool heaters fired by natural gas or LPG shall not have continuously burning pilot lights.

# COPLAY BOROUGH

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Coplay, PA 18037

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## BUILDING PERMIT APPLICATION FORM

This form must be completed and neatly printed or typed

Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_

Permit # \_\_\_\_\_

Owners Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address of Property \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Alternate # \_\_\_\_\_

Contractor Info \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Alternate # \_\_\_\_\_

Pennsylvania Home Improvement Contractor # (PAOAGHIC #) \_\_\_\_\_

Application for \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Type Use – examples: new house, garage, pool, addition, etc.

Usage: \_\_\_\_\_ Residential \_\_\_\_\_ Commercial \_\_\_\_\_ Lot Size: \_\_\_\_\_

### Square Footages

Basement \_\_\_\_\_

Crawl Space \_\_\_\_\_

Garage \_\_\_\_\_

First Floor \_\_\_\_\_

Second Floor \_\_\_\_\_

Third Floor \_\_\_\_\_

Patio \_\_\_\_\_

Deck \_\_\_\_\_

Shed \_\_\_\_\_

*An approved set of plans must be on site for every inspection or NO inspection will be performed. All inspections as per Act 45 of the UCC.*

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



Coplay Borough

Inspection Division

Construction Dept.

Electrical Section

Application For Electrical Permit

Application is hereby made for a permit to install or alter electrical service and/or systems and/or heating systems on the premises described herewith. The information which follows, together with the electrical plan and/or heating plan and/or alarm plan, is made part of this application by the undersigned. It is understood and agreed by this applicant that any error, misstatement or miss representation or miss representation of material fact, either with subsequent to the issuance of the permit, without approval of the Inspection Division-Electrical Section shall constitute sufficient ground for the revocation of this permit, and/or prosecution, or both.

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE ALL INFORMATION

Permit# \_\_\_\_\_ Date Submitted \_\_\_\_\_ Fee\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Date Issued \_\_\_\_\_

Number & Street \_\_\_\_\_

Deed Owner \_\_\_\_\_ Lot# \_\_\_\_\_

Occupant \_\_\_\_\_ Applicant Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Contractor \_\_\_\_\_ Phone# \_\_\_\_\_

Contractor Address \_\_\_\_\_

Proposed Use of Structure \_\_\_\_\_ # of Families \_\_\_\_\_

Structure New \_\_\_\_\_ Existing \_\_\_\_\_ Work New \_\_\_\_\_ Existing \_\_\_\_\_

General Description of work \_\_\_\_\_

For SIGN PERMITS: Listing #: \_\_\_\_\_

# of Rough Wiring Outlets

Miscellaneous Equipment

Switches \_\_\_\_\_ Amp of Subs \_\_\_\_\_ Oven \_\_\_\_\_ Dishwasher  
Lighting \_\_\_\_\_ Water Heater \_\_\_\_\_ Air Conditioner \_\_\_\_\_ Dryer \_\_\_\_\_ Pump  
Receptacles \_\_\_\_\_ Heat \_\_\_\_\_ Alarm \_\_\_\_\_ Sign # of connections  
Service Size \_\_\_\_\_ Utility job # \_\_\_\_\_

NOTIFY ELECTRICAL INSPECTION SECTION IMMEDIATELY UPON COMPLETION OF WORK

Below is for inspector use only

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Reject \_\_\_\_\_ Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Reject \_\_\_\_\_  
Bonding \_\_\_\_\_ Pipe/Trench \_\_\_\_\_  
Service \_\_\_\_\_ Ser ReConn \_\_\_\_\_  
Rough \_\_\_\_\_ Final \_\_\_\_\_  
Temp Ser \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_  
M.B.# \_\_\_\_\_ Cut Card# \_\_\_\_\_ Municipality \_\_\_\_\_ Inspector \_\_\_\_\_

Inspectors Use: \_\_\_\_\_

**SIDEWALK, CROSSOVER, CURB, and DRIVEWAY PERMIT APPLICATION**

Permit # \_\_\_\_\_

<b>LOCATION OF PROPERTY</b>	<b>NAME:</b> _____
	<b>ADDRESS:</b> _____
	<b>BETWEEN:</b> _____ <b>AND</b> _____ (cross street) (cross street)
	<b>LOT SIZE:</b> _____ <b>Are you the owner?</b> <b>YES</b> <b>NO</b>
	<b>Phone:</b> _____ <b>Alt. #</b> _____

<b>TYPE OF IMPROVEMENT</b>	<b>MEASUREMENTS</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Sidewalk	Sidewalk: dimensions _____	new	replacement
	linear footage _____	new	replacement
<input type="checkbox"/> Curb	Curb: total linear footage _____	new	replacement
<input type="checkbox"/> Crossover	Crossover: total linear footage curb _____	new	replacement
	Total linear footage sidewalk _____	new	replacement
<input type="checkbox"/> Driveway	Driveway: dimensions _____	new	resurfacing
	sq. footage _____		

<b>WORK DONE BY</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Self, skip to next section <input type="checkbox"/> Contractor, enter contact information
	<b>Name:</b> _____
	<b>Address:</b> _____
	_____
<b>Phone #:</b> _____	<b>PA HIC #</b> _____

**Contractor must provide PA HIC number for application processing.**

Applicants Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved By: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_