



SWIMMING POOL SAFETY ACT



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT—345 N. EL DORADO STREET—STOCKTON, CA 95202—(209) 937-8561
www.stocktongov.com/CDD/building

Assembly Bill 2977 and 382 were passed that amended Sections 11592, 115924 and 115928 of the Health and Safety Code, which is known as the Swimming Pool and Safety Act of 2006. Follow the link below to access the Assembly Bill 2977.

<http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/cgi-bin/calawquery?codesection=hsc>

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Commencing January 1, 2007, whenever a construction permit is issued for construction of a new swimming pool or remodeling of an existing swimming pool at a private, single-family home, it shall comply with 1 of the 7 drowning prevention safety features identified in the bill. The most common method of compliance is complying with at least one of the following enclosure/barrier safety features listed as 1, 2 or 3.

ENCLOSURE/BARRIER

The Pool shall be isolated from access to a home by an enclosure that meets these requirements:

- ◇ A minimum height of 60 inches.
- ◇ Any access gate through the enclosure must open away from the pool, and shall be self-closing with a self-latching device, no lower than 60 inches above the ground.
- ◇ Gaps or voids, if any, do not allow passage of a sphere equal to or greater than four inches in diameter.
- ◇ A maximum vertical clearance from the ground to the bottom of the enclosure is two inches.
- ◇ An outside surface free of protrusions, cavities or other physical characteristics that would service has handholds or footholds that could enable a child below the age of five years old to climb over.
- ◇ Latch for gate on inside of pool area.

Note: All doors giving direct access to the pool area, shall have approved alarms;

-OR-

Doors giving direct access from the home to the swimming pool shall be equipped with self-closing; self-latching devices with a release mechanism no lower than 54 inches above the floor.

COVER/BARRIER

The swimming pool shall be equipped with an approved safety cover, which shall meet all requirements and performance standards of the American Society of Testing and Materials (A.S.T.M.) Standard F1346. Cover specifications to be provided at the time of permit application.

ALTERNATIVES

Other means of protection, the degree of protection afforded is equal to or greater than that afforded by any of the devices described in items 1 and 2, and have been independently verified by an approved testing laboratory as meeting standards for those devices established by the ASTM.

Section 115928 of the Health and Safety Code was also amended to require suction outlets be designed to prevent physical entrapment and not pose any suction hazard to bathers.

B

SWIMMING POOL SAFETY ACT



The suction outlet of the new pool or spa shall be equipped to provide circulation throughout the pool or spa as follows:

There shall be at least 2 circulation drains per pump that shall be hydraulically balanced and symmetrically plumbed through 1 or more “T” fittings, and that are separated by a distance of at least 3 feet in any dimension between drains.

Suction outlets that are less than 12” across shall be covered with anti-entrapment grates, which cannot be removed except with the use of tools.

Whenever a building permit is issued for the remodel or modification of an existing swimming pool, toddler pool or spa, the permit shall require the suction outlet to be upgraded so as to be equipped with an anti-entrapment cover.

GENERAL INFORMATION

“Swimming pool” or “pool” means any structure intended for swimming or recreational bathing that contains water over 18” deep. “Swimming pool” includes in-ground and above-ground structures and includes, but not limited to, hot tubs, spas, potable spas and non-portable wading pools.

Hot tubs or spas with locking safety covers that comply with the American Society for Testing Materials Emergency Performance Specifications (ASTM-ES 1389) are exempt.