



Swimming Pools

Swimming pools are a great source of entertainment and exercise. Middleton's ordinances regulate the location, drainage, and enclosure requirements for swimming pools to enhance safety and aesthetics in the community. If you are considering installing a swimming pool, you need to understand the City's ordinances. Here are the answers to some frequently asked questions about installing a swimming pool:

Do These Regulations Apply to My Swimming Pool ?

The City of Middleton's zoning code regulates swimming pools that require excavation below 1 foot of the existing grade and are more than 24 inches deep.

The following types of pools are exempt from the requirements listed below.

- Non-filtered storable swimming or wading pools that can be disassembled.
- Decorative ponds that are less than 36 inches in depth.
- Spas and hot tubs with lockable tops.

Do I Need a Permit or City Approval?

Any pool requiring excavation below 1 foot of the existing grade and more than 24 inches deep is subject to site plan review by the Plan Commission and requires a building permit by the Building Inspector. See Section 10.06.42(3) and 10.06.42(4) of the zoning code.

What Are The Construction Requirements?

The City of Middleton requires the following standards for the construction of swimming pools. See Section 10.06.42(6) for further details:

- All materials and methods of construction need to follow all state regulations and City ordinances.
- Every swimming pool needs to have suitable drainage.
 - Swimming pools cannot drain into the sanitary sewer system or onto other property owners' land.
 - Pools may drain into a storm sewer if approved by the City Engineer.
- All electrical installations, including lighting and heating, need to follow state laws and City ordinances regulating electrical installations.
- All plumbing work needs to follow the City and state plumbing codes.

What Are The Setback Requirements

The following setback requirements apply to swimming pools in Middleton. See Section 10.06.42(7) for further details.

- Pools can only be located on rear or side yards
- Pools can only be located on a lot occupied by a principal building. They cannot be located on a vacant lot.
- Must be at least 8 feet from any lot line,
- Must be at least 8 feet from any building unless designed and approved as an addition to a building.

What Are The Enclosure Requirements?

Pools that are not enclosed with a permanent building shall be completely enclosed by a fence of sufficient strength to prevent access to the pool. Such fence or wall shall be a maximum of 6 feet in height from ground level and a minimum of 4 feet in height from ground level and a minimum of 4 feet from the water surface edge. The fence must not have openings larger than 4 inches in one dimension. Gates or doors shall be equipped with self-closing and self-latching devices located at the top of the gate or door on the pool side of the enclosure, except the door of any residence that forms a part of the enclosure.

Pools are not required to have a fence if each side of the pool structure is a minimum of 54 inches tall and a removable ladder or gate is provided. A pool structure that is less than 54 inches tall but has approved wall height extensions and a removeable ladder or gate may be approved at the discretion of the Zoning Administrator.

What Other Requirements Are There?

All swimming pools must have some filtration system to assure proper water circulation and maintenance of the proper bacterial quality.

All permanent swimming pools must have a smooth finish on the sides and bottom. No sand or dirt bottom is permitted.