

Code Enforcement

NOTICE

300 West Arch Searcy, AR 72143 (501) 279-1085 Fax (501) 279-1084

Swimming pools are purchased for recreational fun. Swimming pools are supposed to be a positive addition to your yard, but if you are not cautious, your back yard entertainment can turn deadly. Children are especially vulnerable around swimming pools. Over 300 children under 5 drown every year in backyard swimming pools and it is the third leading cause of death of children 4 and under; while another 2,000 children under 5 are injured in swimming accidents. These statistics are alarming and are taken seriously by the City of Searcy.

The City of Searcy has adopted and follows the International Building Codes. Below are some essentials from these codes regarding residential swimming pools, hot tubs and spas which all residents are required to follow.

<u>Section AG102 states that a swimming pool is</u>: Any structure intended for swimming or recreational bathing that contains water over 24 inches (610 mm) deep. This includes in-ground, aboveground and on-ground swimming pools, hot tubs and spas.

Section AG 105 Barrier Requirements are: The top of the barrier shall be at least 48 inches (1219 mm) above grade measured on the side of the barrier which faces away from the swimming pool. The maximum vertical clearance between grade and the bottom of the barrier shall be 2 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 grade, such as an aboveground pool, the barrier my be a ground level, such as the pool structure, or 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 4 inches (102 mm).

Openings in the barrier shall not allow passage of a 4-inch-diameter (102 mm) sphere.

Anyone needing more information is asked to call the Code Enforcement Office at 501-279-1085.