



# A Guide to Swimming Pools

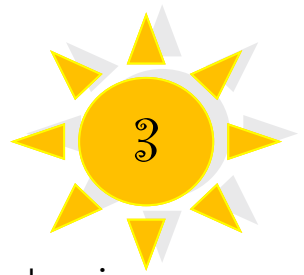




# Introduction

The following booklet has been prepared by the Building Division of the Engineering & Planning Department, to ensure the public safety of private swimming pools. Please review this booklet carefully and if there are any further questions please do not hesitate to contact the City Building Division office at (705)-759-5398.

# Definitions



**“Backflow Preventer”** means a device used in a water supply pipe which :

- a. Incorporates two(2) or more check valves to prohibit the reverse flow of water
- b. Contains integral safeguards to make it fail-safe in the event of a malfunction of one(1) or more check valves

**“Fence”** means a barrier constructed of chain-link metal, wood, stone, or any material having an equivalent degree of strength;

**“Gate”** means a swinging or sliding barrier used to fill or close a means of access, and includes a door;

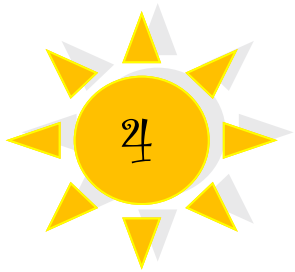
**“Private Swimming Area”** means an area on a single piece of property that contains a Private Swimming Pool;

**“Private Swimming Pool”** means a privately owned outdoor pool of water contained in whole or in part by artificial means, other than :

- a. A bathing beach
- b. A natural bathing area: or
- c. Any outdoor body of water contained in whole or in part by artificial means in which the depth of the water at its deepest point is no more than 0.61 meters (2 feet);

**“Public Utilities Commission”** means PUC Services Inc. (PUC).





# Permits

Prior to any construction of the pool, all permits are to be obtained from the proper authorities having jurisdiction.

A **building permit** is required for every pool installed as stated in the City Building By-law 2014-12.

Additional permits that may be required;

- A **plumbing** or **sewer permit** is required if a connection is made to the city sewer for pool drainage.

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF SAULT STE. MARIE  
BUILDING DIVISION

PERMIT NO. 2014-0774      **PERMIT**      FILE NO. 1  
BLDG PLAN NO.

ADDRESS: 1 First Avenue      DATE: 2014/06/26

TYPE OF PERMIT ISSUED: Building

DESCRIPTION: Single House      BUILDING CLASS: Residential

EXTENT OF PERMIT: PERMIT TO ERECT NEW SWIMMING POOL AND CONSTRUCT NEW FENCE IN REAR YARD

VALUE OF WORKS: \$3,000.00

WIDTH OF ENTRANCE:      CULVERT LENGTH:      NO. OF FIXTURES:

LEGAL DESCRIPTION:      CIA NO.      NO. OF STOREYS:

ZONING: R3      SITE PLAN:

APPLICANT: LAST, FIRST      OWNER: LAST, FIRST  
APPLICANT ADDRESS: 1 FIRST AVENUE      OWNER ADDRESS: 1 FIRST AVENUE  
Sault Ste. Marie, ON      Sault Ste. Marie, ON  
A1B 3C4      A1B 3C4  
APPLICANT PHONE: 705-123-4567      OWNER PHONE: 705-123-4567

BUILDING CONTRACTOR: Self      DESIGNER:  
PLUMBING CONTRACTOR:      DESIGNER BCIN NO.  
SEWER CONTRACTOR:      CULVERT CONTRACTOR:  
HEATING CONTRACTOR:      CURB/CUT CONTRACTOR:

DECLARATION: All of the statements and representations contained in the attached documents filed in support of this application shall be deemed to be part of this application for all purposes, with the owner or authorized agent of the owner for the above explanation, and I warrant the truth of all statements or representations contained therein or attached thereto. I agree that a permit to be set, not to depart from the plans, specifications or building location proposed in this application.

ISSUED BY: \_\_\_\_\_ PLEASE PRINT: \_\_\_\_\_  
For the Mayor, Chief Building Official

ISSUED DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ PLEASE SIGN: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario      Owner/Authorized Agent

TO REQUEST AN INSPECTION CALL 705-759-5410 AFTER HOURS YOUR REQUEST WILL BE RECORDED.  
NOTE: 48 HOURS ADVANCE NOTICE **MUST** BE GIVEN FOR THE FOLLOWING INSPECTIONS

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sewer and water service                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Upon completion of structural framing | <input type="checkbox"/> Completion of all fire protection systems, alarms, sprinklers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prior to casting of concrete for footings | <input type="checkbox"/> Prior to cover of HVAC ductwork       | <input type="checkbox"/> Final inspection before occupancy                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prior to backfilling foundation           | <input type="checkbox"/> Prior to covering insulation MB AB    | <input type="checkbox"/> Final inspection upon completion                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prior to backfilling plumbing ground run  | <input type="checkbox"/> Prior to covering air handler system  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prior to covering plumbing rough-in       | <input type="checkbox"/> Completion of all fire separations    |  |

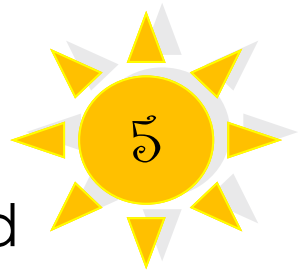
YOUR INSPECTOR: Michael Allard      E-MAIL: mallard@cityssm.on.ca      PHONE: (705) 541-1153      CELL: (705) 946-9077

PLACE PERMIT IN PROMINENT LOCATION - APPROVED PLANS MUST BE KEPT ON SITE FOR REVIEW

- A **heating permit** is required if the pool has a heating unit.
- An **electrical permit** is required from the ESA for any electrical work that may be involved.  
(Contact 1-877-ESA-SAFE)



# Building Permits



An accurate site plan must be submitted with the application, depicting the locations of all buildings & structures on the lot as well the proposed pool, pool house, fences, decks etc.

## Requirements for Pools

- \* Must be located in the rear yard
- \* The walls of the swimming pool shall be no closer than 1.5m (5 feet) to any property line
- \* Except for on corner lots where the setback shall be no closer than 4m (13 feet 2 inches) to the exterior lot line
- \* A fence enclosing the Private Swimming Pool

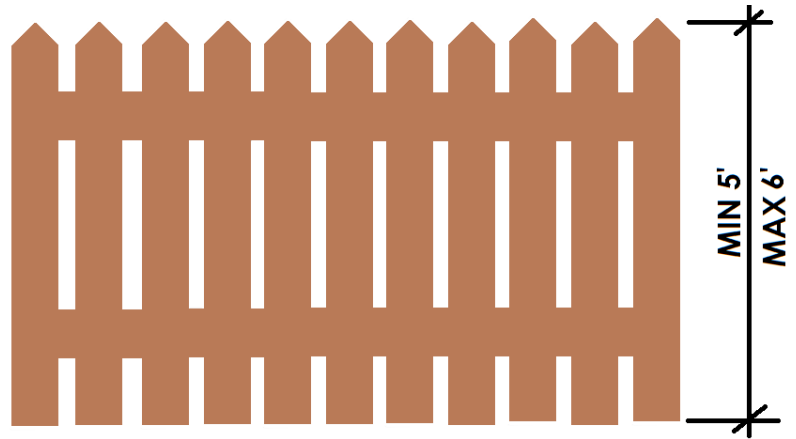
## Requirements for Fences

- \* Foliage or a vegetative barrier shall not be sufficient to meet the requirements of a fence
- \* Vertically boarded wood construction, 3.8 cm chain link construction, masonry, plastic or any other materials of an equivalent degree of strength



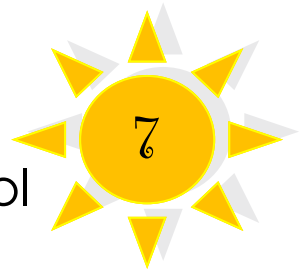


- \* Min. height of 5' to a max. of 6'
- \* Fences with horizontal rails or bracing members shall be spaced a minimum of 0.81 m (2 feet 8 inches)
- \* All horizontal or diagonal structural members must be located on the swimming pool side of the fence
- \* Shall be constructed to have the only means of entry be by Gate (See page 7)
- \* Shall not be located closer than 1.2m (4 feet) to the Private Swimming Pools edge
- \* Shall not be closer than 1.2m(4 feet) to any structure that facilitates climbing



For more information go to <http://www.cityssm.on.ca/contentadmin/UserFiles/File/By-Laws/SwimmingPools2014-12.pdf>





## Exceptions of Fences

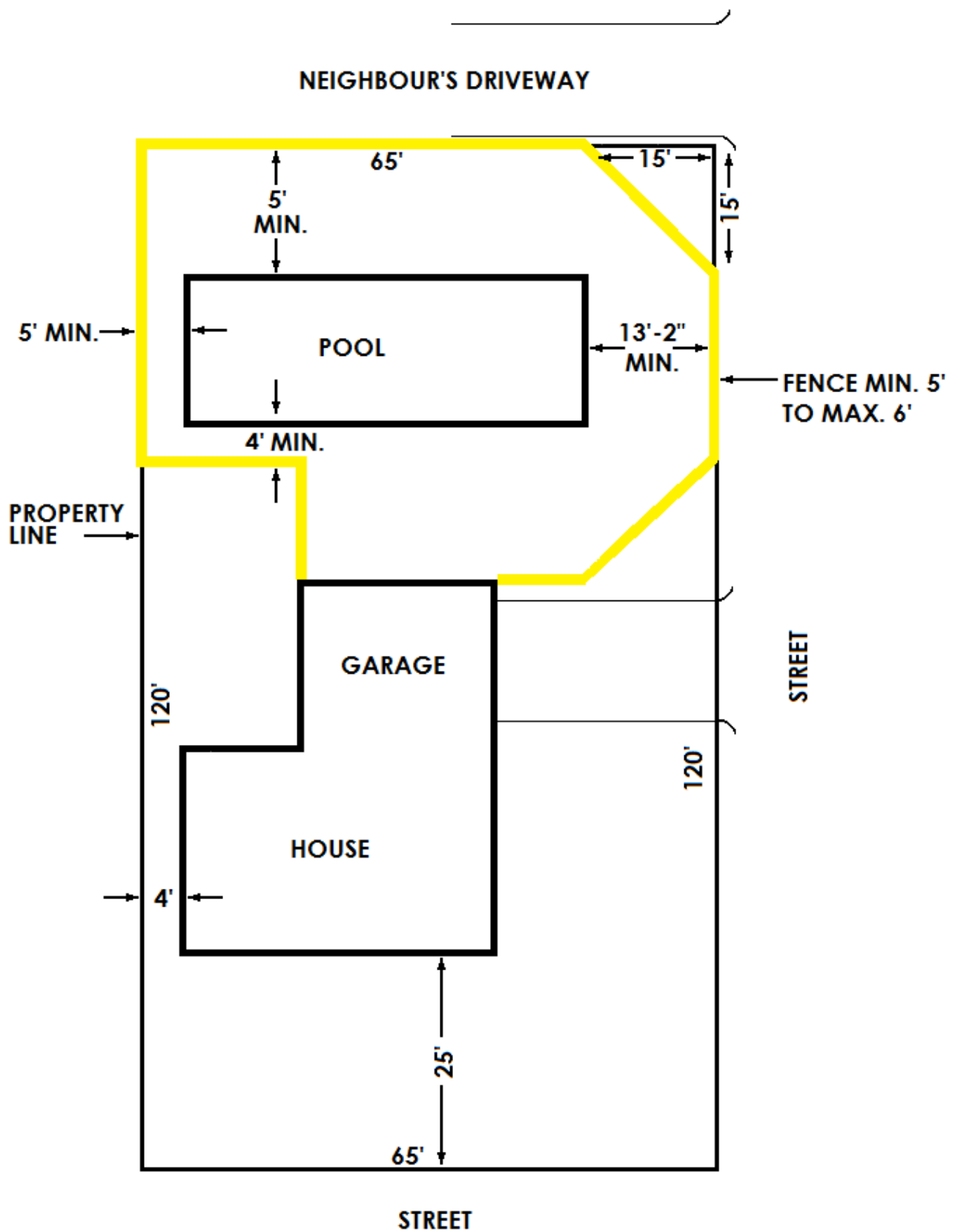
- \* The outside walls of the Private Swimming Pool are at least 1.2m (4 feet) in height
- \* Exterior walls of the pool are smooth and vertical, making them non-climbable
- \* Ladders/stairs providing access to the pool shall be removed or locked in a position so that the ladder cannot be used at anytime the owner is not present
- \* Snow fencing is an acceptable temporary fence, until final fence is completed, during construction to control access to excavation

## Gate Requirements

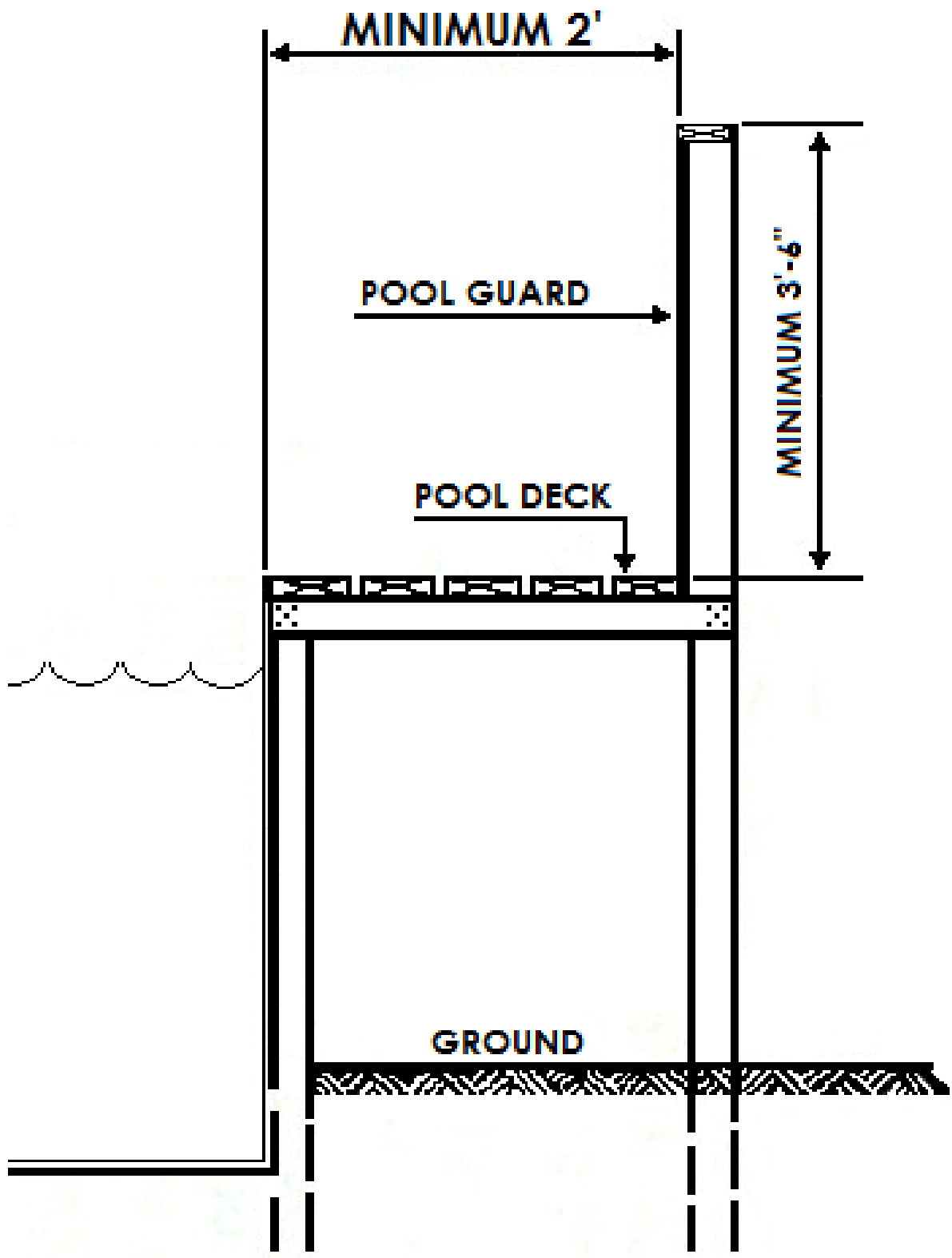
- \* Shall be of same construction and height to that of required fence
- \* Supported by substantial hinges
- \* Equipped with a self-closing & self-latching mechanism placed at the top & on the Private Swimming Pool side of the gate
- \* Shall be locked except when the Private Swimming Pool Area is being used



# Sample Site Plan: Corner







**ABOVE GORUND POOL WITH DECK**



## **Plumbing Requirements**



- \* The orifice of a facet, spout or distribution pipe that supplies water to the Private Swimming Pool shall have an operational Backflow Preventer connected to it.
- \* Where a Private Swimming Pool is supplied directly or indirectly through devices with water from a permanent potable water supply line, the line shall be equipped with an operational Backflow Preventer as well
- \* All water discharged from pool shall go into a City approved sanitary sewer where available. In no way should any discharge be discharged in a way that could result in flood damage to any private property or property owned by the City

### **Power Lines**

If the Private Swimming Pool Area is beneath any overhead power lines, the Owner shall obtain written approval for the overhead clearance of the Private Swimming Pool from the PUC and provide same to the Chief Building Official prior to the issuance of a Building Permit for the Private Swimming Pool



