

REGULATIONS GOVERNING RESIDENTIAL SWIMMING POOLS

As authorized by Sec. 31, Chap. 111 of the General Laws, (Ter. Ed.) as amended, the Hingham Board of Health makes the following **Regulations Governing Residential Swimming Pools** within the Town of Hingham:

Regulation 1: Definitions

- a. Residential Pool means a swimming pool established or maintained by an individual for his own or family's use, or for use of personal guests of his household. It may be located in the ground or above ground.
- b. Swimming Pool means and includes every artificial pool of water having a capacity greater than 2,450 gallons or the depth of two feet or more, to be used for swimming or bathing, located indoors or outdoors, together with the bathhouses, equipment and appurtenances used in connection with the pool.

Regulation 2: Approval

- a. No person shall construct or install a Residential Pool or remodel or otherwise make any structural or operational change in an existing pool until the Board of Health has approved, in writing, such construction, installation, remodeling or change as not in reasonable likelihood endangering the public health. Adequate plans and specifications for such construction, installation, remodeling or change shall be submitted to the Board of Health at the time of the request for its approval thereof.
- b. The Board of Health shall be notified of completion of the construction, installation, or remodeling of, or structural or operational change in a residential pool approved by it under the immediately preceding paragraph, and no use shall be made of such pool until such construction, installation, remodeling or change has been inspected by it and found to have been done in accordance with the proposal.

Regulation 3: Filtration Systems

- a. After the effective date of these regulations, all Residential Swimming Pools shall be equipped with an operated with a system for re-circulation and purification of the pool water, approved by the Board of Health as not in reasonable likelihood endangering the public health.

Regulation 4: Water Source

- a. Water to be used in any Residential Pool shall be obtained from a source approved by the Board of Health.

Regulation 5: Cross Connections

- a. No piping arrangement shall exist which under any circumstance will permit water from any Residential Pool or re-circulation system to enter any domestic water supply, or will permit sewage, waste water, or any water of unknown or questionable quality to enter the pool or pool piping system.

Regulation 6: Location

- a. Every Residential Pool shall be located at least 20 feet from a cesspool, 10 feet from a septic tank, 20 feet from a subsurface leaching field, 10 feet from a cellar wall.

Regulation 7: WasteWater Disposal

- a. Waste water resulting from the draining and cleaning of a Residential Pool, or backwash water resulting from the cleaning of the filter apparatus, may be discharged to a stream or a storm drain, under such conditions as may be imposed by the Superintendent of Highways, Town of Hingham.

N.B. Residential Pools are subject to applicable local building, plumbing and electrical code requirements.

Regulation 8: Fencing Requirements

- a. The owner of any Private Swimming Pool having a depth of two feet or more shall erect a durable fence not less than six feet in height completely encompassing the pool which fence shall be equipped with a self-latching gate.
- b. The owner of any above ground pool, in lieu of the above, may extend the exterior walls of the pool with durable fencing to a total height of six feet; however, the ladder must be enclosed, and the fence must be equipped with a self-latching gate.
- c. Pools in existence on August 11, 1987 which were fenced at that time with a fence no less than four feet in height shall be deemed to comply with the above fencing requirements provided that the ladder or other points of access to the pool are enclosed by the fence and the fence is equipped with a self-closing, self-locking gate.

Separability:

So far as the Board of Health may provide, each section of these regulations shall be construed as separate to the end that if any section, sentence, clause or phrase shall be held invalid for any reason, the remainder of these regulations shall continue in full force.

Adoption:

These regulations were adopted by unanimous vote of the Board of Health, Town of Hingham, Massachusetts on February 16, 2023 and are to be in full force and effect on and after February 16, 2023.