2018 ISPSC
International Swimming Pool and Spa Code
Information & Requirements

Building & Fire Safety Division - Yakima County Public Services

This brochure pertains to swimming pool installation for one- or two-family dwellings. This informational handout and checklist refers to "Swimming Pools" as referenced in the 2018 "International Swimming Pool and Spa Code" (ISPSC).

- A permit is required for a swimming pool prior to beginning any work for the excavation, construction, set-up, relocation / replacement.

- Please review this entire handout regarding application submittal information, and requirements for your site plan, fence or barrier, and setbacks to property lines. Should you have questions, please contact our office and speak with a Plans Examiner for Code requirements (barrier / alarm requirements, etc.) , or a Project Coordinator for application submittal questions.

PRIOR TO FILLING WITH WATER A FINAL INSPECTION AND APPROVAL IS REQUIRED

Typical Application Submittal Requirements
(may vary dependent upon your proposed project)

1. Application for Construction
2. Completed Swimming Pool Checklist – (as attached)
3. Site Plan (see "site plan requirements")
4. Septic Clearance (as applicable)

www.yakimap.com for parcel information

http://www.yakimacounty.us/publicservices/PermitsApplicationsForms/

Typical Review and Approvals

Timeframe: Upon receipt of a "complete application", the process to obtain a swimming pool permit is dependent upon the complexity of your project, the information you provide, and the reviewing staff workload at the time of application.

Some permits may be issued on the same day of application, others may require additional review or separate permits, for example:

Environmental Zoning review – If placement of the proposed pool is within a Critical Area buffer zone.

Flood Hazard review – if a portion of your parcel is within the Floodplain or Floodway.

***Separate permits that may be required are:**

- **Swimming Pool located within a structure.**
- **Building Permit**: Pools within a new or existing structure. (Pool cabanas and similar structures require separate permits.)
- **Mechanical Permit**: Heating equipment.
- **Fire Code Permit**: Heating equipment using Liquefied Petroleum Gas, a separate permit is required for installation of an LPG tank. (Existing tanks: Provide your permit number, and must have an approved final inspection or a new permit will be required.)

Upon review of your actual application and site plan, additional comments / reviews may be forthcoming.

2018 ISPSC Swimming Pool, Spa and Hot Tub Checklist

OFFICE USE ONLY

Case: BLD

Applicant please complete the following

Property Owner:_____ Day Phone: _____

Contact Person: Day Phone:

Swimming Pool Specifications	
Installation	**Location**
☐ Swimming Pool ☐ Hot Tub or Spa ☐ In-ground ☐ Onground (Storable type Swimming Pools)	☐ Outdoors ☐ Within a Structure

Pool Dimensions / Size: (Square Ft., Diameter, Gallons Etc.)_____

Type of Pool: ☐ Gunite, ☐ Fiberglass, ☐ Vinyl, ☐ Other:_____

***Separate permit(s) are required for Mechanical Equipment and/or LP tanks:**

☐ **Unheated** **OR** ☐ ***Heated** (Type of Equipment)_____BTU / TON / HP _____

☐ **Electric** ☐ **Natural Gas** ☐ **Liquid Propane Gas**	For LPG (propane) tank please complete the following: ☐ **New tank** **OR** ☐ **Existing Tank** Please provide permit number for tank_____. An approved inspection must have been completed or a new permit will be required. (LPG permit requires LP tank checklist with application and location on site plan)

	YES	N/A	Required Submittal Items
1.	☐		**Application for Construction** and this swimming pool **checklist**
2.	☐		**Site plan:** (see site plan requirements example)
3.	☐		**Pool barrier** including: Fencing, Gates / Doors (include direction of swing), Windows, Alarms, Locks, etc.
4.	☐	☐	**Floodplain, critical area** (pond, stream, creek, irrigation etc.) must be shown on site plan as per site plan requirements handout.
5.	☐		**Check all that apply**: I will install the following as per ISPSC requirements: ☐ **Fence/Barrier** ~~ ☐ **Alarm** ~~ ☐ **Lockable barrier** that complies with ASTM F1346.

I attest to the best of my knowledge that the application and checklist accurately describes the scope of work for the proposed project.

☐ Agent or Contractor shall provide owner a copy of the barrier requirements.

Applicant - Print name (owner/agent) | Applicant Signature

As applicable - Name of business or contractor | Date

Swimming Pool Barrier Requirements

ISPSC – 2018 International Swimming Pool and Spa Code

Information referenced is a segment of the code requirements of the
International Swimming Pool and Spa Code - ISPSC, herein referred to as "this code"
For questions or additional information please contact
Yakima County Plans Examiner at (509) 574-2300.

The provisions of this code shall apply to the construction, alteration, movement, renovation, replacement, repair and maintenance of aquatic recreation facilities, pools and spas. The pools and spas covered by this code are either permanent or temporary, and shall be only those that are designed and manufactured to be connected to a circulation system and that are intended for swimming, bathing or wading.

The purpose of this code is to establish minimum standards to provide a reasonable level of safety and protection of health, property and public welfare by regulating and controlling the design, construction, installation, quality of materials, location and maintenance or use of pools and spas.

***Reference of the "code official" is Yakima County Building and Fire Safety Division*.**

SECTION 105 PERMITS

105.1 When required. Any owner, or owner's authorized agent who desires to construct, enlarge, alter, repair, move or demolish a pool or spa or to erect, install, enlarge, alter, repair or remove, convert or replace any system, the installation of which is regulated by this code, or to cause any such work to be performed, shall first make application to the code official and obtain the required permit for the work.

FIGURE 305.1(1)
ON-DECK TYPE POWERED SAFETY COVER FOR RESIDENTIAL POOL

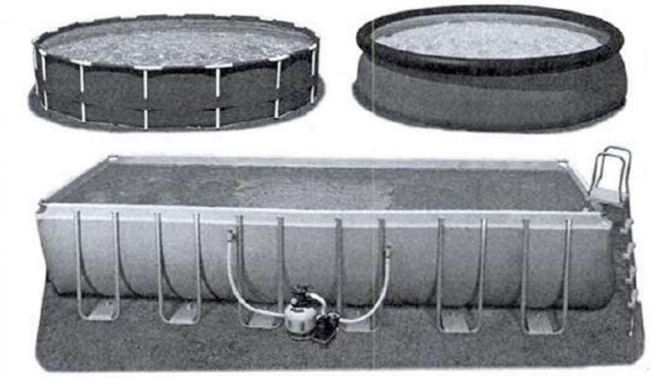


FIGURE 101.2(4)
ONGROUND STORABLE POOLS WITH CIRCULATION SYSTEM
(Photo courtesy of Intex Marketing Inc.)

105.2 Application for permit. Each application for a permit, with the required fee, shall be filed with the code official on a form furnished for that purpose and shall contain a general description of the proposed work and its location. The application shall be signed by the owner or an authorized agent. The permit application shall contain such other information required by the code official.

Swimming Pool Barrier Requirements

ISPSC – 2018 International Swimming Pool and Spa Code

Section 305 – BARRIER REQUIREMENTS

305.1 General. The provisions of this section shall apply to the design of barriers for pools and spas. Where spas or hot tubs are equipped with a lockable safety cover complying with ASTM F1346 and swimming pool are equipped with a powered safety cover that complies with ASTM F1346, the areas where those spas, hot tubs or pools are located shall not be required to comply with sections 302.2 through 305.7.

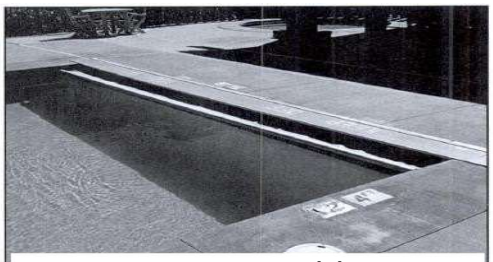


FIGURE 305.1(2)
INTEGRAL-TYPE POWERED SAFETY

305.2 Outdoor swimming pools and spas. Outdoor pools and spas and indoor swimming pools shall be surrounded by a barrier that complies with Sections 305.2.1 through 305.7.

305.2.1 Barrier height and clearances. Barrier heights and clearances shall be in accordance with all of the following:

1. The top of the barrier shall be not less than 48 inches above grade where measured on the side of the barrier that faces away from the pool or spa. Such height shall exist around the entire perimeter of the barrier and for a distance of 3 feet measured horizontally from the outside of the required barrier.
2. The vertical clearance between grade and the bottom of the barrier shall not exceed 2 inches for grade surfaces that are not solid, such as grass or gravel, where measured on the side of the barrier that faces away from the pool or spa.
3. The vertical clearance between a surface below the barrier to a solid surface, such as concrete, and the bottom of the required barrier shall not exceed 4 inches where measured on the side of the required barrier that faces away from the pool or spa.

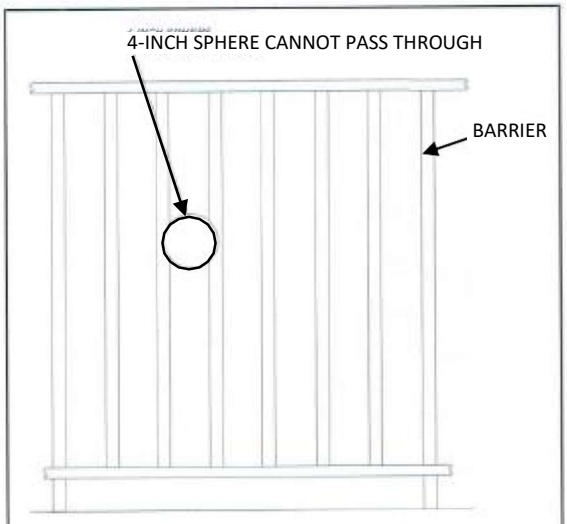


FIGURE 305.2.2
FOUR-INCH SPHERE CANNOT
PASS THROUGH BARRIER OPENINGS

4. Where the top of the pool or spa structure is above grade, the barrier shall be installed on grade or shall be mounted on top of the pool or spa structure. Where the barrier is mounted on the top of the pool or spa, the vertical clearance between the top of the pool or spa and the bottom of the barrier shall not exceed 4 inches.

305.2.2 Openings: Openings in the barrier shall not allow passage of a 4-inch-diameter sphere.

305.2.3 Solid barrier surfaces. Solid barriers that do not have openings shall not contain indentations or protrusions that form handholds and footholds, except for normal construction tolerances and tooled masonry joints.

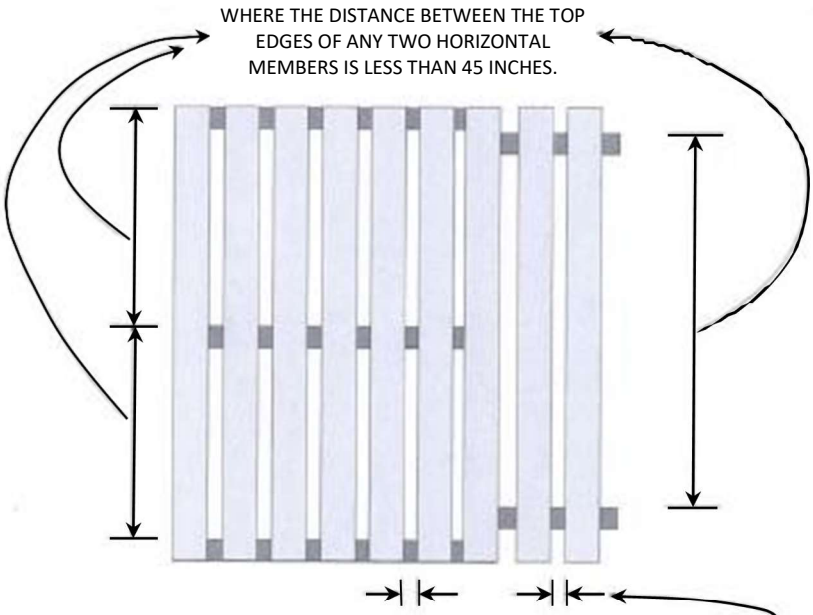


FIGURE 305.2.5(1)
MAXIMUM SPACING BETWEEN VERTICAL MEMBERS WHERE DISTANCE BETWEEN TOP OF HORIZONTAL MEMBERS IS LESS THAN 45 INCHES

305.2.4 Mesh fence as a barrier. Mesh fences, other than chain link fences in accordance with Section 305.2.7, shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and shall comply with the following:

1. The bottom of the mesh fence shall be not more than 1 inch above the deck or installed surface or grade.
2. The maximum vertical clearance from the bottom of the mesh fence and the solid surface shall not permit the fence to be lifted more than 4 inches form grade or decking.
3. The fence shall be designed and constructed so that it does not allow passage of a 4-inch sphere under any mesh panel. The maximum vertical clearance from the bottom of the mesh fence and the solid surface shall not be more than 4 inches from grade or decking.
4. An attached device shall attach each barrier section at a height not lower than 45 inches above grade. Common attachment devices include, but are not limited to,devices that provide the security equal to or greater than that of a hook-and-eye-type latch incorporating a spring-actuated retaining lever such as a safety gate hook.

FIGURE 305.1(4)
NONPOWERED MESH COVER DOES NOT ALLOW FOR ABSENCE OF BARRIER AROUND POOL

5. Where a hinged gate is used with a mesh fence, the gate shall comply with Section 305.3.
6. Patio deck sleeves such as vertical post receptacles that are placed inside the patio surface shall be of a nonconductive material.
7. Mesh fences shall not be installed on top of onground *residential* pools.

305.2.5 Closely spaced horizontal members. Where the barrier is composed of horizontal and vertical members and the distance between the tops of the horizontal members is less than 45 inches, the horizontal members shall be located on the pool or spa side of the fence. Spacing between vertical members shall not exceed 1 ¾ inches in width. Where there are decorative cutouts within vertical members, spacing within the cutouts shall not exceed 1 ¾ inches in width.

305.2.6 Widely spaced horizontal members. Where the barrier is composed of horizontal and vertical members and the distance between the tops of the horizontal members is 45 inches or more, spacing between vertical members shall not exceed 4 inches. Where there are decorative cutouts within vertical members, the interior width of the cutouts shall not exceed 1 ¾ inches.

305.2.7 Chain Link dimensions. The maximum opening formed by a chain link fence shall not be more than 1 ¾ inches. Where the fence is provided with slats fastened at the top and bottom which reduce the openings, such openings shall not be more than 1 ¾ inches.

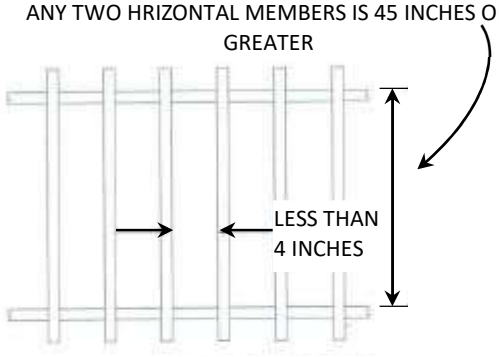
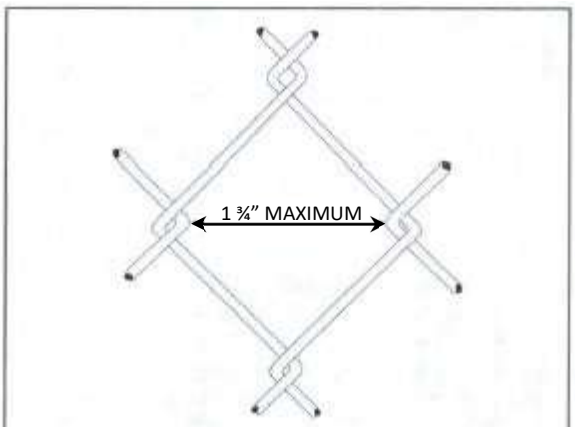


FIGURE 305.2.6(1).
MAXIMUM SPACING BETWEEN VERTICAL MEMBERS WHERE DISTANCE BETWEEN TOPS OF HORIZONTAL MEMBERS IS 45 INCHES OR GREATER.



ELEVATION VIEW

FIGURE 305.2.7
MAXIMUM OPENING WIDTH IN BARRIERS BUILT WITH CHAIN LINK FENCING

305.2.8 Diagonal members. Where the barrier is composed of diagonal members, the maximum openings formed by the diagonal members shall be not more 1 3/4 inches. The angle of diagonal members shall not be greater than 45 degrees from vertical.

305.2.9 Clear zone. There shall be a clear zone of not less than 36 inches between the exterior of the barrier and any permanent structures or equipment such as pumps, filters and heaters that can be used to climb the barrier.

305.2.10 Poolside barrier setbacks. The pool or spa side of the required barrier shall be not less than 20 inches from the water's edge.

305.3 Gates. Access gates shall comply with the requirements of Sections 305.3.1 through 305.3.3 and shall be equipped to accommodate a locking device. Pedestrian access gates shall open outward away from the pool or spa, shall be self-closing and shall have a self-latching device.

305.3.1 Utility or service gates: Gates not intended for pedestrian use, such as utility or service gates, shall remain locked when not in use.

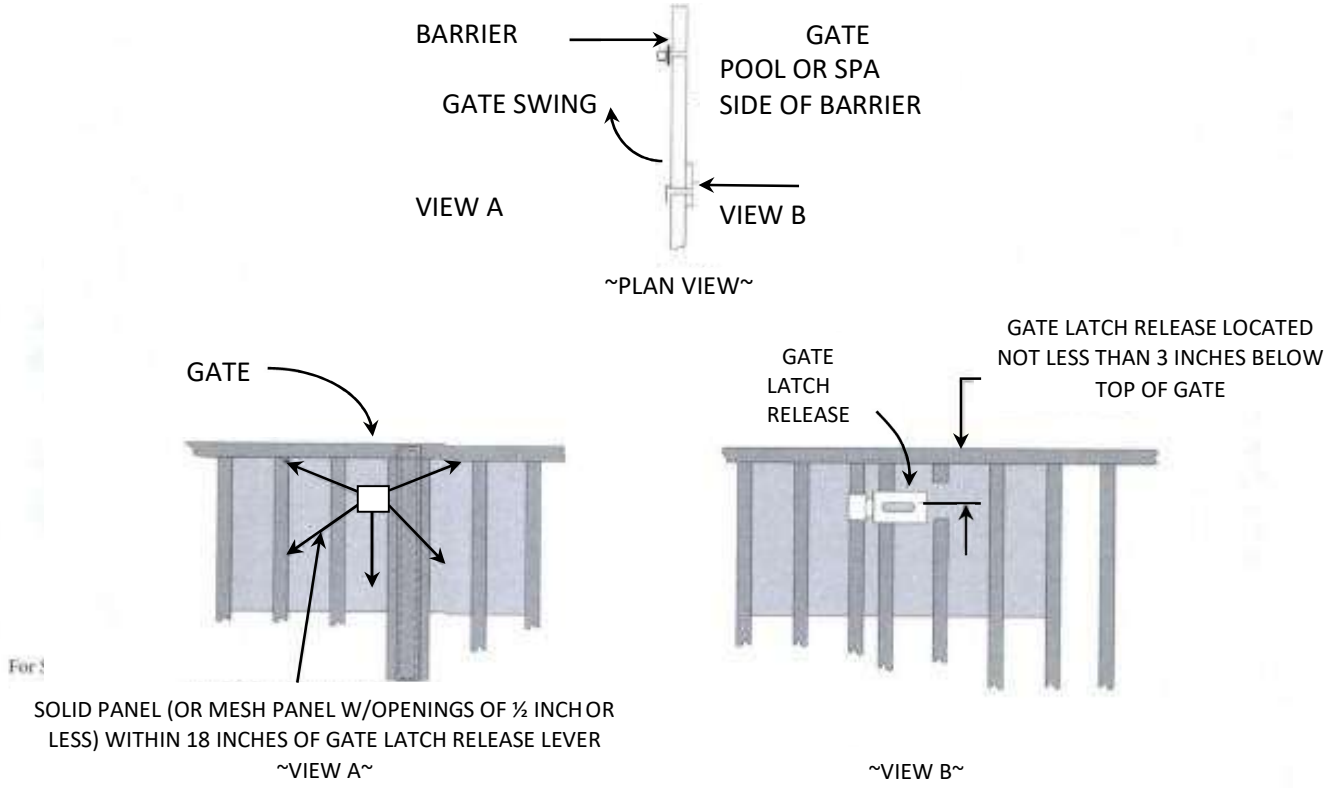


FIGURE 305.3.3(1)
LOCATION AND PROTECTION BARRIER GATE LATCH RELEASE WERE LOCATED AT LESS THAN 54 INCHES ABOVE WALKING SURFACE

305.3.2 Double or multiple gates. Double gates or multiple gates shall have at least one leaf secured in place and the adjacent leaf shall be secured with a self-latching device. The gate and barrier shall not have openings larger than 1/2 inch within 18 inches of the latch-release mechanism. The self-latching device shall comply with the requirements of Section 305.3.3.

305.3.3 Latches. Where the release mechanism of the self-latching device is located less than 54 inches from grade, the release mechanism shall be located on the pool or spa side of the gate not less than 3 inches below the top of the gate, and the gate and barrier shall not have openings greater than ½ inch within 18 inches of the release mechanism.

305.4 Structure wall as a barrier. Where a wall of a dwelling or structure serves as part of the barrier and where doors or windows provide direct access to the pool or spa through that wall, one of the following shall be required:

1. Operable windows having a sill height of less than 48 inches above the indoor finished floor and doors shall have an alarm that produces an audible warning when the window, door or their screens are opened. The

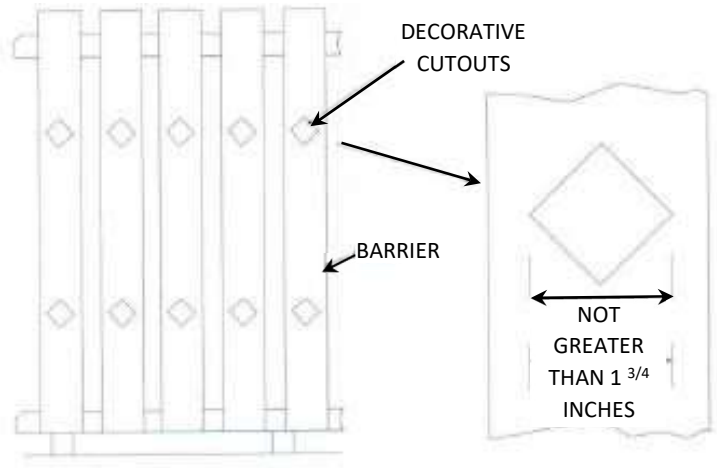


FIGURE 305.2.5(2)
MAXIMUM OPENING WIDTH OF DECORATIVE CUTOUTS IN BARRIER MATERIALS

alarm shall be listed and labeled as a water hazard entrance alarm in accordance with UL 2017. In dwellings or structures not required to be Accessible units, Type A units or Type B units, the operable parts of the alarm deactivation switches shall be located 4 inches or more above the finished floor. In dwellings or structures required to be Accessible units, Type A units or Type B units, the operable parts of the alarm deactivation switches shall be located not greater than 54 inches and not less than 48 inches above the finished floor.

2. A safety cover that is listed and labeled in accordance with ASTM F1346 is installed for the pools and spas.
3. An approved means of protection such as self-closing doors with self-latching devices, is provided. Such means of protection shall provide a degree of protection that I s not less than the protection afforded by Item 1 or 2.

305.5 Onground residential pool structure as a barrier. Where an onground residential pool wall structure or a barrier mounted on top of an onground residential pool wall structure shall serve as a barrier where all of the following conditions are present:

1. Where only the pool wall serves as the barrier, the bottom of the wall is on grade, the top of the wall is not less than 48 inches above grade for the entire perimeter of the pool, the wall complies with the requirements of Section 305.2 and the pool manufacturer allows the wall to serve as a barrier.
2. Where a barrier is mounted on top of the pool wall, the top of the barrier is not less than 48 inches above grade for the entire perimeter of the pool, and the wall and the barrier on top of the wall comply with the requirements of Section 305.2.
3. Ladders or steps used as means of access to the pool are capable of being secured, locked or removed to prevent access except where the ladder or steps are surrounded by a barrier that meets the requirements of section 305.
4. Openings created by the securing, locking or removal of ladders and steps do not allow the passage of a 4-inch diameter sphere.

5. Barriers that are mounted on top of onground residential pool walls are installed in accordance with the pool manufacturer's instructions.

305.6 Natural barriers. In the case where the pool or spa area abuts the edge of a lake or other natural body of water, public access is not permitted or allowed along the shoreline, and require barriers extend to and beyond the water's edge a minimum of 18 inches, a barrier is not required between the natural body of water shoreline and the pool or spa.

305.7 Natural topography. Natural topography that prevents direct access to the pool or spa area shall include but not be limited to mountains and natural rock formations. A natural barrier approved by the governing body shall be acceptable provided that the degree of protection is not less than the protection afforded by the requirements of Sections 305.2 through 305.5.

307.2.3 Freeze protection. In climates subject to freezing temperatures, outdoor pool and spa shells and appurtenances, piping, filter systems, pumps and motors, and other components shall be designed and constructed to provide protection from damage from freezing.

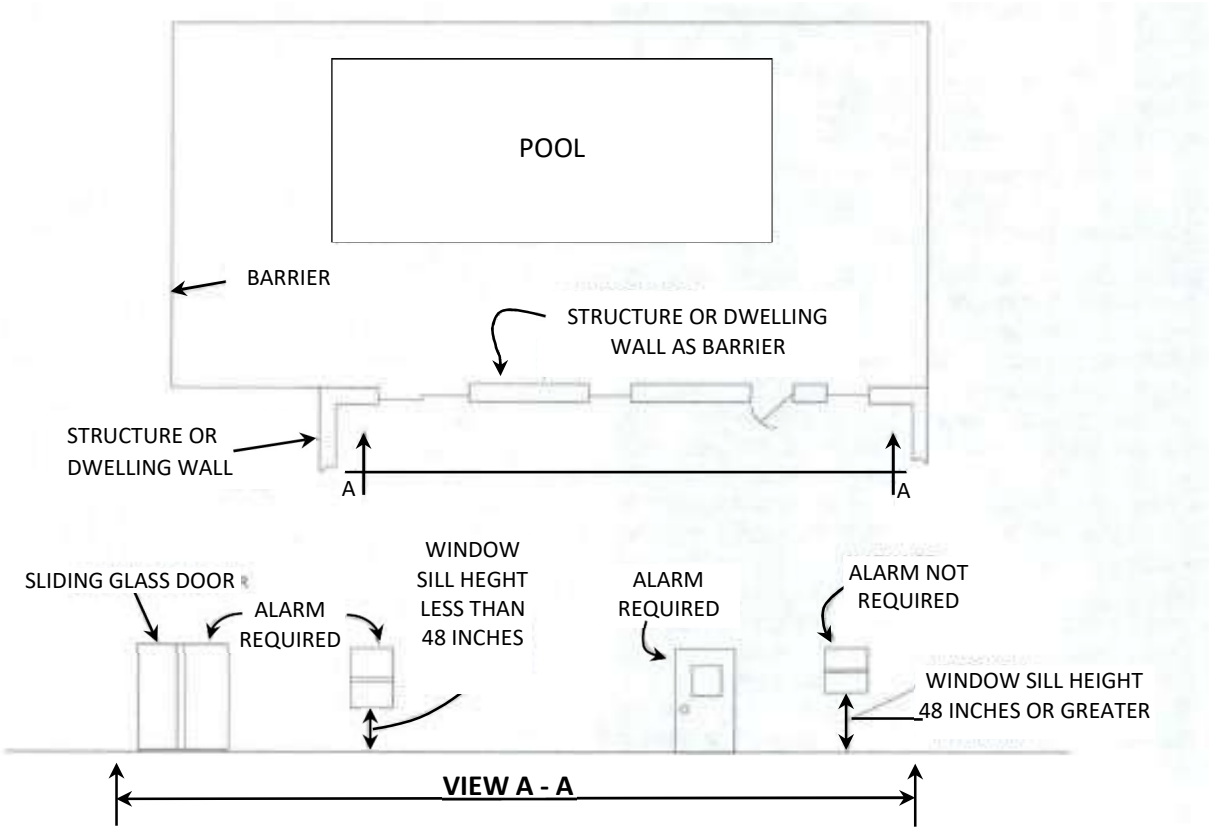


FIGURE 305.4(1)
STRUCTURE OR DWELLING WALL SERVING AS A BARRIER TO A POOL ORSPA