

Call Before You Dig!

The following utilities provide free locate services, and must be contacted prior to commencing any excavation, regardless of whether or not it is believed that the service may be affected. Failure to do so can have serious consequences if services are disrupted. If any underground service is disturbed during the work, the utility must be contacted immediately.

Bell Canada, Enbridge Gas & Rogers Cable
Veridian Connection (Hydro)
City of Pickering (Street Lights/Walkway Lighting)
Region of Durham (Sewer & Water)

For all of the above utilities contact Ontario One Call 1.800.400.2255

Inground Pools

- 1) inground pools should be 1.0m from the waterline of the pool to the fence.
- 2) fence height minimum is 1.2m, maximum is 2.0m
- 3) chain link must have a tension wire at the bottom of a proper horizontal cross pipe to ensure that the bottom of the fence cannot be lifted
- 4) chain link mesh should be 38mm mesh unless an existing public fence is part of the enclosure
- 5) gaps between boards and the bottom of the fence should be no more than 100mm
- 6) gates should be self-closing and latching, and locked when the area is not supervised
- 7) horizontal supports on a wooden fence must be a minimum of 1.2m apart or should be covered by boards no more than 38mm apart on the exterior side to prevent climbing

Above Ground Pools

- 1) above ground pools should be set back 1.0m from the property lines, as they are considered an accessory structure
- 2) above ground pools with exterior walls 1.2m high or more, with no buttresses or side supports may be considered part of the enclosure. In this case the access area may be fenced off on its own or a removable ladder may be used. No pumps, landscaping features etc. may be adjacent to aid in climbing

Please be prepared by having the following information completed when you come to apply for a Pool Enclosure Permit:

- 1) fencing details as per the attached sketch, and the attached City of Pickering Fence By-law 6943/09
- 2) a sketch showing the proposed pool location, enclosure location, gate location and exits from the dwelling into the enclosure area. See the sample drawings on our website
- 3) if construction of the pool will affect your neighbour's property, such as damaging sod with heaving equipment, removal of existing fencing between the two properties etc., you will be required to provide the City with a signed permission letter from your neighbour prior to construction, and a signed acceptance letter once all of the work is completed. Sample letters are available on our website pickering.ca, Living Menu tab, Home, Garden & Property, and Swimming Pool Enclosure
- 4) be aware that your permit approval may be delayed should additional approvals from other agencies be required (i.e. TRCA, CLOCA, Region of Durham, Hydro One etc.). A copy of their approval or permit is required to be provided to the City before your enclosure permit can be approved.

The Pool Enclosure Application will be completed in person at the Engineering Services Department counter on the second floor of City Hall. You will be required to provide the following:

- 1) project details including, the street address, and location of the construction access i.e. from street above, adjacent property or other street
- 2) if the pool is above ground or inground, and whether the enclosure is existing or new
- 3) applicant's name and contact information
- 4) the owner's name if different from applicant
- 5) a minimum refundable damage deposit of \$1,000.00 will be required when you come in to apply for a Pool Enclosure Permit (there may be an additional cost if the access is from a park, open space etc.)
- 6) the cost of the Pool Enclosure Permit is \$350.00
- 7) if you are replacing your existing enclosure, a permit is required. Note; minor repairs to existing enclosures do not require a permit.

Safety Tips

Stay “within arms” reach of children	Don't leave your children unsupervised. Drowning can occur in as little as 10 seconds. Let the phone ring; don't barbecue and attempt to supervise at the same time; and keep your eyes on the pool even when you're having a conversation with others. If you're in the water with the children, don't turn your back to them. Watch closely at all times.
Always watch children closely when they're playing with inflatable toys	Inflatable toys can be dangerous. They can overturn and put the child underwater. Limit the number of toys in the pool at a given time and remove all toys from the pool after swim time. This precaution prevents children from falling in while attempting to reach them.
Restrict access to your backyard pool	Build a lockable fence around your pool – check local by-laws for the required height of pool fences. The fence should surround the pool on all four sides, and have just one entrance. Ensure that no one can climb over, under or through it. The gate should be self-closing, self-latching and lockable. When inside the house, lock all doors that lead to the pool. A toddler can slip through an unlocked door in seconds. When the pool isn't in use, remove pool ladders and steps from above ground pools. Lock all hot tubs with safety-approved hard-top covers.
A lifejacket or PFD should be worn if children can't swim	Lifejackets and PFD's don't replace supervision of children.
Keep all chemical products away from children	Lock the chemicals in a place with good air circulation.
Never dive or go head-first into the shallow end of a pool, or an above ground pool	Protect your neck. Many head and spinal injuries are caused by horseplay in backyard pools.
Don't swim if you've been drinking alcohol	Alcohol reduces your ability to respond quickly and appropriately.
Always swim with a “buddy”	In case of emergency, someone is available to assist you. Have an emergency portable phone nearby in case you need to use it.
Drain all backyard wading pools after use	A child can drown in just a few centimetres of water. Also, untreated water left in these pools becomes a breeding ground for bacteria. Position the empty wading pool such that it can't fill up with rain water.
Establish a set of pool rules....and ensure that everyone using your pool follows them.

March 18, 2014

Alternate formats available upon request at 905.683.7575.