POOL & SPA REQUIREMENTS

PERMIT REQUIREMENTS – In order to obtain a pool or spa permit, three (3) copies of a site plan and structural details (gunite pools/spas only) must be submitted with the engineer's stamp on each sheet including the site plan. Portable spas require a permit also.

PRE-SITE – All pools and spas require a pre-site inspection prior to building permit issuance.

BONDS – a **$500.00** refundable cash bond for gunite pools/spas (a **$250.00** bond is required for spas not including a pool) is required at the time of issuance.

POOL LOCATION PER APPROVED PLAN – Measurements are taken from the inside wall of the pool or spa, therefore it must be set per approved plans prior to calling for the first inspection. Any change in location must be approved prior to the inspections.

SECTION 3151B – CONSTRUCTION PERMIT; SAFETY FEATURES REQUIRED– commencing January 1, 1998, except as provided in Section 3154B, whenever a construction permit is issued for construction of a new swimming pool at a private, single-family home, it shall be equipped with at least one of the following safety features:

1. The pool shall be isolated from access to a home by an enclosure that meets the requirements of Section 3152B.
2. The pool shall be equipped with an approved safety pool cover.
3. The residence shall be equipped with exit alarms on those doors providing access to the pool.
4. All doors providing direct access from the home to the swimming pool shall be equipped with a self-closing, self-latching device with a release mechanism placed no lower than 54 inches (1372 mm) above the floor.
5. Other means of protection, if the degree of protection afforded is equal to or greater than that afforded by any of the devices set forth in Items 1-4, inclusive, as determined by the building official of the jurisdiction issuing the applicable building permit. Any ordinance governing child access to pools adopted by a political subdivision on or before January 1, 1997, is presumed to afford protection that is equal to or greater than that afforded by any devices set forth in Items 1-4, inclusive.

SECTION 3152B – ENCLOSURE; REQUIRED CHARACTERISTICS

3152B.1 An enclosure shall have all of the following characteristics:

1. Any access gates through the enclosure open away from the swimming pool and are self-closing with a self-latching device placed no lower than 60 inches (1524 mm) above ground.
2. A minimum height of 60 inches (1524 mm).
3. A maximum vertical clearance from the ground to the bottom of the enclosure of 2 inches (51 mm).

4. Gaps or voids, if any, do not allow passage of a sphere equal to or greater than 4 inches (102 mm) in diameter.
5. An outside surface free of protrusions, cavities or other physical characteristics that would serve as handholds or footholds that could enable a child below the age of five years to climb over.

Reference: Health and Safety Code Section 115922
Authority: Health and Safety Code Section 18942(b)
AB 3305, Statutes 1996, C.925

SECTION 301.3 Waste water from any filter, scum filter, scum gutter, overflow, pool emptying line, or similar apparatus or appurtenance shall discharge into an approved type receptor and subsequently into a public sewer. The flood level rim of such receptor shall be at least six 6 inches (152 mm) above the flood level of the adjacent ground. Each such receptor when permitted to be connected to any part of a drainage system shall be provided with an approved trap with a minimum pipe size of three 3 inches (76 mm).

SECTION 1311 – MATERIAL FOR GAS PIPING

1311.1 General. Pipe used for the installation, extension, alteration or repair of gas piping shall be standard weight wrought iron or steel (galvanized or black), yellow brass containing not more than 75 percent copper, or internally tinned or equivalently treated copper of iron pipe size. Corrugated stainless steel tubing may be permitted provided that it is part of system listed by an approved agency as complying with the reference standard listed in Chapter 16, Part III. Approved PE pipe may be used in exterior buried piping systems.

1312.2 Location. Gas piping shall not be installed in or on the ground under any building or structure and exposed gas piping shall be kept at least 6 inches (152 mm) above grade or structures. The term “building or structure” shall include structures such as porches and steps, whether covered or uncovered, breezeways, roofed porte-cocheres, roofed patios, carports, covered walks, covered driveways, and similar structures or appurtenances.

Concealed unprotected gas piping may be installed above grade in approved recesses or channels.

EXCEPTION: When necessary due to structural conditions, approved-type gas piping may be installed in other locations when permission has first been obtained from the building official.

1312.6 Corrosion and Covering Protection. Ferrous gas piping installed underground in exterior locations shall be protected from corrosion by approved coatings or wrapping materials applied in an approved manner. Horizontal metallic piping shall have at least 12 inches (305 mm) of earth cover or equivalent protection. Plastic gas piping shall have at least 18 inches (457 mm) of earth cover or equivalent protection. Risers, including prefabricated risers inserted with plastic pipe, shall be metallic and shall be protected in an approved manner to a point at least 6 inches above grade. When a riser connects to plastic pipe underground, the horizontal metallic portion underground shall at least 30 inches (762 mm) in length before connecting to the plastic service pipe. An approved transition fitting or adaptor shall be used where the plastic joins the metallic riser.

EXCEPTION: Listed one-piece 90-degree transition fittings or risers may have less than 30 inches (762 mm) of horizontal metallic piping.

1312.13 Valves. Valves used in connection with gas piping shall be approved types, and shall be accessible.

1312.15 Shutoff Valve. An accessible shutoff valve of a type set forth in Section 1312.13 shall be installed in the fuel-supply piping outside of each appliance and ahead of the union connection thereto, and in addition to any valve on the appliance. Shutoff valves shall be within 3 feet (914 mm) of the appliance they serve, and in the same room or space where the appliance is located.

1312.16 Tracer for Nonmetallic Buried Piping. An electrically continuous minimum No. 18 AWG [0.040-inch diameter (1 mm)] copper tracer wire with yellow insulation shall

be installed with and attached to underground nonmetallic gas piping and shall terminate above grade at each end.

1211.3 No gas piping shall be installed on or on the ground under any building or structure unless installed in gastight conduit, and all exposed gas piping shall be kept at least six (6) inches (152 mm) above grade or structure. The term “building or structure” shall include structures such as porches and steps, whether covered or uncovered, breezeways, roofed porte-cocheres, roofed patios, carports, covered walks, covered driveways, and similar structures or appurtenances.

SECTION 114 – MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS FOR POOL AND SPA HEATING SYSTEMS AND EQUIPMENT

(a) **Certification by Manufacturers.** Any pool or spa heating system or equipment may be installed only if the manufacturer has certified that the system or equipment has all of the following:

1. **Efficiency.** A thermal efficiency for gas-fired systems of at least 78 percent, when tested according to ANSI Standard Z21.56-1994; and
2. **On-off switch.** A readily accessible on-off switch, mounted on the outside of the heater that allows shutting off the heater without adjusting the thermostat setting; and
3. **Instructions.** A permanent, easily readable, and weatherproof plate or card that gives instruction for energy efficient operation of the pool or spa and for the proper care of pool or spa water when a cover is used; and
4. **Electric resistance heating.** No electric resistance heating; and

> **EXCEPTIONS 1 to Section 114 (a) 4:** Listed package units with fully insulated enclosures, and with tight-fitting covers that are insulated to at least R-6.
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> **EXCEPTION 2 to Section 114 (a) 4**: Pools and spas deriving at least 60 percent of the annual heating energy from site solar energy or recovered energy.

5. **Pilot light.** No pilot light.

(b) **Installation.** Any pool or spa heating system or equipment shall be installed with all of the following:

1. **Piping.** At least 36 inches of pipe between the filter and the heater to allow for the future addition of solar heating equipment; and
2. **Covers.** A cover for outdoor pools or outdoor spas; and

> **EXCEPTION to Section 114 (b) 2:** Pools or spas deriving at least 60 percent of the annual heating energy from site solar energy or recovered energy.

3. **Directional inlets and time switches for pools.** If the system or equipment is for a pool:

A. The pool shall have directional inlets that adequately mix the pool water; and

B. The circulation pump shall have a time switch that allows the pump to be set to run in the off-peak electric demand period, and for the minimum time necessary to maintain the water in the condition required by applicable public health standards.

> **EXCEPTION to Section 114 (b) 3 B:** Where applicable public health standards require on-peak operation.