

Department of Planning and Development

Building and Inspections

inspection@cityoflacrosse.org 608-789-7530

SWIMMING POOL

Do I need a building permit?

The term "swimming or wading pool" means any pool of any size and volume, permanent or portable, which is intended for swimming or wading purposes and which serves the City, motels, hotels, clubs, associations, schools, charitable, or youth organizations, institutions, or other similar type accommodations, also those installed on private residential property containing ten or more dwelling units, also those installed on private residential property containing less than ten dwelling units and which are over 24 inches in wall height and have a surface area of 250 square feet or more, or have a volume of 3,250 gallons or more.

Data Requirements:

- Completed and signed Application for Building Permit.
- The Capacity of the Pool.
- Two (2) sets of plans: A set includes a top or "plan view" looking down on your project and a side or "cutaway" view showing your proposed method of construction.
- Two (2) copies of a survey or accurate land drawing showing your existing home and location of proposed swimming pool.
- If the home owner does not hire a contractor to perform work under the building permit that is bonded and insured, a Cautionary Statement must be signed and submitted with the application (SEE ATTACHED FORM).

If you would like to submit the permit application electronically, please upload the forms and email them to inspection@cityoflacrosse.org

How long does it take to get my permit?

Permits are reviewed on a first come, first serve basis. Inspectors are allowed 10 business days to complete. They may take longer depending on circumstances. For an additional cost you can EXPEDITE your application, moving it to the forefront.

How much does a permit cost?

Building Permit Fees can be found on the City website at this link [Appendix C - FEE SCHEDULE | Code of Ordinances | La Crosse, WI | Municode Library](#)

How close to my lot line can I build my swimming pool?

The edge of the swimming pool must stay at least 2 feet from the lot lines in the rear yard.

Design and Construction Requirements:

1. The material for lining artificial swimming pools shall be light in color, and such as will provide a tight tank with smooth and easily denied surfaces.
2. When the walls of a pool exceed two feet six inches in height, the *walls* shall be vertical for a minimum distance of two feet six inches. Conspicuous markings shall show the depth of the points where the slope of the bottom of the pool changes, except that such markings will not be required for pools of generally uniform depth.
3. Overflow gutters shall completely surround the pool; provided that pools less than 30 feet in width may be provided with skimmers built into the side and corners of the pool to take the place of gutters if approved by the La Crosse County Health Department.
4. The pool shall be completely surrounded by a walkway of concrete or other approved material, at least four feet in width and sloping away from the pool for drainage, provided however that this requirement may be waived for above ground pools.
5. All connections to the City water supply or sewer system shall be approved by the La Crosse Fire Department — Community Risk Management.
6. All outdoor swimming pools and any adjacent pool-associated paved areas shall be completely surrounded by a fence or wall at least 48 inches high of such construction as will make access difficult. Access shall be through self-dosing and latching gates at the shallow end of the pool. The latch shall be as high on the gate as possible to prevent the entrance of children. The water enclosing wall of an above ground pool may be considered as the required wall of fence if such wall is the required four feet in height and so designed as to make climbing difficult. Ladders may be used for entry to aboveground pools when adequately safeguarded to prevent unauthorized entry. The wall of building may be accepted as a part of the required fence when found by the La Crosse Fire Department — Community Risk Management to provide a sufficient degree of protection.

The property owner is responsible for correct placement of structures upon a parcel of land to comply with the building and zoning law. The back edge of the City sidewalk is usually located on a property line.

Be sure to call Digger's Hotline prior to digging. The number is 1-800-242-8511.

CAUTIONARY STATEMENT TO OWNERS OBTAINING BUILDING PERMITS

101.65(lr) of the Wisconsin Statutes requires municipalities that enforce the Uniform Dwelling Code to provide an owner who applies for a building permit with a statement advising the owner that:

If the owner hires a contractor to perform work under the building permit and the contractor is not bonded or insured as required under s. 101.654 (2) (a), the following consequences might occur:

(a) The owner may be held liable for any bodily injury to or death of others or for any damage to the property of others that arises out of the work performed under the building permit or that is caused by any negligence by the contractor that occurs in connection with the work performed under the building permit.

(b) The owner may not be able to collect from the contractor damages for any loss sustained by the owner because of a violation by the contractor of the one- and two- family dwelling code or an ordinance enacted under sub. (1) (a), because of any bodily injury to or death of others or damage to the property of others that arises out of the work performed under the building permit or because of any bodily injury to or death of others or damage to the property of others that is caused by any negligence by the contractor that occurs in connection with the work performed under the building permit.

CAUTIONARY STATEMENT TO CONTRACTORS FOR PROJECTS INVOLVING BUILDING BUILT BEFORE 1978

If this project is in a dwelling or child-occupied facility, built before 1978, and disturbs 6 sq. ft. or more of paint per room, 20 sq. ft. or more of exterior paint, or involves windows, then the requirements of ch. DHS 163 requiring Lead-Safe Renovation Training and Certification apply. Call (608)261-6876 or go to the Wisconsin Department of Health Services' lead homepage for details of how to be in compliance.

WETLANDS NOTICE TO PERMIT APPLICANTS

You are responsible for complying with state and federal laws concerning the construction near or on wetlands, lakes, and streams. Wetlands that are not associated with open water can be difficult to identify. Failure to comply may result in removal or modification of construction that violates the law or other penalties or costs. For more information, visit the Department of Natural Resources wetlands identification web page or contact a Department of Natural Resources service center.

ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES FOR OWNERS OF PROJECTS DISTURBING ONE OR MORE ACRE OF SOIL

I understand that this project is subject to ch. NR 151 regarding additional erosion control and stormwater management standards, and will comply with those standards.

Owner: (Print Name) (Sign) (Date)

Owner: (Print Name) (Sign) (Date)

OFFICE USE ONLY		
For Permit Number:	Inspector:	Date:

EXAMPLE PLOT PLAN
COMMUNITY RISK MANAGEMENT
CITY OF LA CROSSE
www.cityoflacrosse.org

This sample plot plan has been designed to assist you in preparing a similar plot plan of your own premises, when necessary to obtain a building permit, or when required by the Board of Zoning and Appeals, Board of Housing Appeals, or Board of Building Appeals. Plot plans for larger buildings shall go into more detail.

