



**City of Lakewood
Building & Safety Section
(562) 866-9771 Ext. 2350**

WHERE REQUIRED

The swimming pool "fencing" ordinance in Los Angeles County requires that all swimming pools or other artificially created pools, public or private, more than 18" (LMC 8010) in depth, be surrounded by a protective fence. This fence may enclose the pool itself or the entire premises.

FENCE CONSTRUCTION

Wood Redwood or pressure treated posts not less than 3" by 3" set not more than 10 feet apart embedded at least 18" in the ground. Vertical boards at least ½" thick shall be fastened securely to not less than 2 horizontal rails at least 2" by 3" in dimension.

Wire Galvanized wire mesh, minimum 11 gauge, with galvanized pipe posts of at least 1 –1/4" diameter spaced not more than 10 feet apart. Posts shall be set not less than 12" in concrete, in post holes 6" in diameter and 18" deep.

Masonry Shall have a concrete footing at 12" wide and 6" thick, with bottom not less than 12" below ground surface. Any wall reinforcing steel shall be embedded in the footing.

Height **Fences shall be not less than five feet in height above ground level at all places.**

Openings No openings except doors or gates, with an area greater than fifty (50) square inches, except that a rectangular opening having no horizontal dimension exceeding four inches, may have a greater area.

GATES AND DOORS

Gates and doors shall meet fence requirements for height and durability. Also, they shall be self-closing and self-latching by means of devices located not less than 54 inches above grade, walk or exterior side. The release mechanism shall be located on the swimming pool side of the barrier at least 3 inches below the top of the gate. The gate and barrier shall have no openings greater than ½ inch within 18 inches of the release mechanism. **Gates and doors shall open outward away from the pool.**

CLOSERS

The closing system shall have adequate capacity and strength to readily and automatically close the door or gate and engage the latch after each time or purpose or operation. The devices may be gravity or spring loaded. Any mechanism exposed to the weather shall be of a type intended for such locations.

LATCHES

The latching mechanism and installations shall be capable of keeping the gate or door closed at all times when not in actual use. The device shall be self-latching. The latch and its operating controls shall be located not less than 54 inches above walk, steps, or grade of the exterior side.

Note: Additional locking devices, hooks or bolts may be installed for security of the premises, providing they are arranged so they do not in any way obstruct, interfere with, or preclude the normal satisfactory operation of the required latching system.

DOUBLE DOOR OR PAIRS OF GATES

These installations are not acceptable if they require one leaf to be made fixed or inactive to engage the hardware or latching device from the other or active leaf. Such an arrangement is impractical, if not impossible, to make fully self-closing and self-latching. Special approval is required for installations having both leaves active.

WIDE DOOR AND GATES

These present special problems requiring stronger construction and continued maintenance. A 4-foot leaf is the recommended maximum width. Obtain specific or individual approval for greater dimensions.

DRIVEWAY GATES

Doors or gates across driveways are not approved, as they cannot be made to comply. During operation, they must be held in the open position. Also, they would be in pairs or a wide sliding type.

GARAGE DOORS AND CARPORTS

Overhead, folding, sliding or wide-swinging type garage entrance doors are not adaptable to self-closing and-latching installations and are not acceptable in providing the protective enclosure for swimming pools. Such doors are frequently left in the open position, thus exposing any man-door or service entrance from the garage interior to the pool area.

GARAGE SERVICE DOORS

All utility, pilot, or man-doors at service entrances opening from a garage or carport into a pool yard area shall be made to conform to the ordinance. They shall be made self-closing and self-latching. The doors shall be of suitable materials and construction. The latch shall be installed not less than 54 inches above grade, walk or exterior side.

ACCESS FROM LIVING AREAS

Doors that provide access to pool areas from habitable rooms of dwelling units are considered as under the observation and supervision of the building occupants, and therefore do not require the conforming hardware.

COURTS AND BREEZEWAYS

Passageways and pool access through breezeway areas or apartment house courts require special care. These are not habitable spaces and they must be provided with conforming protection. The normal closing and latching methods are not readily adaptable to certain conditions. Standard doorknob heights, panic bar installations, metal frame and glass doors, gates, or fences crossing required exit routes, and key-operated hardware all requires consideration.

ALTERNATES

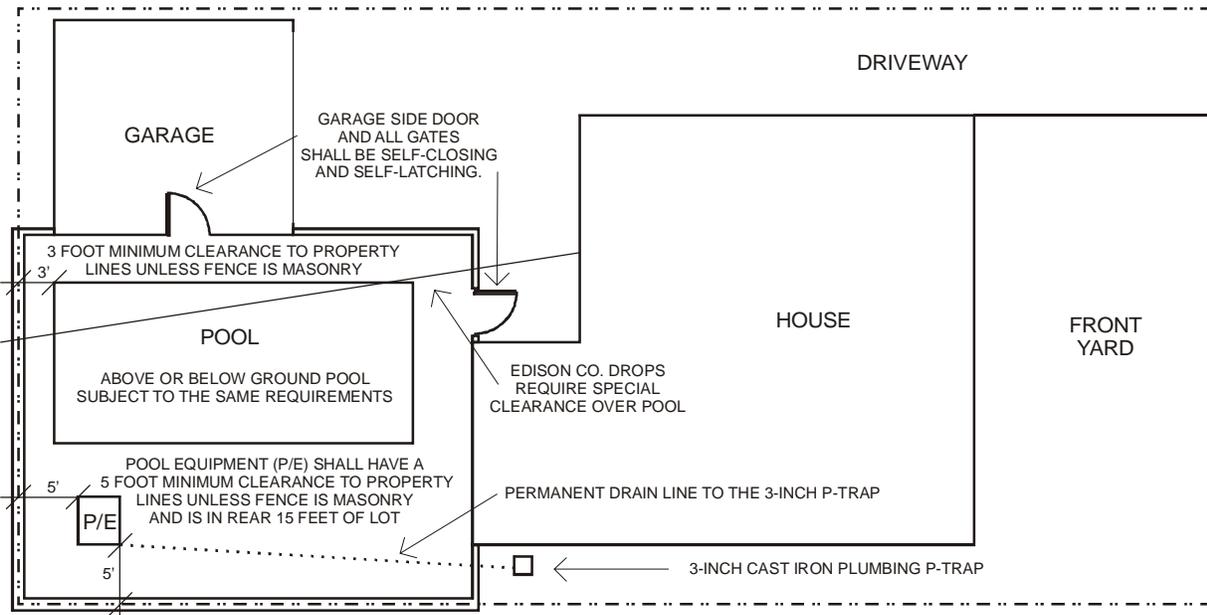
The County engineer/City Plan Checker shall approve any type fence, gate, or door construction other than that specified above, before it is installed.

MAINTENANCE

The nature and manner of usage require continual maintenance. Sagging gates, loose parts, worn latches, broken or binding members shall be replaced or repaired.

COMPLAINTS

Any complaints regarding protection or nonconforming conditions should be made to the nearest Sheriff's Station.



The Edison Company electric service drops need to be changed to special drops if there is less than 20 feet clearance over the edge of pool. With the special drops, the clearance can be reduced to a 16-foot clearance over the diving board and 12 feet over the water.

A 3-inch cast iron plumbing P-trap is to be installed outside, within 10 feet of a plumbing vent. See the Plumbing Code & Appendix G for specific information. A permanent line is required from the discard outlet of the pool filter to the 3-inch plumbing P-trap.

Electrical equipment for storable pools need ground-fault interrupter protection. No outdoor electric receptacles are allowed within 10 feet of any type poolside wall. Ground-fault circuit interrupters are required for receptacles between 10 to 15 feet of poolside wall. See National Electric Code Article 680 for specific information.

THIS INFORMATION SHEET IS INTENDED TO SERVE AS A GUIDE TO THE HOMEOWNER TO ANSWER COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS. ALL WORK IS REQUIRED TO COMPLY WITH ALL APPLICABLE CODES. FOR MORE SPECIFIC INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT A BUILDING INSPECTOR.