

# Swimming Pools, Spas & Hot Tubs

## City of Cottonwood Pool Enclosure Regulations

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### City of Cottonwood Regulations:

Swimming pools, spas, hot tubs or other contained bodies of water, whether above ground or below ground, that are eighteen (18) inches or more in depth at any point are subject to City Building Code and Zoning Ordinance regulations.

### Location:

A swimming pool shall not be located in the front yard, shall be at least ten (10) feet from the main structure, shall be at least five (5) feet from the rear and interior side lot lines and shall maintain side yard setbacks from the street side lot lines as required for the main structure in that zone.

### Fences and Barriers:

Swimming pools or spas shall be entirely enclosed by a solid wall, wood or chain link fence not less than five (5) feet nor more than six (6) feet in height so as to prevent uninvited access. The wall or fence shall be at least 24 inches from the waters edge. There shall be no opening in the wall or fence through which a spherical object greater than four (4) inches can pass. Chain link or mesh shall have a maximum opening size of one and three-quarter inches (1-3/4") measured horizontally.

### Gates and Doors:

All gates for the pool or spa enclosure shall be self-closing, self-latching, and open outward from the pool. The latches must be located at least 54 inches above the ground. On the pool side the release mechanism shall be at least 5 inches below the top of the gate. The latch mechanism may be located at any height if secured by a permanent padlock or similar device that requires a key, electronic opener or integral combination.

### Access from Residence:

If the wall of the residence serves as part of the pool or spa enclosure, there are several options, including securing all doors and windows opening into pool area, installing an internal fence at least 4 feet in height around the pool or by installing a motorized safety pool cover. Doors with direct access to pool enclosure require self-latching and self-closing devices. The self-latching device must be located a minimum of 54 inches above the floor. Windows must be equipped with latching device a minimum of 54 inches above the floor or have a fixed screen or keyed lock that prevents the window from opening more than four inches.

### Above Ground Pool, Spa or Hot Tub:

An above ground pool, spa or hot tub can be equipped with a hard safety cover that can be latched or locked provided any access ladder or steps are removable without the use of tools and secured when not in use by a barrier meeting code requirements.

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### For Additional Information Please contact:

#### CITY OF COTTONWOOD - DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

111 N. Main Street, Cottonwood, AZ 86326

Phone: 928-634-5505

Fax: 928-639-4254

[www.cottonwoodaz.gov](http://www.cottonwoodaz.gov)





# NOTICE

TO COTTONWOOD BUSINESSES THAT SELL, RENT, LEASE, CONSTRUCT OR OTHERWISE PROVIDE SWIMMING POOLS, SPAS, HOT TUBS OR SIMILAR CONTAINED BODIES OF WATER.

## **POOL SAFETY NOTICE REQUIREMENTS**

As of February 16, 2007, businesses in Cottonwood that sell, rent, lease, construct or provide swimming, pools, spas and hot tubs are required to post notice in their place of business informing the public about pool safety enclosure requirements in Cottonwood. These 8 ½ inch by 11 inch notices are provided in both English and Spanish. They are required to be posted immediately in a manner that is easily accessible and visible by customers.

On July 18, 2006, the Cottonwood City Council approved amendments to the Building Code enacting stricter regulations for pool safety enclosures in Cottonwood. These regulations include specific requirements for fencing, self-closing and self-latch gates, and restricting direct unregulated access from the residence. There are exceptions for spas and hot tubs through the use of secured covers.

Drowning is one of the leading causes of death for children under five in Arizona. Effective pool safety enclosures are a critical component of a comprehensive safety program that includes education and supervision. These regulations are intended to protect young children, including neighbors and visitors, from unrestricted access to these pools.

These regulations apply to all pools, spas and hot tubs installed in Cottonwood. If there are any questions, people can contact the City of Cottonwood Community Development Department to learn about the pool safety enclosure requirements in the Building Codes.

The Pool Safety Enclosure Notice is required to be posted immediately in any Cottonwood business that sells, rents, builds or provides swimming pools, spas or hot tubs. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

**For more information, please contact:**  
**City of Cottonwood - Community Development Department**  
**111 N. Main Street, Cottonwood, AZ**  
**Phone: 928- 634-5505**  
**Fax: 928-639-4254**  
**[www.cottonwoodaz.gov](http://www.cottonwoodaz.gov)**