



TECHNICAL BULLETIN

PERMIT AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

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B-19X

Prefabricated/Storable Swimming Pools and Wading Pools

INTRODUCTION

Prefabricated/storable swimming pools and wading pools are exempt from a building permit when meeting the code criteria. They are not exempt from separate electrical, plumbing and mechanical permits. State and county codes overlap on the specific requirements for their installation.

Prefabricated pools are most often sold as a complete package consisting of the pool walls, vinyl liner, plumbing kit, and pump/filter device. They are intended to be installed without the need for special wiring or modifications to the pool site.

TECHNICAL DETAILS

Prefabricated/storable pools accessory to a single family residence (R-3 occupancy) in which the pool walls are entirely above the adjacent grade or vinyl pools, in or above ground, that do not act as retaining walls for more than 4 feet of earth or water are exempt from a building permit.

Private swimming pools that contain water in excess of 18 inches are subject to the Pool Barrier requirements of the Sonoma County Code. Briefly, the barrier can be either one of these: 1) A complying fence, 2) A complying safety cover or 3) All doors providing direct access to the pool are equipped with *listed* exit alarms.

The pool site should have a ground-fault protected receptacle located at least 10' from the inside walls of the pool. The pump/filter unit must be *listed/approved* for its use. The 3-wire cord may be up to 25 feet long. Metal appurtenances are not required to be bonded. Lighting fixtures shall be a *listed cord-and-plug assembly* for this purpose.

When installed, a pool heater should comply with its listing. The water system should be protected from cross-connection when filling the pool.

GLOSSARY

Cord-and-plug connected lighting assembly: A lighting assembly consisting of a lighting fixture intended for installation in the wall of a storable pool, and a cord-and-plug connected transformer.

REFERENCES

2001 California Building Code Sections 106.2 - 11

2001 California Electrical Code, Article 680-30

Sonoma County Code Section 7-15

Sonoma County Residential Construction Handbook, Sections 1.2; 18.1
