

Above Ground Pool Information

Eldridge City Hall, Dept. of Building Safety
305 N 3rd Street
Eldridge Iowa, 52748

Do not fill the pool with water until the final inspection is completed.

All pools capable of holding water more than 24" deep require a permit. For above ground pools, there are 2 types that look very much alike, but the requirements are very different:

Storable Pool Permit: A Storable Pool typically costs a few hundred dollars and is designed to be set up through the summer and removed (stored) through the winter. They have a double insulated pump, must be plugged into a GFCI protected outlet and must have a 48" barrier around them. If you purchase one that is less than 48" tall, you **MUST** have a fence and alarms on the doors entering the fenced area. If you purchase one that is 48" tall or more, the sides of the pool may be used as the barrier provided the ladder is removable or lockable. If you pull the pump out of the box and there is a 25' long cord installed from the factory, you probably have a storable pool.



Storable Pool

When completing the pool permit application, storable pools require a site plan showing the location of the pool and the barrier to be used. This may or may not include the house, deck, fence, door alarms, gates, outdoor stairways and the location of the GFCI protected outlet to be used.

Non-Storable Pool Permits: These above ground pools may cost many thousands of dollars, are constructed on site, are designed to last many years and may have remote pumps, heaters, filters and other amenities that can be found on in ground pools. These pools have many electrical requirements that includes equipotential bonding, grounding, GFI protection areas where outlets, lighting and overhead or underground powerlines are forbidden.



Non-Storable Pool

The sales company/installer of non-storable pools must obtain the permit. A sales company/installer that tells the homeowner to obtain the permit should be considered untrustworthy and the customer should talk to a company that is willing to give you honest information so you can make informed decisions.

When completing the permit application for a non-storable pool, **THE INSTALLER** must:

1. Be a registered contractor with a bond on file and provide the name of the contact person.
2. Provide a site plan showing the pool location, house, deck, fence, door alarms, gates, stairways, surface bonding rings, grounding routes and locations of GFCI protected devices. Failure to show all components will result in application denial.
3. Provide the name and address of the owner the work is being done for,
4. Provide the name of the Iowa Licensed electrician/company providing the outlets, grounding and bonding systems,
5. **Sign an acknowledgement that the contracting company is solely responsible for injury or death for filling the pool deeper than 24" prior to final approval.**

FAQ's-

Can the homeowner do the electrical work? Yes. The permit fee includes 2 electrical inspections. One for the bonding and one for the final. Due to the important safety factor involved with getting the equipotential bonding done correctly, additional inspections will be charged at \$50.00 per inspection. If you don't fully understand the grounding, bonding and ground fault wiring methods required you may save money hiring a knowledgeable electrician.

Can't the inspector tell me how to do it? While inspectors try to be as helpful as possible, the Building Safety Department is not an educational institution, it is an enforcement agency. We can approve or deny your plan. We cannot create a plan for you.

Can we fill the pool with water while we are waiting for the electrical work to be done? No.

What if we say we didn't know we weren't supposed to and we fill it anyway? You will be charged \$50.00 each for the twice weekly inspections to see if the pool has been emptied so that a final inspection can be properly performed.

Do not fill the pool until final inspection is completed.