

IT'S POOL TIME!

With warm weather approaching and swim season around the corner, many people are deciding to install a pool. If so, here are some guidelines to keep in mind.

The Application Process- For a typical pool installation, a *Building* and *Electrical* permit are required to ensure the work meets all safety standards and is installed according to the Connecticut Building Code. Approvals from Zoning and Wetlands will also be required to verify the pool is located in a suitable location, and if your property has a well or septic system, you will need written approval from the Eastern Highlands Health District.

A homeowner is ultimately responsible for the work that is done at their property, so it is important to verify all permits and approvals were obtained if you hire a contractor. Please remember, contractors should be licensed and/or registered through the Connecticut Department of Consumer Protection. In-ground pool and spa contractors should hold a Swimming Pool Builder license, and above ground pool installers should be registered as a Home Improvement Contractor.

The Inspection Process- There are several inspections that must be performed before you can enjoy your pool. A Trench & Bond inspection verifies the electrical conduit is at the correct burial depth and the electrical equipment and metal parts around the pool are mechanically bonded to prevent electrocution. A Final inspection will then verify the final installation of the electrical system is correct, a pool alarm is in place and functioning, and all ladders and safety barrier requirements have been met.

Please utilize this link for specifics on the Application and Inspections process:

<https://www.coventryct.org/DocumentCenter/View/6017/Swimming-Pool-Permitting-and-Inspectionsdocx?bidId=>

The Approval Process- Once all final inspections have been passed and a *Certificate of Completion* has been issued, you are ready to enjoy your pool for the season and years to come. Have fun and please remember pool safety is the responsibility of the pool owner, and nothing can replace direct supervision by an adult with small children.

Steve Prattson- Building Official, *Town of Coventry*