

**SWIMMING POOL REQUIREMENTS**  
**RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL**  
**WASHINGTON COUNTY BUILDING DEPARTMENT**  
TELEPHONE (850)638-6195 FAX 638-6304

**Commercial Plans: Two (2) original signed and Sealed Plans by a Florida Registered Engineer may be submitted to put on file with this office. (Once reviewed, this will be kept on file). The pool contractor is required to provide 2 copies of original master plans for each permit submittal. If any of the information is changed for that mastered set-revised drawings will need to be resubmitted for review.**

Complete an Application for Land Use and attach a copy of the recorded deed showing ownership of the property and submit to the Building Department. Check for deed restrictions. They override county laws and ordinances. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that all restrictions are followed. They are sometimes recorded on the property deed but are usually recorded separately at the Washington County courthouse (Phone 850-638-6285).

If development is within the city limits of Chipley, contact the City of Chipley for a Development Order (850-638-6350). A letter of approval is required from the Town of Wausau for any new development within the Wausau city limits. Some subdivisions have Architectural Review Committees that require approval.

Two (2) complete sets of plans drawn to scale. Site plan must show setbacks from property lines and from other structures. If the property has a septic please indicate on the site plan. One (1) set will remain on file in the Building Department. Partial submittals of plans will not be accepted.

Pool plans shall show the type of construction, depths of pool, swim-outs, ladder steps, plumbing detail, electrical detail including grounding, pool deck, location of pool service equipment and method of compliance with Entrapment Protection and method of compliance with Barrier requirements. A temporary barrier that complies with the Florida Building code must be installed and maintained throughout the construction process after the "Shell" is in place.

A Notice of Commencement must be recorded at the Washington County Courthouse before receiving the second inspection and a certified copy furnished to the Building Department. A copy is required to be posted at the job site.

A copy of the Contractor's license, proof a General Liability, Worker's Compensation Insurance and a county competency card must be submitted. It is the responsibility of the contractor to request all inspections. A final inspection must be performed before the pool is allowed to be used by the property owner. If final inspections are not requested on completed pools it will jeopardize the contractor's right to pull future permits. A separate electrical permit may be required.

In order to pass final inspection, a residential pool must provide at least one of the following safety features. (See attached list.)

## SENATE BILL (SB) 86 – RESIDENTIAL SWIMMING POOL SAFETY ACT

The above legislation goes into effect on 10/01/2000, and states that, in order to pass final inspection, a residential pool must provide at least one of the following safety features:

- A minimum four foot high barrier around the pool perimeter
- An approved safety pool cover that meets ASTM standard F1346-91
- All doors and windows providing direct access from the home to the pool must be equipped with an exit alarm with a minimum sound pressure rating of 85dB A at 10 feet.
- All doors providing direct access from the home to the pool must be self closing and self latching, with a release mechanism at least 54 inches above finished floor.

Compliance with the Standard Swimming Pool Code requirements for a minimum four foot high barrier around the pool remains in effect, and will still be required in addition to all but the first of the above options. If you elect to use the minimum four foot barrier option of SB86, that will also satisfy the code's barrier requirement.

Compliance with these requirements will be checked at final inspection, and the requirements will be in effect for pool permits issued on or after 10/01/2000. The proposed compliance method will have to be indicated on the plans.