DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
### Jaclynn Workman- Administrator
HELPFUL BUILDING GUIDELINES - Swimming Pools
The following information shall apply to all privately owned swimming pools in Unincorporated Tazewell County

Location
1. The pool must be at least 5 feet from walls, landscaping elements, trees and other appurtenances.
2. The pool must be at least 10 linear feet and 18 feet diagonally from electric service lines.
3. The pool must be at least 10 feet from all principle or accessory structures, *excluding decks*.
4. The pool must meet accessory structure setbacks for the zoning district in which it is being placed.
5. The pool may NOT be placed in any front yard or located between a principle structure and any adjacent right-of-way.
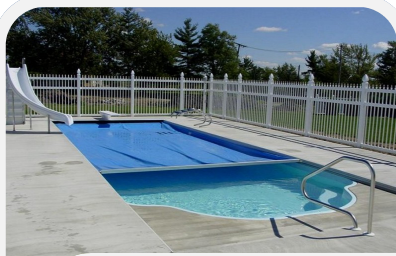
Barriers and Fences
There must be a perimeter barrier (fence) of not less than 5 feet above grade around **ALL** pools, including storable pools, except those portions of the enclosure where there is a building (dwelling/accessory structure) which serves as a portion of the barrier.

Where the wall of a dwelling serves as part of the barrier for a <u>In-ground Pool</u>, one of the following conditions must be met;

a. The pool shall be equipped with a Power Safety Cover compliant with ASTM 1346: OR
b. Doors with direct access shall be equipped with an alarm with a audible warning when the door and/or screen (if present) are opened. The alarm shall be compliant with UL 2017 and the deactivation switch located not less than 54" above the threshold of the door.

(Alternative means of protection, other than A or B listed above may be approved by the Community Development Administrator as long as the degree of protection is not less than those described.)

The sides of an <u>Above Ground Pool</u> may serve as a barrier if they are a minimum of 5 feet above grade or equipped with barrier, the top edge not being less than 5 feet above grade (see illustration). This barrier may not allow the passage of less than a 4" sphere. The ladder or steps shall be capable of being secured, locked or removed to prevent access. If none of these provisions can be met, an additional barrier method must be installed.

Fence Requirements
There may not be less than 2" between grade and the bottom edge of the barrier (fence). Openings in the barrier may not allow the passage of more than a 4" diameter sphere. Spacing between vertical members may not exceed 4", when the horizontal supports are more than 45" apart and no more than 1-3/4" when the horizontal supports are less than 45" apart. The horizontal supports must also be placed on the pool side. Decorative cutouts may not exceed 1-3/4" in width. Openings in chain-link fence may not exceed 2-3/8".
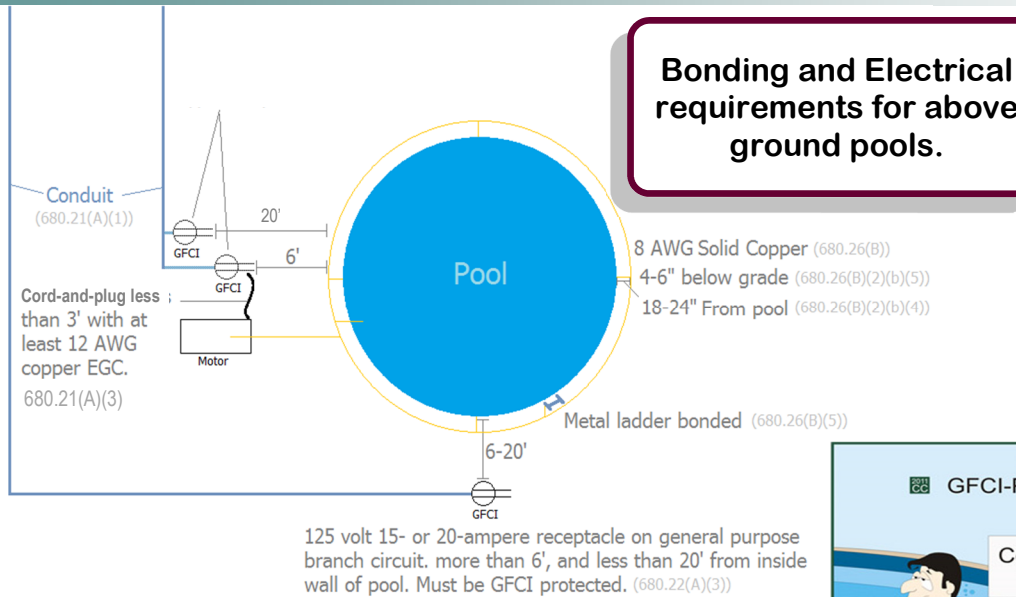
All gates must be equipped with a self-closing and self-latching device located at the top of the gate on the pool side, which must be installed at least 48" above grade. The gate must remain closed and locked when the pool is not in use.

There may be no fixed objects, tree limbs etc., adjacent or extending over the fence that may be used by a child to climb over the fence.
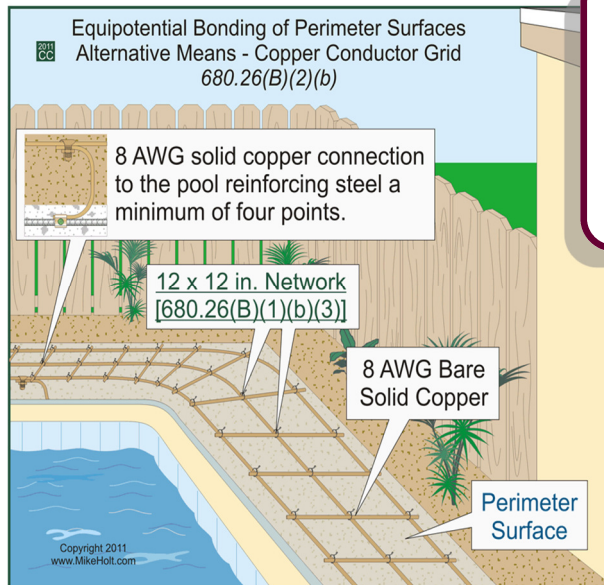
If necessary, a temporary barrier may be placed around the pool until all permit requirements have been met. The temporary barrier must be at least 48" above grade and must be vertically supported at not less than 10' intervals and maintained in an upright position.

Bonding and Electrical requirements for above ground pools.

Conduit (680.21(A)(1))

GFCI

20'

6'

GFCI

Cord-and-plug less than 3' with at least 12 AWG copper EGC.
680.21(A)(3)

Motor

Pool

8 AWG Solid Copper (680.26(B))
4-6" below grade (680.26(B)(2)(b)(5))
18-24" From pool (680.26(B)(2)(b)(4))

Metal ladder bonded (680.26(B)(5))

6-20'

GFCI

125 volt 15- or 20-ampere receptacle on general purpose branch circuit. more than 6', and less than 20' from inside wall of pool. Must be GFCI protected. (680.22(A)(3))

Storable Pools. Those that are constructed on or above the ground and are capable of holding water to a maximum 42inches or a pool with nonmetallic, molded polymeric walls or inflatable fabric walls regardless of dimension.
Permits are required!

**Storable Pools
GFCI-Protected Receptacles
*680.32***

Cord with Integral GFCI Protection [680.31]

GFCI protection is required for all 15A and 20A, 125V receptacles located within 20 ft of a storable swimming pool.

**Equipotential Bonding of Perimeter Surfaces
Alternative Means - Copper Conductor Grid
*680.26(B)(2)(b)***

8 AWG solid copper connection to the pool reinforcing steel a minimum of four points.

12 x 12 in. Network [680.26(B)(1)(b)(3)]

8 AWG Bare Solid Copper

Perimeter Surface

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Conductive pools shells shall be bonded. Vinyl liners and fiberglass composite shells shall be considered to be non-conductive materials.

**Bonded Parts
Fixed Metal Parts
*680.26(B)(7)***

Equipotential Bonding Grid

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Fixed metal parts must be bonded to the equipotential grid, including but not limited to, metal-sheathed cables and raceways, metal piping, metal awnings, metal fences, and metal door and window frames.
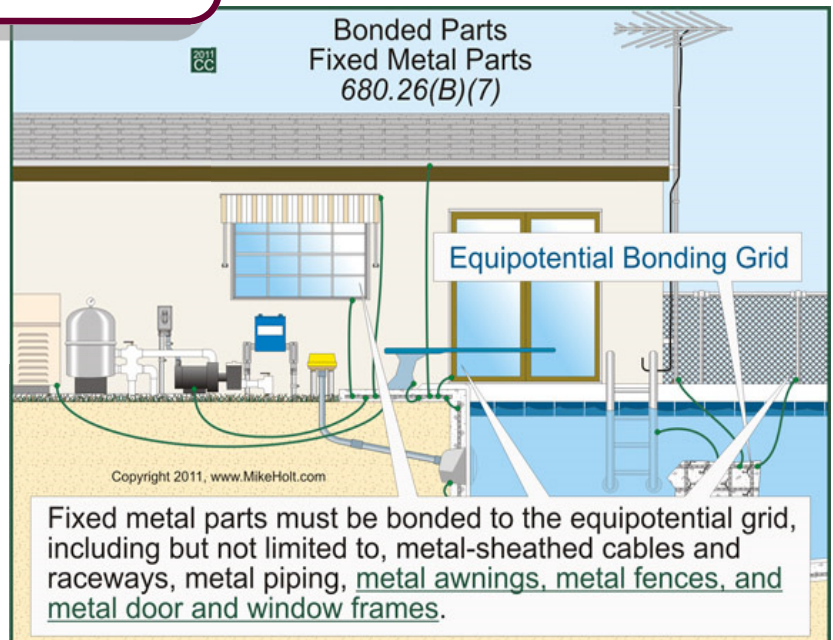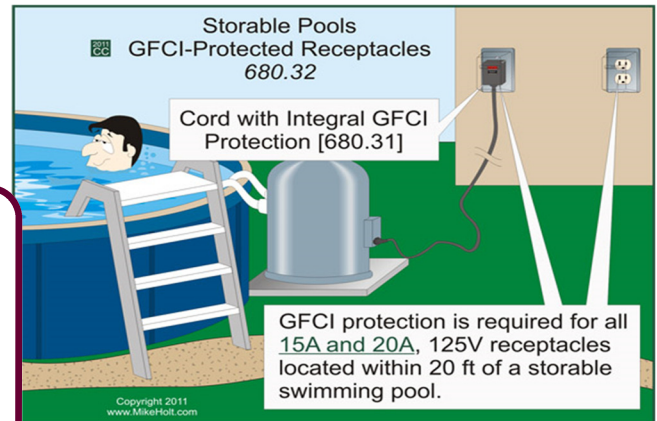
Other;

Metallic Components. All Metallic components of the pool structure including reinforcing metal not addressed in 680.26 (B)1(a) shall be bonded. Where reinforcing steel is encapsulated with a nonconductive compound, the reinforcing steel shall not be required to be bonded.

Underwater Lighting. All metal forming shells and mounting brackets of no-niche luminaires shall be bonded.

Metal Fittings. All metal fittings within or attached to the pool structure shall be bonded.

Electrical Equipment. Metal parts of the electrical equipment associated with the pool water circulating system, including pump motors and metal parts of the equipment associated with the pool covers, including motors, shall be bonded.

Fixed Metal Parts, Exceptions;
1. Parts separated by a permanent barrier which prevents contact by a person shall not be required to be bonded.
2. Parts more than 5' horizontally off the inside walls of the pool shall not be required to be bonded.
3. Parts greater than 12' measured vertically above the max water level of the pool or as measured vertically above an observation stands towers or platforms or any diving structures shall not be required to be bonded.