

# Pools and Hot Tub Requirements

IN ORDER TO PUT UP OR INSTALL A POOL OR HOT TUB IN THE CITY OF JOHNSTON, YOU MUST OBTAIN A PERMIT, SHOW FENCE REQUIREMENTS ARE MET, PASS TWO INSPECTIONS, AND LOCATE PROPERTY LINES.

## OBTAIN A PERMIT

To obtain a pool permit, you will need the following information:

- Permit Application for pool – pick up at Building Department Office in City Hall
- Permit application for electrical and/or plumbing, if applicable
- Permit application for fence, if applicable – See “Fence Requirement”
- Site Plan showing arrow pointing north & labeled N or North, location of house, deck, accessory structures, septic & laterals, as well as location of pool, hot tub, location of fence and gates, and type and width of easements.
- After submitting the Building Permit to the city, the Permit Application Review takes a maximum of five (5) working days.

## PROPERTY LINES

- The City of Johnston does not locate property lines.
- The Building Department can provide you with a plat map showing a property’s dimensions.

## INSPECTIONS

- An inspection is required for footings (in-ground pool), electric, and once the construction is complete.
- Inspections can typically be scheduled the same day as requested. To schedule, call the Building Permit Technician at (515) 727-7778.



City of Johnston  
Building Department  
6221 Merle Hay Road  
PO Box 410  
Johnston, IA 50131-0410  
Ph: (515) 727-7778  
Fax (515) 278-2033

[www.cityofjohnston.com](http://www.cityofjohnston.com)  
[buildingdepartment@ci.johnston.ia.us](mailto:buildingdepartment@ci.johnston.ia.us)



## GENERAL GUIDELINES

1. Any structure intended for swimming, recreational bathing or wading capable of containing water 24” deep or more. This includes in-ground, above-ground, and on-ground pools; hot tubs; spas.
2. A six foot high non-climbable fence with a self-locking gate is required for all pools:
  - A. The fence can be around the perimeter of the property or around the pool.
  - B. If the fence is around the pool, it must be four feet from the pool’s edge or can be mounted on top of the pool structure as per manufacturer’s design.
  - C. If the house wall(s) serves as part of the fence, one of the following is required:
    1. Doors with direct access to the pool shall be equipped with an alarm which emits an audible warning when the door and its screen are opened. Please check the Building Code for length of time alarm must sound, loudness of alarm, automatic reset of alarm, etc.
    2. The pool shall be equipped with a City Approved power safety cover.
    3. Other means of protection, such as City approved self-closing doors with self-latching devices.
3. A fence is not required for hot tubs with City approved locking covers.
4. Restrictive covenants are the responsibility of the property owner.
5. Please refer to City of Johnston Fence requirements hand out for further information.



**Call Before You Dig!**  
**1-800-292-8989**

Notification service for locating underground