

St. Louis County Department of Public Works		SECTION: Code Enforcement
BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION		INTERPRETATION NO: CI \ B-01-05
		EFFECTIVE: May 16, 2005
SUBJECT: INFLATABLE SWIMMING POOLS & SIMILAR ABOVE-GROUND POOL STRUCTURES		
Purpose:	The purpose of this Code Interpretation is to clarify the Code Enforcement Division's interpretation and application of the Building Code with respect to inflatable swimming pools.	
Scope:	This interpretation pertains to inflatable swimming pools and similar seasonal type above-ground pool structures accessory to a single-family dwelling.	
Code in Effect:	BOCA National Building Code/1999, Section 421.0 Swimming Pools.	
Question 1 :	Are inflatable swimming pools regulated by the Building Code?	
Answer:	Yes, all swimming pools that are 24" or more in depth, or that are 250 square feet or larger in area, or that are equipped with a water-recirculating system are required to conform to the regulations in Building Code Section 421.0, Swimming Pools. (Reference Code Section 421.1).	
Question 2 :	Is a permit required for an inflatable pool?	
Answer:	Yes, when the pool is of the depth, size, or type (see question # 1 above), regulated by the Building Code. (Reference Code Sections 421.3 & 421.1).	
Question 3 :	How is the pool depth measured?	
Answer:	The pool depth shall be measured from the bottom of the pool to a point 2" below the top of the pool wall. (Reference Sections 421.1 & 421.2).	
Question 4 :	Must plans and information submitted for an inflatable pool permit be prepared and sealed by a Missouri Professional Engineer?	
Answer:	No, plans for inflatable and other manufactured above-ground pools that are 42" or less in depth do not need to be sealed by an engineer. Brochures, or preferably the installation instructions, of the inflatable or manufactured pool may be provided in lieu of detailed plans for the pool itself.	
Question 5 :	Must a new permit be obtained for each new season that the inflatable pool is installed?	
Answer:	No, once a permit is obtained for the installation of an inflatable pool, the pool may be placed in the <u>same</u> location for each subsequent swimming season thereafter provided the "barrier" (fence, enclosure, etc.) has been maintained and other regulations are still in compliance. It is the homeowner/occupants responsibility to have a copy of the issued permit and "approved plans" on the premises available for view by the inspector upon request at any time. An inflatable pool that was not previously authorized by a permit shall not be installed for a new season until the required permit is obtained. (Reference Code Sections 421.3 & 105.6)	
Comments	Inflatable pools present the same hazards to young children and adults as any other swimming pool. "Barriers" (enclosures) to prevent young children from gaining unsupervised access to the pool must be provided, etc. to ensure safety.	
	Prepared by: David R. Kasl, RA, CBO Manager of Permits/Plan Review	Issued by: Michael E. Werner, P.E. Deputy Public Works Director Code Enforcement