The information in this handout provides general guidelines for the City of Bellflower Residential Pool and/or Spa permitting process. To obtain complete information for your project, please contact our friendly staff in person or over the phone at Planning (562) 804-1424 ext. 2225 or Building and Safety (562) 804-1424 ext. 2274, during business hours (Monday through Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and alternating Fridays from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.).

What is required if I want to build a pool and/or spa?

As each project is unique and requirements can vary per project, we recommend you first visit the City of Bellflower Planning Department counter to discuss your pool and/or spa project. Your project must be in compliance with current zoning codes and set-back requirements. For every residential pool and/or spa project in the City of Bellflower, site plans are required to be submitted, reviewed and approved by various city departments before building permit issuance. The City of Bellflower highly recommends using the services of registered licensed professionals to design and provide all necessary documentation for the submittal and review process. Construction or modification of a swimming pool and/or spa must meet all applicable 2016 California Building Codes. The following information is required on the submittal set of plans:

- Property address, property owner, Assessor Parcel Number (APN), contractor’s information.
- Plans must correctly identify and comply with current 2016 California Building Codes.
- Site Plan (show existing structures, proposed location of swimming pool and/or spa, and property lines. Show and label all slopes on the property.
- Show location of pool equipment and provide specifications for all new equipment.
- Structural details for pool construction must be included.
- Clearly show proposed pool enclosure.
- Provide Plumbing and Mechanical Plan.
- Provide Electrical Plan, including bonding details.
- Provide Erosion and Sediment Control Plan.
- Show type of decking surrounding pool and/or spa on the plans.
- Soils Report

Swimming Pool Safety Act for existing pools:

Revisions to the California Health & Safety Code Section 115920, known as the Swimming Pool Safety Act, came into effect January 1, 2008. Section 115928.5 states “whenever a building permit is issued for the remodel or modification of an existing swimming pool, toddler pool, or spa, the permit shall require that the suction outlet or suction outlets of the existing swimming pool, toddler pool, or spa be upgraded so as to be equipped with anti-entrapment grates, as specified in the ANSI/APSP-16 performance standard or a successor standard designated by the federal Consumer Product Safety Commission."

A Pool Enclosure is Required!

Every pool must be provided with a Pool Enclosure and Pool Barrier, which separates the pool and/or spa from the neighboring properties, residences, and adjoining public areas. General requirements for a pool barrier (fence) is (1) A minimum height of 5’ (60") measured on outside of fence, (2) The fence should be non-climbable, with no openings greater than 4”, (3) Pool barrier gates must be minimum 5’ (60") high, non-climbable, shall swing away from pool area, and need to be self-closing and self-latching, and (4) Gate latch shall be located at minimum 54” above the finished floor. For full details on pool enclosures, please refer to the 2016 California Building Code. No pool shall be filled with water before the pool enclosure and pool barrier is inspected and approval by building inspector.