

Pool owners are responsible for the safety of their pool and surrounding installations, which includes ensuring compliance with both municipal and provincial regulations.

All owners of outdoor residential pools must complete and submit the mandatory declaration and self-assessment form online.



**westmount.org/  
poolsafety**

**Beginning in the summer  
of 2025, City of Westmount  
inspectors will be circulating  
on the territory to verify  
whether pools comply with  
regulatory requirements.**

Introduced in July 2010, the **Residential Swimming Pool Safety Regulation** is a provincial law that all municipalities are required to enforce. Its main goal is to prevent child drownings by restricting access to residential pools through safety measures such as secure fencing. In May 2021, the *Ministère des Affaires municipales et de l'Habitation* announced a revision of the regulation that puts an end to grandfathering for pools built before November 1, 2010. The obligation to comply applies to all owners of pools and spas of 2000 litres or more, **including those installed before 2010.**

**As of September 30, 2025,  
all residential pools must  
comply with this regulation.**

Fines ranging from \$500 to \$1,000 per day could be imposed for any pool or spa that does not comply with the regulation.



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# RESIDENTIAL POOL SAFETY

**Summary of provincial and municipal  
regulations on residential pool safety.**



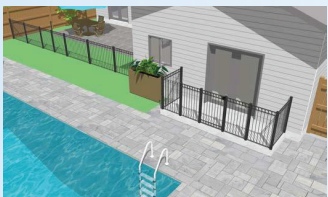
# ENCLOSURE



The pool, whether in-ground or semi-inground, must be enclosed by a fence. Hedges or shrubs cannot serve as an enclosure.

## Compliance requirements:

Minimum height of 1.2 m on the outside of the enclosure, measured from the ground.  
Maximum distance of 10 cm between bars and/or between the ground and the bottom of the enclosure.  
No attachments, protrusions, or parts that could be used for climbing.



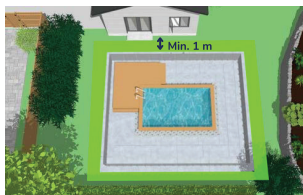
A wall may form part of an enclosure, but must not have any openings that allow access into the enclosure.

## Compliance requirements:

No windows located less than 3 m above the ground, unless their openings are restricted so that a spherical object larger than 10 cm in diameter cannot pass through.  
No door providing direct access to the pool (an enclosure that locks automatically may be installed around a door).

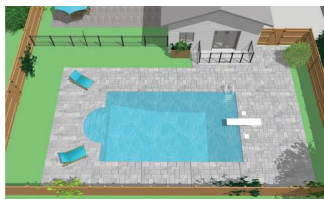
**This document is for informational purposes only. It is the pool owner's responsibility to refer to the applicable planning by-laws and any other relevant standards, as required.**

# EQUIPMENT



All fixed pool equipment or structures (playground equipment, retaining wall, etc.) that could be used to climb over the enclosure wall must be installed more than 1 m away from the enclosure wall when placed outside of it (some exceptions may apply).

# DIVING BOARD



A pool equipped with a diving board must be installed in accordance with the *Bureau de normalisation du Québec* (BNQ) Standard 9461-100.

## Work that requires permits:

The construction, renovation, or replacement of a swimming pool.  
The installation of fences, enclosures, walkways, or patios connected to a pool.  
The installation or relocation of mechanical equipment.

Minor modifications to an existing enclosure (changing or adding a latch, adding a door closer, etc.) do not require a permit.

# GATE



Each gate of an enclosure must meet the same compliance requirements as the main enclosure, and must include a safety device that allows the gate to close and lock automatically.

## Safety device locations:

Inside the enclosure at the top part of the gate.  
Outside the enclosure at a minimum height of 1.5 m above the ground.

## Additional regulations:

Above-ground pools and portable pools are prohibited.  
At least one ladder must be present in the deep end of a private pool.  
A pool must have a clear space at least 1.22 m wide around its entire perimeter and be surrounded by a non-slip surface covering at least 60% of its perimeter.  
The only permitted materials for fences are wood (painted or stained), metal, stone, brick, concrete, and/or combinations of the same.