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Our Ref:
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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the definition of a Swimming Pool?

Any excavation or structure containing water and principally used for swimming, wading, paddling, or the like, including a wading pool or spa pool, which has the capacity to contain water that is more than 300mm deep. It does not include a spa bath, as a spa bath is typically located in a bathroom and only filled immediately prior to being used then drained after each use.

What about dams, stock troughs, ponds, creeks and lakes?

These do not meet the definition of a swimming pool and are not required to have a compliant barrier.

How much do barrier inspections cost?

Presently, it costs each property that is required to have inspection \$78.00 per year. This cost is added to the property rates notice and is paid at the same time the property rates is paid.

Who organises the inspection?

The Shire of Chittering will contact you when the inspection is due and carry out the inspection. Alternative, a swimming pool owner can choose to use a private contractor to inspect the swimming pool barrier, and have a 'compliance certificate' submitted to the Shire.

My swimming pool was approved without a swimming pool barrier. Am I required to construct one?

Yes. The Building Commission have determined that any swimming pool without a compliant barrier can be considered 'dangerous', and is then subject to compliance with the Regulations.

If the Shire does resolve to implement 4-yearly swimming pool barrier inspection over the whole Shire, there will be a proposed grace period of up to 4 years if the pool is registered with the Shire. This will enable those without a swimming pool barrier enough time to have one installed. This will not apply however, if a property is sold during this time.

Notwithstanding, if the Shire of Chittering staff become aware of a swimming pool without a barrier, a compliant barrier needs to be installed immediately.

If the Regulations are modified, can I get an exemption?

No. You will need to provide a compliance certificate to the Shire of Chittering every 4 years either from the Shire of Chittering, or an authorised private contractor.