

**Columbia County, Florida
Building Department**
135 NE Hernando Avenue
Lake City, Florida 32055
Phone: 386-758-1008

www.columbiacountyfla.com

NOTICE TO SWIMMING POOL OWNERS

I, _____, have been informed and I understand that prior to the final inspection approval and use of my pool, I will need all the inspections approved and the required fencing installed in accordance with applicable regulations. The Florida Building Code requires private residential swimming pools, hot tubs, or non-portable spas containing water over 24 inches deep to meet the following pool barrier safety feature requirements:

- The pool access must be isolated by a barrier at least 4 feet high and installed around the perimeter of the pool unless the pool is equipped with a safety cover complying with the specifications of American Society Testing and Materials standard F-1346-91.
- The barrier shall not have any gaps or openings which would allow a child to crawl under, squeeze through or climb over and must be placed no less than 20 inches from the water's edge.
- Gates located in the pool barrier must open outward away from the pool and be both self-closing and self-latching, with a release mechanism not less than 54" above the standing surface at the gate.
- The barrier must be separate from any other fence, wall, or other enclosure surrounding the yard unless the fence, wall, or other enclosure portion thereof is situated on the perimeter of the pool and meets the pool barrier requirements.
- Where a wall of a dwelling serves as part of the barrier, one of the following shall apply:
 - All doors and first floor windows with a sill height of less than 48" providing direct access from the home to the pool must be equipped with an alarm that has a minimum sound pressure rating of 95 decibels at 10 feet. The alarm shall sound immediately upon opening the window or door unless the temporary bypass mechanism is activated OR
 - All doors providing direct access from the home to the pool must be equipped with a self-closing, self-latching device with a release mechanism located at least 54" above the floor.

According to Florida Statutes, Chapter 515: Residential Swimming Pool Safety Act, failure to comply with these requirements is a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable by imprisonment for up to 60 days or a fine of up to \$500, except that no penalty shall be imposed if with 45 days after arrest or issuance of a summons or notice to appear, the pool is equipped with the aforementioned safety features and the responsible person attends a drowning prevention education program developed by the Florida Department of Health. I also understand that there are several inspections required in addition to a final inspection for my swimming pool.

Owner's Signature

Date

Address: _____

Contractor Signature

Date

License Number