

# Swimming Pool Safety Required Upgrades

CNI-032

**Purpose:** To provide information on the State law requirement to upgrade existing swimming pools, toddler pools and spas by installing an anti-entrapment cover designed to eliminate safety hazards over the suction outlet.

Effective January 1, 2007, the California Health and Safety Code was modified to require the installation of pool anti-entrapment covers in existing pools and spas. The following is an excerpt from the California Health and Safety Code, Section 115928(d):

"Whenever a building permit is issued for the remodel or modification of a single family home with an existing swimming pool, toddler pool, or spa, the permit shall require that the suction outlet of the existing swimming pool, toddler pool, or spa be upgraded so as to be equipped with an anti-entrapment cover meeting current standards of the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) or the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME)."

**Procedure:** The following procedure will be followed when a building permit application is submitted to remodel or modify a single family dwelling located on property with an existing swimming pool, toddler pool or spa. Remodel or modification to a single family dwelling includes, but is not limited to, such work as water heater replacement, re-roof and electrical upgrades.

1. The Swimming Pool/Spa Declaration is completed by the applicant who will indicate whether or not there is an existing pool or spa on the property. The Declaration will be submitted with the building permit for the remodel or modification to the single family dwelling. A copy will be provided to the applicant for Step 5 below. Although a permit is not required for the installation of the anti-entrapment cover, this work must be indicated on plans and/or added to the scope of work in the permit description for the single family dwelling. No additional fees will be charged.
2. If the applicant does not know if there is an existing pool or spa on the property, the applicant shall check "don't know" and sign the Declaration. The applicant shall then be advised that the inspector will require the anti-entrapment cover be installed and the Declaration completed if there is an existing pool or spa on the property before the building permit can be finalized.
3. An additional building permit is required if the pool must be altered to install an additional suction outlet. Contact a licensed pool contractor for additional information.
4. Applicant shall retain the packaging and documentation for the anti-entrapment cover for inspector verification.
5. The installation certification portion of the Declaration must be completed and provided to the building inspector at final inspection before final approval.

## Sonoma County Permit and Resource Management Department

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