

Standard Conditions of Approval for Swimming Pools proposed near Wetlands and Watercourses

The Conservation Commission has adopted a policy establishing the following conditions of approval for swimming pools proposed near wetlands and watercourses, including those in coastal flood hazard areas regulated under the Waterway Protection Line Ordinance. Each condition will be applied as applicable. The purpose of this memo is to alert the reader of these conditions so that they may be incorporated into the design specifications either prior to applying for a permit or so that they will be conditions of a permit. The purpose of the conditions is to better protect water quality.

1. The pool is to be serviced by a diatomaceous earth, sand/cartridge or some other kind of re-circulating, closed filter system.
2. Pool chemicals should be stored in an enclosed container in an enclosed area preferably above the 100 year flood elevation. Pool equipment should be located at or above the 100 year flood elevation.
3. When pools are proposed in an area that abuts a waterway or wetland, a vegetated buffer should be maintained between the pool and the waterway or wetland.
4. Alternative use of chlorine for sanitation should be sought from the pool company. These include: salt chlorine generators, ozonators, ionizers, or mineral purifiers.
5. Pools should be covered over the winter or when they will not be in use for long periods of time, i.e. three (3) or more months.
6. When discharging pool water at the end of the season for winterization, no direct discharge to a watercourse or wetland is allowed; a 50ft separating distance with some kind of energy dissipation at end of hose is required.
7. The pool water to be discharged shall have a pH between 6.5 and 8.5. The chlorine level shall be less than 0.1 mg/l and not cause foaming or discoloration of the receiving waters.