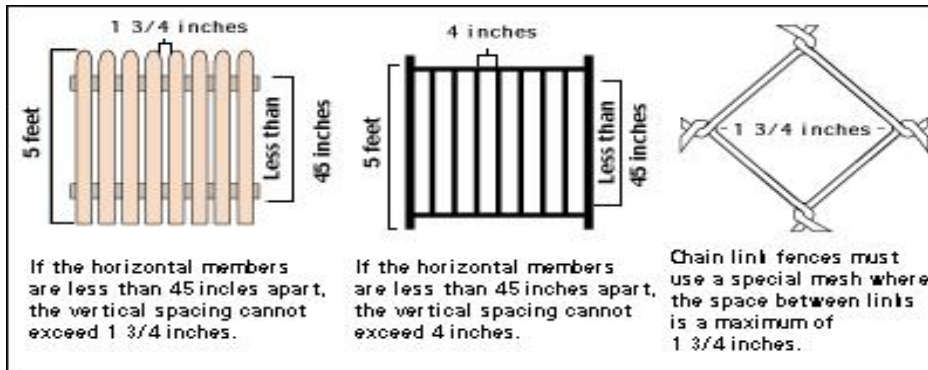


## Protective Fence Barrier Mecklenburg County Requirements



### Mecklenburg County Ordinance

(b) Residential swimming pools shall be protected by a fence, wall, building, or other enclosure, or any combination thereof, which completely encloses the swimming pool area such that all of the following conditions are met:

- (1) A 44 inch minimum height (from the outside approach) is provided entirely around the swimming pool;
  - (2) The horizontal space between vertical members of the enclosure shall not exceed four inches;
  - (3) The height of any opening under the bottom of the enclosure shall not exceed four inches (10 cm)
  - (4) Openings under and through a fence or barrier with the gate(s) closed shall be sized so that a 4 inch diameter sphere cannot be passed through the opening.
  - (5) All gates and doors shall be equipped with self-closing and positive self-latching closure mechanisms and shall be capable of being locked.
  - (6) Self-closing, self-latching gates shall not be required for service gates which are kept locked except when being actively used when at least one separate gate meeting all the requirements of Section 7(b)(1) through Section 7(b)(5) are met.
- (c) The wall of an aboveground swimming pool shall be considered an effective barrier in areas where it complies with the height requirements required in Section 7(b)(1). When the pool wall serves as a portion of the barrier, stairs allowing access to the pool shall be removed when bathers are not using the pool or in attendance unless a gate or gates meeting the requirements of Section 7(b)(1) through 7(b)(5) are installed to limit access to the stairs.
- (d) All residential pool enclosures shall be completed at the time the pool is allowed to contain water.

***\*experts recommend the barrier be a full four sided fence and not include as one of the sides, one of the walls of the house, if that wall has a door leading from the inside of the house to the pool, as a majority of children are last seen by caregivers in the house before they disappear. If you do allow your house to be one side of the barrier, an alarm should be placed on the door for unexpected openings.***

\* Consideration should also be given to the type of fence as chain link fences are easier for children to climb than other types of fences.