

OUR FIRST PRIORITY IS SAFETY!

Drowning continues to be one of the leading causes of accidental death for Australian children under 5 years of age and 67% of these occur in swimming pools.

A large number of drownings still occur due to faulty or non-compliant barriers.

At Shoalhaven City Council, our first priority is safety.

Our aim is to help you avoid the tragedy of a child drowning in a pool that you own.

Whether you have a new or existing pool or spa, our Compliance Officers can advise you on the correct Child Resistant Barriers you need. These barriers are the best defence in preventing children from drowning when you are not there.

Let's work together to keep our children safe.

A pool that complies, saves lives.

IT'S YOUR RESPONSIBILITY.

- If you own a pool, you are legally required to have a compliant, child-resistant safety barrier.
- All gates must be self-closing and self-latching.
- Never prop open your pool gate.
- Climbable objects such as furniture, toys, pot plants and BBQs should be removed from around the barrier.
- Secure a resuscitation CPR chart to your barrier inside the pool area.
- Teach your children to swim.
- Always supervise children when they are swimming or are in the pool area.
- Encourage your neighbours, friends and family members to erect/install a barrier around their pools and adhere to the safety regulations.
- If you see a non-compliant pool, you can request Council to perform an inspection.

For more information call Council on 1300 293 111 or contact us online.



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Shoalhaven
City Council

A POOL THAT COMPLIES, SAVES LIVES

Swimming pool safety and certification.

A guide for swimming pool and spa pool owners.



What type of pools need barriers?

Permanent swimming pools & swim spa pools.

- Permanent child-resistant barrier with a self-closing and self-latching gate.

Spa pools (also known as Hot Tubs or Jacuzzi).

- Permanent child-resistant barrier or
- Lockable cover

Demountable, inflatable and portable pools.

- ANY pool capable of being filled with water greater than 300mm in depth must have a permanent child-resistant barrier.
- Pools with a smaller depth do not require a barrier but children should still be supervised during use, and the pool emptied after use.

For **Indoor Pools & Spas** contact Council.

There are possible insurance and legal implications for property owners of residential and holiday lettings if their pool is non-compliant.

How to get your swimming pool or spa certified

If you are the owner of a property with a swimming pool or spa, **YOU** are responsible for certification.

Certification is required for properties used for private or holiday letting. Certification is also required for all properties prior to their sale or lease.

To obtain certification, register your pool or spa on the NSW Government's online register.

www.swimmingpoolregister.nsw.gov.au



After registering your pool, contact Shoalhaven City Council to apply for a Certificate of Compliance for a swimming pool.

This certificate certifies that the swimming pool complies with the relevant legislative and safety requirements and will be valid for 3 years, so long as the barrier remains compliant during that time.

What happens when a Swimming Pool Inspector inspects my property?

When you arrange for an inspection, the Officer will do an inspection of the site to see if it meets with the Swimming Pools Act 1992. The Officer will be able to advise you on site whether your pool has met these standards or not.

If your pool is compliant, you will be issued with a Pool Compliance Certificate. If your pool is not compliant, the officer will issue you with a list of items you will need to address before you can be issued with a certificate of compliance.

A Compliance Officer will then follow up with an inspection after this time to see if the pool meets with safety standards. Alternatively, you can organise with Council beforehand to make an appointment for a follow up inspection.

Our aim is to help you achieve certification for your pool however Council may issue fines for people failing to act or properly comply with the Swimming Pools Act 1992.

Shoalhaven City Council's Swimming Pool Compliance Officers are always up-to-date with current legislation regarding child-resistant barriers around all types of swimming pools and spas.

How much does certification cost?

First inspection \$150

Follow up inspections \$100 on each inspection until the swimming pool is certified compliant.

Contact Council for an inspection today 1300 293 111

What does a Compliant Child-Resistant barrier look like?

