

Fact Sheet: Spa Pools & Council Requirements

Spa pools are commonly found in homes throughout Australia. Residents need to be aware that spa pools can be dangerous if not installed correctly.

This fact sheet is provided to help residents understand the requirements surrounding spa pools and swim spas.

Any spa or swimming pool that can hold more than **2000 litres of water** requires a development application. **It is strongly recommended that you contact Council prior to purchasing and installing any spa pool.**

What is a Spa Pool?

A spa pool (also known as a hot tub or jacuzzi) typically contains only seating and water jets and can be subject to the same requirements as an indoor or outdoor pool. However, under the Swimming Pools Regulation 2008, an exemption exists that allows spa pools not to be surrounded by a child-resistant barrier (swimming pool fence) providing the following is provided:

- Spa pool has a lockable child-safe structure (such as a door, lid, grille or mesh), which is of substantial construction and having no opening through which it is possible to pass a testing apparatus*, and is
- Fastened to the spa pool by a device that is itself of substantial construction and having no opening through which it is possible to pass a testing apparatus*.
- **The exemption for a lockable lid does not apply to Spa pools that incorporate any other use such as swim spa or the like.**

** Note: a testing apparatus is defined within Australian Standard AS1926.1 - Swimming Pool Safety Part 1 - Safety Barriers for Swimming Pools.*

The above requirements do not apply to spa pools that contain any others uses such as a **swim spa** or **plunge pool spa or the like.**

Swim Spas & Plunge pools

A swim spa and or plunge pool spa typically contains not only seats but also an area for swimming, usually against a jet. These types of swimming pools are subject to the same requirements as an indoor or outdoor pool and require full isolation swimming pool fencing.

A lockable child-safe structure (such as a door, lid, grille or mesh) is NOT permitted for Swim Spas, plunge pools or the like to comply with the Swimming Pools Act 1992.



If you want any further information, please contact Wagga Wagga City Council on 1300 292 442.