

Barrier Requirements for Outdoor Water Recreation Facilities

Barrier modifications must comply with the WRF regulations:

Water Recreation Facilities (WRF's) serving apartments, health clubs, home owner's associations, motels, condominiums, etc. fall under the jurisdiction of the health district. Modifications to the barrier must comply with the following requirements of WAC 246-260 for Water Recreation Facilities. Call the Spokane Regional Health District Water Recreation Program at 324-1560 ext. 4 for plan review assistance.

Height requirements:

- ▶ Facilities associated with dwelling units (such as apartments, motels, campgrounds, etc.) must have a minimum 5 foot high fence.
- ▶ Outdoor facilities not associated with dwelling units (such as a municipal park) must have a minimum 6 foot high fence.
- ▶ Fence height is measured on the outside of the fence.
- ▶ Local city or county building code requirements may be more strict than the state regulations. Contact your local building department for current building code requirements.

Spacing requirements:

- ▶ Barriers must not allow passage of a 4 inch sphere in any gap in the fence. This includes the space between the bottom of the fence and the ground. (See figure 1 on reverse side.)
- ▶ *Chain Link fences:* **Standard chain link does not meet the barrier requirements.** (See figure 3 on reverse side.)
- ▶ *Ornamental fences such as wrought iron or picket:* (See figure 4 on reverse side.)
- ▶ Solid barriers such as bricks or cinder blocks may not have indentations or protrusions other than normal construction tolerances and masonry joints.

Latch requirements:

- ▶ All entrances to the WRF must have lockable gates or doors, with self-closing mechanisms and **either** :
 - The latch at 60 inches or higher from the ground surface, **or**
 - When the latch is at a lower height, the latching mechanism must be of a type that remains continuously locked, such as a key lock or card lock. The latch must be provided with a solid barrier at least 18 inches wide. (See figure 2 on reverse side.)
- ▶ WRF's that are lifeguarded *at all times* are not required to have self-closing, self-latching gates during the time the pool is in use. Facility gates must be closed and locked during times of nonuse.



Always working for a safer and healthier community

Figure 1. For all Fences

The space under a fence must not exceed 4 inches.



Figure 2. Gate and Latch Detail

When latch height is less than 60 inches from the ground, a continuously locked lock must be provided with an 18 inch solid barrier.

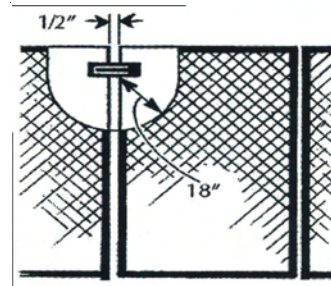
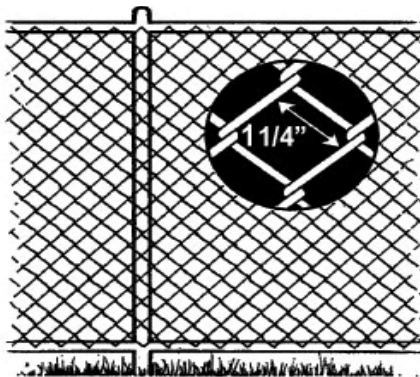


Figure 3. For Chain Link Fences

The mesh size must not exceed 1 1/4 inches along the wire.



For larger meshes, slats may be used to reduce mesh openings to no more than 1 3/4 inches.

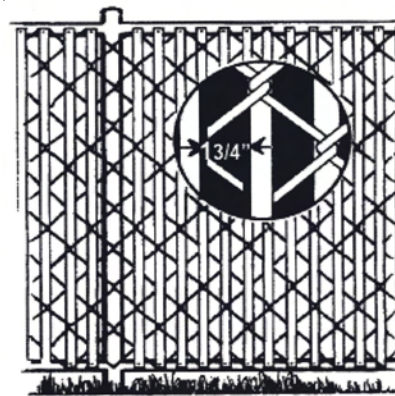
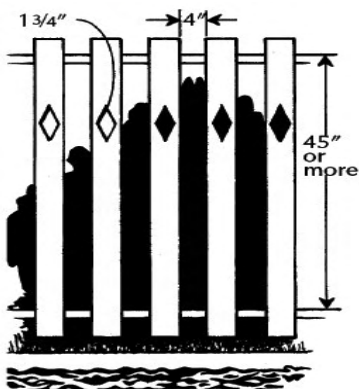


Figure 4. For Ornamental Fences

If tops of horizontal members are greater than 45 inches apart, vertical spacing must not exceed 4 inches.



If tops of horizontal members are less than 45 inches apart, vertical spacing must not exceed 1 3/4 inches.

