



**For Immediate Release
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Permits Required for Above Ground Swimming Pools

Portsmouth, VA -- Portsmouth residents who own or purchase any type of above ground swimming pools that are **capable** of holding more than 24 inches of water must obtain the required permits from the Portsmouth Department of Permits and Inspections. These above ground pools range from the inflatable types that are sold at local retail stores to custom built. This permit requirement, which is mandated by the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code, is enforced on the local level.

Pools create an attractive nuisance for small children which can lead to water-related injuries and fatalities. Safety features are required for pools that include fencing, specific gate requirements, and alarms on household doors.

Citizens are advised to obtain the required permits, install the safety features, as well as read the warning labels on the product carton of the pool that they purchase.

For more information or to receive a free information booklet regarding pool safety requirements, call the Portsmouth Department of Permits and Inspections at (757) 393-8531.

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