

OLCR ♦ Life-Safety Inspections Partnership in Protection

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Highly Toxic Substances

We're often asked if there is a list of "highly toxic" products that must be kept in locked storage. The rule itself contains a specific list, including:

Gasoline	Lighter fluid
Pesticides	Radiator fluid
Bleach	Ammonia
Drain cleaner	Spray paint
Turpentine (mineral spirits, paint thinners, etc.)	

Additionally, the rule includes "other substances that can cause serious bodily harm or death if improperly used." These other substances frequently include:

Oven cleaner	Toilet bowl cleaner
Weed killer	Car fluids
Upholstery cleaner	Pool cleaning supplies
Metal polish	Rubbing alcohol
Lime, rust & calcium removers	

A strong indicator that a substance is highly toxic may be found in the directions for use. If you're directed to wear gloves or only use it in a well ventilated room, the substance is probably highly toxic.

Options for Spas & Hot Tubs

When is a spa not a spa? When it doesn't have water in it. Draining the spa, committing to keeping it drained during the term of the license/certification, and keeping it covered to prevent water from accumulating in it, is an option to the fencing requirement.

Extension Cords

Builders never seem to put in enough outlets! Extension cords are only permitted on a TEMPORARY basis for small appliances and are strictly prohibited for use with major appliances (refrigerators, freezers, ovens, etc.). Rule specifies that major appliances must be plugged "directly into outlets."



Crunching Numbers

Over the past 12 months, OLCR has:

- Conducted more than 3400 inspections.
- Completed 673 of these inspections within **1 week** of our receipt of the inspection request.
- Averaged 19 days between our receipt of a request and our completion of the inspection.

Gloria Moss, our scheduler, frequently calls families within days (sometimes within hours!) of the inspection request being submitted. Care providers should be prepped and ready before their inspection request is even submitted to OLCR. The [rules for life safety inspections](#) are available on our [website](#) and many providers report that having access to this information helped them to pass their inspection with flying colors.

An Extreme Lack of Clean



When does lack of cleanliness cross the line between cluttered and hazardous? There isn't a precise point, but usually, you know it when you see it.

Mold, accumulations of rotting food, and the smell of urine or feces, are indicators of unsanitary living conditions and increase the risk of disease. The accumulation of combustible materials, such as newspapers, clothing, and rubbish can also pose a fire hazard. Escaping a fire can be made impossible due to blocked hallways, doorways, and windows. In addition, public safety personnel's access to the home can be hampered or blocked. An excessive amount of combustible materials in a home may also create an extremely hot, fast-spreading fire that is difficult to suppress.

Don't Fence Me In!

Completely fencing in the patio, and as a result, blocking a route for safe egress from the home, is not an alternative to fencing the pool.



Keep these rules in mind:

If a pool fence attaches to any part of the house:

1. The enclosure cannot interfere with safe egress from the setting.
2. A door from the setting cannot open within the pool enclosure.
3. A window located in a room that is designated as a bedroom for an individual receiving care cannot be positioned within the pool enclosure.
4. Other windows positioned within the pool enclosure must be permanently secured to open no more than 4 inches.

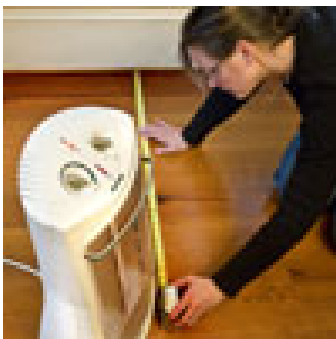
When in doubt – request a pool consult **before** installing a new pool enclosure.

Fire Prevention

The 3 ingredients for fire are: oxygen, fuel, and a source of heat.

- **Oxygen** is just about everywhere.
- **Fuel** = combustibles & flammables, which include rags, paper, cardboard boxes, and most chemicals (turpentine, pesticides, gasoline, oil, cleaning fluids, gasoline).
- **Heat Sources** include hot water heaters, furnaces, portable heaters, fireplaces, gas stoves, and wood-burning stoves.

The basic premise of fire prevention is to keep **Fuel** away from **Heat Sources**; a minimum of **3 feet** away is specified in rule.



Here We Are!

Greetings from our OLCR Inspectors! From left to right, Mike Porch, Kathy Santilli, Ron Porter, and our newest inspector, Gary Berkey.



What's Wrong with this Picture?



Everything!!!

The plus side of this mess is that if you need to grab a few cleaning products on your way out (assuming you can get out), you're in good shape.

Don't learn safety rules by accident

Protect yourself, your family, and those in your care by **preventing** accidents.

The life-safety rules are published in the Arizona Administrative Code, Title 6, Chapter 18, Article 7. For a user-friendly guide to the rules, follow this [link](#) or visit the [DES website](#) and search for life-safety.

This newsletter is brought to you by the Regulatory Support Unit within the DES Office of Licensing, Certification and Regulation (OLCR) and is edited by Kathi Barone, Unit Manager. Please forward any questions, suggestions, or requests to 602-542-9013 or to olcrinspect@azdes.gov

