

**NFPA 70™**

From The 2008 Edition National  
Electrical Code®

**ARTICLE 680**

**Swimming Pools, Fountains and  
Similar Installations**

For the installation of Swimming Pools, Fountains  
and Similar Installations, follow the requirements of  
Article 680 for Electrical Requirements.



NFPA, 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169-7471  
An International Codes and Standards Organization

04/21/2017

*Exception: Grounding shall not be required on machines where all of the following provisions are met:*

- (a) *The machine is electrically controlled but not electrically driven.*
- (b) *The control voltage is 30 volts or less.*
- (c) *The control or signal circuits are current limited as specified in Chapter 9, Tables 11(A) and 11(B).*

**675.13 Methods of Grounding.** Machines that require grounding shall have a non-current-carrying equipment grounding conductor provided as an integral part of each cord, cable, or raceway. This grounding conductor shall be sized not less than the largest supply conductor in each cord, cable, or raceway. Feeder circuits supplying power to irrigation machines shall have an equipment grounding conductor sized according to Table 250.122.

**675.14 Bonding.** Where electrical grounding is required on an irrigation machine, the metallic structure of the machine, metallic conduit, or metallic sheath of cable shall be connected to the grounding conductor. Metal-to-metal contact with a part that is connected to the grounding conductor and the non-current-carrying parts of the machine shall be considered as an acceptable bonding path.

**675.15 Lightning Protection.** If an irrigation machine has a stationary point, a grounding electrode system in accordance with Article 250, Part III, shall be connected to the machine at the stationary point for lightning protection.

**675.16 Energy from More Than One Source.** Equipment within an enclosure receiving electric energy from more than one source shall not be required to have a disconnecting means for the additional source, provided that its voltage is 30 volts or less and it meets the requirements of Part III of Article 725.

**675.17 Connectors.** External plugs and connectors on the equipment shall be of the weatherproof type.

Unless provided solely for the connection of circuits meeting the requirements of Part III of Article 725, external plugs and connectors shall be constructed as specified in 250.124(A).

## II. Center Pivot Irrigation Machines

**675.21 General.** The provisions of Part II are intended to cover additional special requirements that are peculiar to center pivot irrigation machines. See 675.2 for the definition of *Center Pivot Irrigation Machine*.

**675.22 Equivalent Current Ratings.** To establish ratings of controllers, disconnecting means, conductors, and the like, for the inherent intermittent duty of center pivot irri-

gation machines, the determinations in 675.22(A) and (B) shall be used.

**(A) Continuous-Current Rating.** The equivalent continuous-current rating for the selection of branch-circuit conductors and branch-circuit devices shall be equal to 125 percent of the motor nameplate full-load current rating of the largest motor plus 60 percent of the sum of the motor nameplate full-load current ratings of all remaining motors on the circuit.

**(B) Locked-Rotor Current.** The equivalent locked-rotor current rating shall be equal to the numerical sum of two times the locked-rotor current of the largest motor plus 80 percent of the sum of the motor nameplate full-load current ratings of all the remaining motors on the circuit.

## ARTICLE 680 Swimming Pools, Fountains, and Similar Installations

### I. General

**680.1 Scope.** The provisions of this article apply to the construction and installation of electrical wiring for, and equipment in or adjacent to, all swimming, wading, therapeutic, and decorative pools; fountains; hot tubs; spas; and hydromassage bathtubs, whether permanently installed or storable, and to metallic auxiliary equipment, such as pumps, filters, and similar equipment. The term *body of water* used throughout Part I applies to all bodies of water covered in this scope unless otherwise amended.

### 680.2 Definitions.

**Cord-and-Plug-Connected Lighting Assembly.** A lighting assembly consisting of a luminaire intended for installation in the wall of a spa, hot tub, or storable pool, and a cord-and-plug-connected transformer.

**Dry-Niche Luminaire.** A luminaire intended for installation in the wall of a pool or fountain in a niche that is sealed against the entry of pool water.

**Equipment, Fixed.** Equipment that is fastened or otherwise secured at a specific location.

**Equipment, Portable.** Equipment that is actually moved or can easily be moved from one place to another in normal use.

**Equipment, Stationary.** Equipment that is not easily moved from one place to another in normal use.

**Forming Shell.** A structure designed to support a wet-niche luminaire assembly and intended for mounting in a pool or fountain structure.



**Fountain.** Fountains, ornamental pools, display pools, and reflection pools. The definition does not include drinking fountains.

**Hydromassage Bathtub.** A permanently installed bathtub equipped with a recirculating piping system, pump, and associated equipment. It is designed so it can accept, circulate, and discharge water upon each use.

**Maximum Water Level.** The highest level that water can reach before it spills out.

**No-Niche Luminaire.** A luminaire intended for installation above or below the water without a niche.

**Packaged Spa or Hot Tub Equipment Assembly.** A factory-fabricated unit consisting of water-circulating, heating, and control equipment mounted on a common base, intended to operate a spa or hot tub. Equipment can include pumps, air blowers, heaters, lights, controls, sanitizer generators, and so forth.

**Packaged Therapeutic Tub or Hydrotherapeutic Tank Equipment Assembly.** A factory-fabricated unit consisting of water-circulating, heating, and control equipment mounted on a common base, intended to operate a therapeutic tub or hydrotherapeutic tank. Equipment can include pumps, air blowers, heaters, lights, controls, sanitizer generators, and so forth.

**Permanently Installed Decorative Fountains and Reflection Pools.** Those that are constructed in the ground, on the ground, or in a building in such a manner that the fountain cannot be readily disassembled for storage, whether or not served by electrical circuits of any nature. These units are primarily constructed for their aesthetic value and are not intended for swimming or wading.

**Permanently Installed Swimming, Wading, Immersion, and Therapeutic Pools.** Those that are constructed in the ground or partially in the ground, and all others capable of holding water in a depth greater than 1.0 m (42 in.), and all pools installed inside of a building, regardless of water depth, whether or not served by electrical circuits of any nature.

**Pool.** Manufactured or field-constructed equipment designed to contain water on a permanent or semipermanent basis and used for swimming, wading, immersion, or therapeutic purposes.

**Pool Cover, Electrically Operated.** Motor-driven equipment designed to cover and uncover the water surface of a pool by means of a flexible sheet or rigid frame.

**Self-Contained Spa or Hot Tub.** Factory-fabricated unit consisting of a spa or hot tub vessel with all water-circulating, heating, and control equipment integral to the

unit. Equipment can include pumps, air blowers, heaters, lights, controls, sanitizer generators, and so forth.

**Self-Contained Therapeutic Tubs or Hydrotherapeutic Tanks.** A factory-fabricated unit consisting of a therapeutic tub or hydrotherapeutic tank with all water-circulating, heating, and control equipment integral to the unit. Equipment may include pumps, air blowers, heaters, light controls, sanitizer generators, and so forth.

**Spa or Hot Tub.** A hydromassage pool, or tub for recreational or therapeutic use, not located in health care facilities, designed for immersion of users, and usually having a filter, heater, and motor-driven blower. It may be installed indoors or outdoors, on the ground or supporting structure, or in the ground or supporting structure. Generally, a spa or hot tub is not designed or intended to have its contents drained or discharged after each use.

**Storable Swimming, Wading, or Immersion Pool.** Those that are constructed on or above the ground and are capable of holding water to a maximum depth of 1.0 m (42 in.), or a pool with nonmetallic, molded polymeric walls or inflatable fabric walls regardless of dimension.

**Through-Wall Lighting Assembly.** A lighting assembly intended for installation above grade, on or through the wall of a pool, consisting of two interconnected groups of components separated by the pool wall.

**Wet-Niche Luminaire.** A luminaire intended for installation in a forming shell mounted in a pool or fountain structure where the luminaire will be completely surrounded by water.

**680.3 Other Articles.** Except as modified by this article, wiring and equipment in or adjacent to pools and fountains shall comply with other applicable provisions of this *Code*, including those provisions identified in Table 680.3.

**Table 680.3 Other Articles**

Topic	Section or Article
Wiring	Chapters 1–4
Junction box support	314.23
Rigid polyvinyl chloride conduit (Type PVC)	352.12
Reinforced thermosetting resin conduit (Type RTRC)	355.12
Audio Equipment	Article 640, Parts I and II
Adjacent to pools and fountains	640.10
Underwater speakers*	

\*Underwater loudspeakers shall be installed in accordance with 680.27(A).



**680.4 Approval of Equipment.** All electrical equipment installed in the water, walls, or decks of pools, fountains, and similar installations shall comply with the provisions of this article.

**680.5 Ground-Fault Circuit Interrupters.** Ground-fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs) shall be self-contained units, circuit-breaker or receptacle types, or other listed types.

**680.6 Grounding.** Electrical equipment shall be grounded in accordance with Parts V, VI, and VII of Article 250 and connected by wiring methods of Chapter 3, except as modified by this article. The following equipment shall be grounded:

- (1) Through-wall lighting assemblies and underwater luminaires, other than those low-voltage lighting products listed for the application without a grounding conductor
- (2) All electrical equipment located within 1.5 m (5 ft) of the inside wall of the specified body of water
- (3) All electrical equipment associated with the recirculating system of the specified body of water
- (4) Junction boxes
- (5) Transformer enclosures
- (6) Ground-fault circuit interrupters
- (7) Panelboards that are not part of the service equipment and that supply any electrical equipment associated with the specified body of water

**680.7 Cord-and-Plug-Connected Equipment.** Fixed or stationary equipment, other than underwater luminaires, for a permanently installed pool shall be permitted to be con-

nected with a flexible cord and plug to facilitate the removal or disconnection for maintenance or repair.

**(A) Length.** For other than storable pools, the flexible cord shall not exceed 900 mm (3 ft) in length.

**(B) Equipment Grounding.** The flexible cord shall have a copper equipment grounding conductor sized in accordance with 250.122 but not smaller than 12 AWG. The cord shall terminate in a grounding-type attachment plug.

**(C) Construction.** The equipment grounding conductors shall be connected to a fixed metal part of the assembly. The removable part shall be mounted on or bonded to the fixed metal part.

**680.8 Overhead Conductor Clearances.** Overhead conductors shall meet the clearance requirements in this section. Where a minimum clearance from the water level is given, the measurement shall be taken from the maximum water level of the specified body of water.

**(A) Power.** With respect to service drop conductors and open overhead wiring, swimming pool and similar installations shall comply with the minimum clearances given in Table 680.8 and illustrated in Figure 680.8.

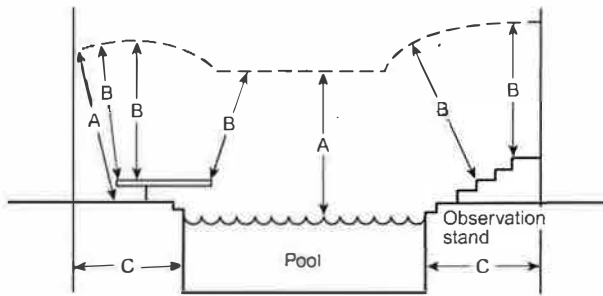
FPN: Open overhead wiring as used in this article typically refers to conductor(s) not in an enclosed raceway.

**(B) Communications Systems.** Communication, radio, and television coaxial cables within the scope of Articles 800 through 820 shall be permitted at a height of not less

**Table 680.8 Overhead Conductor Clearances**

Clearance Parameters	Insulated Cables, 0–750 Volts to Ground, Supported on and Cabled Together with a Solidly Grounded Bare Messenger or Solidly Grounded Neutral Conductor		All Other Conductors Voltage to Ground			
	m	ft	0 through 15 kV		Over 15 through 50 kV	
			m	ft	m	ft
A. Clearance in any direction to the water level, edge of water surface, base of diving platform, or permanently anchored raft	6.9	22.5	7.5	25	8.0	27
B. Clearance in any direction to the observation stand, tower, or diving platform	4.4	14.5	5.2	17	5.5	18
C. Horizontal limit of clearance measured from inside wall of the pool	This limit shall extend to the outer edge of the structures listed in A and B of this table but not to less than 3 m (10 ft).					





**Figure 680.8 Clearances from Pool Structures.**

than 3.0 m (10 ft) above swimming and wading pools, diving structures, and observation stands, towers, or platforms.

**(C) Network-Powered Broadband Communications Systems.** The minimum clearances for overhead network-powered broadband communications systems conductors from pools or fountains shall comply with the provisions in Table 680.8 for conductors operating at 0 to 750 volts to ground.

**680.9 Electric Pool Water Heaters.** All electric pool water heaters shall have the heating elements subdivided into loads not exceeding 48 amperes and protected at not over 60 amperes. The ampacity of the branch-circuit conductors and the rating or setting of overcurrent protective devices shall not be less than 125 percent of the total nameplate-rated load.

**680.10 Underground Wiring Location.** Underground wiring shall not be permitted under the pool or within the area extending 1.5 m (5 ft) horizontally from the inside wall of the pool unless this wiring is necessary to supply pool equipment permitted by this article. Where space limitations prevent wiring from being routed a distance 1.5 m (5 ft) or more from the pool, such wiring shall be permitted where installed in complete raceway systems of rigid metal conduit, intermediate metal conduit, or a nonmetallic raceway system. All metal conduit shall be corrosion resistant and suitable for the location. The minimum cover depth shall be as given in Table 680.10.

**680.11 Equipment Rooms and Pits.** Electrical equipment shall not be installed in rooms or pits that do not have drainage that adequately prevents water accumulation during normal operation or filter maintenance.

**680.12 Maintenance Disconnecting Means.** One or more means to simultaneously disconnect all ungrounded conductors shall be provided for all utilization equipment other than lighting. Each means shall be readily accessible and within sight from its equipment and shall be located at least 1.5 m (5 ft) horizontally from the inside walls of a pool, spa, or hot tub unless separated from the open water by a

**Table 680.10 Minimum Cover Depths**

Wiring Method	Minimum Cover	
	mm	in.
Rigid metal conduit	150	6
Intermediate metal conduit	150	6
Nonmetallic raceways listed for direct burial without concrete encasement	450	18
Other approved raceways*	450	18

\*Raceways approved for burial only where concrete encased shall require a concrete envelope not less than 50 mm (2 in.) thick.

permanently installed barrier that provides a 1.5 m (5 ft) reach path or greater. This horizontal distance is to be measured from the water's edge along the shortest path required to reach the disconnect.

## II. Permanently Installed Pools

**680.20 General.** Electrical installations at permanently installed pools shall comply with the provisions of Part I and Part II of this article.

### 680.21 Motors.

**(A) Wiring Methods.** The wiring to a pool motor shall comply with (A)(1) unless modified for specific circumstances by (A)(2), (A)(3), (A)(4), or (A)(5).

**(1) General.** The branch circuits for pool-associated motors shall be installed in rigid metal conduit, intermediate metal conduit, rigid polyvinyl chloride conduit, reinforced thermosetting resin conduit, or Type MC cable listed for the location. Other wiring methods and materials shall be permitted in specific locations or applications as covered in this section. Any wiring method employed shall contain an insulated copper equipment grounding conductor sized in accordance with 250.122 but not smaller than 12 AWG.

**(2) On or Within Buildings.** Where installed on or within buildings, electrical metallic tubing shall be permitted.

**(3) Flexible Connections.** Where necessary to employ flexible connections at or adjacent to the motor, liquidtight flexible metal or liquidtight flexible nonmetallic conduit with approved fittings shall be permitted.

**(4) One-Family Dwellings.** In the interior of dwelling units, or in the interior of accessory buildings associated with a dwelling unit, any of the wiring methods recognized in Chapter 3 of this Code that comply with the provisions of this section shall be permitted. Where run in a cable assembly, the equipment grounding conductor shall



be permitted to be uninsulated, but it shall be enclosed within the outer sheath of the cable assembly.

**(5) Cord-and-Plug Connections.** Pool-associated motors shall be permitted to employ cord-and-plug connections. The flexible cord shall not exceed 900 mm (3 ft) in length. The flexible cord shall include an equipment grounding conductor sized in accordance with 250.122 and shall terminate in a grounding-type attachment plug.

**(B) Double Insulated Pool Pumps.** A listed cord-and-plug-connected pool pump incorporating an approved system of double insulation that provides a means for grounding only the internal and nonaccessible, non-current-carrying metal parts of the pump shall be connected to any wiring method recognized in Chapter 3 that is suitable for the location. Where the bonding grid is connected to the equipment grounding conductor of the motor circuit in accordance with the second paragraph of 680.26(B)(4), the branch-circuit wiring shall comply with 680.21(A).

#### 680.22 Area Lighting, Receptacles, and Equipment.

##### (A) Receptacles.

**(1) Circulation and Sanitation System, Location.** Receptacles that provide power for water-pump motors or for other loads directly related to the circulation and sanitation system shall be located at least 3.0 m (10 ft) from the inside walls of the pool, or not less than 1.83 m (6 ft) from the inside walls of the pool if they meet all of the following conditions:

- (1) Consist of single receptacles
- (2) Employ a locking configuration
- (3) Are of the grounding type
- (4) Have GFCI protection

**(2) Other Receptacles, Location.** Other receptacles shall be not less than 1.83 m (6 ft) from the inside walls of a pool.

**(3) Dwelling Unit(s).** Where a permanently installed pool is installed at a dwelling unit(s), no fewer than one 125-volt, 15- or 20-ampere receptacle on a general-purpose branch circuit shall be located not less than 1.83 m (6 ft) from, and not more than 6.0 m (20 ft) from, the inside wall of the pool. This receptacle shall be located not more than 2.0 m (6 ft 6 in.) above the floor, platform, or grade level serving the pool.

**(4) GFCI Protection.** All 15- and 20-ampere, single-phase, 125-volt receptacles located within 6.0 m (20 ft) of the inside walls of a pool shall be protected by a ground-fault circuit interrupter.

**(5) Measurements.** In determining the dimensions in this section addressing receptacle spacings, the distance to be measured shall be the shortest path the supply cord of an

appliance connected to the receptacle would follow without piercing a floor, wall, ceiling, doorway with hinged or sliding door, window opening, or other effective permanent barrier.

**(B) GFCI Protection.** Outlets supplying pool pump motors from branch circuits with short-circuit and ground-fault protection rated 15 or 20 amperes, 125 volt or 240 volt, single phase, whether by receptacle or direct connection, shall be provided with ground-fault circuit-interrupter protection for personnel.

##### (C) Luminaires, Lighting Outlets, and Ceiling-Suspended (Paddle) Fans.

**(1) New Outdoor Installation Clearances.** In outdoor pool areas, luminaires, lighting outlets, and ceiling-suspended (paddle) fans installed above the pool or the area extending 1.5 m (5 ft) horizontally from the inside walls of the pool shall be installed at a height not less than 3.7 m (12 ft) above the maximum water level of the pool.

**(2) Indoor Clearances.** For installations in indoor pool areas, the clearances shall be the same as for outdoor areas unless modified as provided in this paragraph. If the branch circuit supplying the equipment is protected by a ground-fault circuit interrupter, the following equipment shall be permitted at a height not less than 2.3 m (7 ft 6 in.) above the maximum pool water level:

- (1) Totally enclosed luminaires
- (2) Ceiling-suspended (paddle) fans identified for use beneath ceiling structures such as provided on porches or patios

**(3) Existing Installations.** Existing luminaires and lighting outlets located less than 1.5 m (5 ft) measured horizontally from the inside walls of a pool shall be not less than 1.5 m (5 ft) above the surface of the maximum water level, shall be rigidly attached to the existing structure, and shall be protected by a ground-fault circuit interrupter.

**(4) GFCI Protection in Adjacent Areas.** Luminaires, lighting outlets, and ceiling-suspended (paddle) fans installed in the area extending between 1.5 m (5 ft) and 3.0 m (10 ft) horizontally from the inside walls of a pool shall be protected by a ground-fault circuit interrupter unless installed not less than 1.5 m (5 ft) above the maximum water level and rigidly attached to the structure adjacent to or enclosing the pool.

**(5) Cord-and-Plug-Connected Luminaires.** Cord-and-plug-connected luminaires shall comply with the requirements of 680.7 where installed within 4.9 m (16 ft) of any point on the water surface, measured radially.

**(D) Switching Devices.** Switching devices shall be located at least 1.5 m (5 ft) horizontally from the inside walls of a pool unless separated from the pool by a solid fence, wall,



or other permanent barrier. Alternatively, a switch that is listed as being acceptable for use within 1.5 m (5 ft) shall be permitted.

**(E) Other Outlets.** Other outlets shall be not less than 3.0 m (10 ft) from the inside walls of the pool. Measurements shall be determined in accordance with 680.22(A)(5).

FPN: Other outlets may include, but are not limited to, remote-control, signaling, fire alarm, and communications circuits.

**680.23 Underwater Luminaires.** This section covers all luminaires installed below the normal water level of the pool.

**(A) General.**

**(1) Luminaire Design, Normal Operation.** The design of an underwater luminaire supplied from a branch circuit either directly or by way of a transformer meeting the requirements of this section shall be such that, where the luminaire is properly installed without a ground-fault circuit interrupter, there is no shock hazard with any likely combination of fault conditions during normal use (not relamping).

**(2) Transformers.** Transformers used for the supply of underwater luminaires, together with the transformer enclosure, shall be listed as a swimming pool and spa transformer. The transformer shall be an isolated winding type with an ungrounded secondary that has a grounded metal barrier between the primary and secondary windings.

**(3) GFCI Protection, Relamping.** A ground-fault circuit interrupter shall be installed in the branch circuit supplying luminaires operating at more than 15 volts such that there is no shock hazard during relamping. The installation of the ground-fault circuit interrupter shall be such that there is no shock hazard with any likely fault-condition combination that involves a person in a conductive path from any ungrounded part of the branch circuit or the luminaire to ground.

**(4) Voltage Limitation.** No luminaires shall be installed for operation on supply circuits over 150 volts between conductors.

**(5) Location, Wall-Mounted Luminaires.** Luminaires mounted in walls shall be installed with the top of the luminaire lens not less than 450 mm (18 in.) below the normal water level of the pool, unless the luminaire is listed and identified for use at lesser depths. No luminaire shall be installed less than 100 mm (4 in.) below the normal water level of the pool.

**(6) Bottom-Mounted Luminaires.** A luminaire facing upward shall comply with either (1) or (2):

(1) Have the lens adequately guarded to prevent contact by any person

(2) Be listed for use without a guard

**(7) Dependence on Submersion.** Luminaires that depend on submersion for safe operation shall be inherently protected against the hazards of overheating when not submerged.

**(8) Compliance.** Compliance with these requirements shall be obtained by the use of a listed underwater luminaire and by installation of a listed ground-fault circuit interrupter in the branch circuit or a listed transformer for luminaires operating at not more than 15 volts.

**(B) Wet-Niche Luminaires.**

**(1) Forming Shells.** Forming shells shall be installed for the mounting of all wet-niche underwater luminaires and shall be equipped with provisions for conduit entries. Metal parts of the luminaire and forming shell in contact with the pool water shall be of brass or other approved corrosion-resistant metal. All forming shells used with nonmetallic conduit systems, other than those that are part of a listed low-voltage lighting system not requiring grounding, shall include provisions for terminating an 8 AWG copper conductor.

**(2) Wiring Extending Directly to the Forming Shell.** Conduit shall be installed from the forming shell to a junction box or other enclosure conforming to the requirements in 680.24. Conduit shall be rigid metal, intermediate metal, liquidtight flexible nonmetallic, or rigid nonmetallic.

(a) *Metal Conduit.* Metal conduit shall be approved and shall be of brass or other approved corrosion-resistant metal.

(b) *Nonmetallic Conduit.* Where a nonmetallic conduit is used, an 8 AWG insulated solid or stranded copper bonding jumper shall be installed in this conduit unless a listed low-voltage lighting system not requiring grounding is used. The bonding jumper shall be terminated in the forming shell, junction box or transformer enclosure, or ground-fault circuit-interrupter enclosure. The termination of the 8 AWG bonding jumper in the forming shell shall be covered with, or encapsulated in, a listed potting compound to protect the connection from the possible deteriorating effect of pool water.

**(3) Equipment Grounding Provisions for Cords.** Wet-niche luminaires that are supplied by a flexible cord or cable shall have all exposed non-current-carrying metal parts grounded by an insulated copper equipment grounding conductor that is an integral part of the cord or cable. This grounding conductor shall be connected to a grounding terminal in the supply junction box, transformer enclosure, or other enclosure. The grounding conductor shall not be smaller than the supply conductors and not smaller than 16 AWG.

**(4) Luminaire Grounding Terminations.** The end of the flexible-cord jacket and the flexible-cord conductor



terminations within a luminaire shall be covered with, or encapsulated in, a suitable potting compound to prevent the entry of water into the luminaire through the cord or its conductors. In addition, the grounding connection within a luminaire shall be similarly treated to protect such connection from the deteriorating effect of pool water in the event of water entry into the luminaire.

**(5) Luminaire Bonding.** The luminaire shall be bonded to, and secured to, the forming shell by a positive locking device that ensures a low-resistance contact and requires a tool to remove the luminaire from the forming shell. Bonding shall not be required for luminaires that are listed for the application and have no non-current-carrying metal parts.

**(6) Servicing.** All wet-niche luminaires shall be removable from the water for inspection, relamping, or other maintenance. The forming shell location and length of cord in the forming shell shall permit personnel to place the removed luminaire on the deck or other dry location for such maintenance. The luminaire maintenance location shall be accessible without entering or going in the pool water.

### (C) Dry-Niche Luminaires.

**(1) Construction.** A dry-niche luminaire shall be provided with a provision for drainage of water and a means for accommodating one equipment grounding conductor for each conduit entry.

**(2) Junction Box.** A junction box shall not be required but, if used, shall not be required to be elevated or located as specified in 680.24(A)(2) if the luminaire is specifically identified for the purpose.

**(D) No-Niche Luminaires.** A no-niche luminaire shall meet the construction requirements of 680.23(B)(3) and be installed in accordance with the requirements of 680.23(B). Where connection to a forming shell is specified, the connection shall be to the mounting bracket.

**(E) Through-Wall Lighting Assembly.** A through-wall lighting assembly shall be equipped with a threaded entry or hub, or a nonmetallic hub, for the purpose of accommodating the termination of the supply conduit. A through-wall lighting assembly shall meet the construction requirements of 680.23(B)(3) and be installed in accordance with the requirements of 680.23. Where connection to a forming shell is specified, the connection shall be to the conduit termination point.

### (F) Branch-Circuit Wiring.

**(1) Wiring Methods.** Branch-circuit wiring on the supply side of enclosures and junction boxes connected to conduits run to wet-niche and no-niche luminaires, and the field wiring compartments of dry-niche luminaires, shall be installed using rigid metal conduit, intermediate metal con-

duit, liquidtight flexible nonmetallic conduit, rigid polyvinyl chloride conduit, or reinforced thermosetting resin conduit. Where installed on buildings, electrical metallic tubing shall be permitted, and where installed within buildings, electrical nonmetallic tubing, Type MC cable, electrical metallic tubing, or Type AC cable shall be permitted. In all cases, an insulated equipment grounding conductor sized in accordance with Table 250.122 but not less than 12 AWG shall be required.

*Exception: Where connecting to transformers for pool lights, liquidtight flexible metal conduit or liquidtight flexible nonmetallic conduit shall be permitted. The length shall not exceed 1.8 m (6 ft) for any one length or exceed 3.0 m (10 ft) in total length used. Liquidtight flexible nonmetallic conduit, Type B (LFNC-B), shall be permitted in lengths longer than 1.8 m (6 ft).*

**(2) Equipment Grounding.** Through-wall lighting assemblies, wet-niche, dry-niche, or no-niche luminaires shall be connected to an insulated copper equipment grounding conductor installed with the circuit conductors. The equipment grounding conductor shall be installed without joint or splice except as permitted in (F)(2)(a) and (F)(2)(b). The equipment grounding conductor shall be sized in accordance with Table 250.122 but shall not be smaller than 12 AWG.

*Exception: An equipment grounding conductor between the wiring chamber of the secondary winding of a transformer and a junction box shall be sized in accordance with the overcurrent device in this circuit.*

(a) If more than one underwater luminaire is supplied by the same branch circuit, the equipment grounding conductor, installed between the junction boxes, transformer enclosures, or other enclosures in the supply circuit to wet-niche luminaires, or between the field-wiring compartments of dry-niche luminaires, shall be permitted to be terminated on grounding terminals.

(b) If the underwater luminaire is supplied from a transformer, ground-fault circuit interrupter, clock-operated switch, or a manual snap switch that is located between the panelboard and a junction box connected to the conduit that extends directly to the underwater luminaire, the equipment grounding conductor shall be permitted to terminate on grounding terminals on the transformer, ground-fault circuit interrupter, clock-operated switch enclosure, or an outlet box used to enclose a snap switch.

**(3) Conductors.** Conductors on the load side of a ground-fault circuit interrupter or of a transformer, used to comply with the provisions of 680.23(A)(8), shall not occupy raceways, boxes, or enclosures containing other conductors unless one of the following conditions applies:

- (1) The other conductors are protected by ground-fault circuit interrupters.
- (2) The other conductors are grounding conductors.





- (3) The other conductors are supply conductors to a feed-through-type ground-fault circuit interrupter.
- (4) Ground-fault circuit interrupters shall be permitted in a panelboard that contains circuits protected by other than ground-fault circuit interrupters.

#### 680.24 Junction Boxes and Electrical Enclosures for Transformers or Ground-Fault Circuit Interrupters.

**(A) Junction Boxes.** A junction box connected to a conduit that extends directly to a forming shell or mounting bracket of a no-niche luminaire shall meet the requirements of this section.

**(1) Construction.** The junction box shall be listed as a swimming pool junction box and shall comply with the following conditions:

- (1) Be equipped with threaded entries or hubs or a nonmetallic hub
- (2) Be comprised of copper, brass, suitable plastic, or other approved corrosion-resistant material
- (3) Be provided with electrical continuity between every connected metal conduit and the grounding terminals by means of copper, brass, or other approved corrosion-resistant metal that is integral with the box

**(2) Installation.** Where the luminaire operates over 15 volts, the junction box location shall comply with (A)(2)(a) and (A)(2)(b). Where the luminaire operates at 15 volts or less, the junction box location shall be permitted to comply with (A)(2)(c).

(a) *Vertical Spacing.* The junction box shall be located not less than 100 mm (4 in.), measured from the inside of the bottom of the box, above the ground level, or pool deck, or not less than 200 mm (8 in.) above the maximum pool water level, whichever provides the greater elevation.

(b) *Horizontal Spacing.* The junction box shall be located not less than 1.2 m (4 ft) from the inside wall of the pool, unless separated from the pool by a solid fence, wall, or other permanent barrier.

(c) *Flush Deck Box.* If used on a lighting system operating at 15 volts or less, a flush deck box shall be permitted if both of the following apply:

- (1) An approved potting compound is used to fill the box to prevent the entrance of moisture.
- (2) The flush deck box is located not less than 1.2 m (4 ft) from the inside wall of the pool.

**(B) Other Enclosures.** An enclosure for a transformer, ground-fault circuit interrupter, or a similar device connected to a conduit that extends directly to a forming shell or mounting bracket of a no-niche luminaire shall meet the requirements of this section.

**(1) Construction.** The enclosure shall be listed and labeled for the purpose and meet the following requirements:

- (1) Equipped with threaded entries or hubs or a nonmetallic hub
- (2) Comprised of copper, brass, suitable plastic, or other approved corrosion-resistant material
- (3) Provided with an approved seal, such as duct seal at the conduit connection, that prevents circulation of air between the conduit and the enclosures
- (4) Provided with electrical continuity between every connected metal conduit and the grounding terminals by means of copper, brass, or other approved corrosion-resistant metal that is integral with the box

#### **(2) Installation.**

(a) *Vertical Spacing.* The enclosure shall be located not less than 100 mm (4 in.), measured from the inside of the bottom of the box, above the ground level, or pool deck, or not less than 200 mm (8 in.) above the maximum pool water level, whichever provides the greater elevation.

(b) *Horizontal Spacing.* The enclosure shall be located not less than 1.2 m (4 ft) from the inside wall of the pool, unless separated from the pool by a solid fence, wall, or other permanent barrier.

**(C) Protection.** Junction boxes and enclosures mounted above the grade of the finished walkway around the pool shall not be located in the walkway unless afforded additional protection, such as by location under diving boards, adjacent to fixed structures, and the like.

**(D) Grounding Terminals.** Junction boxes, transformer enclosures, and ground-fault circuit-interrupter enclosures connected to a conduit that extends directly to a forming shell or mounting bracket of a no-niche luminaire shall be provided with a number of grounding terminals that shall be no fewer than one more than the number of conduit entries.

**(E) Strain Relief.** The termination of a flexible cord of an underwater luminaire within a junction box, transformer enclosure, ground-fault circuit interrupter, or other enclosure shall be provided with a strain relief.

**(F) Grounding.** The equipment grounding conductor terminals of a junction box, transformer enclosure, or other enclosure in the supply circuit to a wet-niche or no-niche luminaire and the field-wiring chamber of a dry-niche luminaire shall be connected to the equipment grounding terminal of the panelboard. This terminal shall be directly connected to the panelboard enclosure.

**680.25 Feeders.** These provisions shall apply to any feeder on the supply side of panelboards supplying branch circuits for pool equipment covered in Part II of this article and on the load side of the service equipment or the source of a separately derived system.



**(A) Wiring Methods.** Feeders shall be installed in rigid metal conduit, intermediate metal conduit, liquidtight flexible nonmetallic conduit, rigid polyvinyl chloride conduit, or reinforced thermosetting resin conduit. Electrical metallic tubing shall be permitted where installed on or within a building, and electrical nonmetallic tubing shall be permitted where installed within a building. Aluminum conduits shall not be permitted in the pool area where subject to corrosion.

*Exception:* An existing feeder between an existing remote panelboard and service equipment shall be permitted to run in flexible metal conduit or an approved cable assembly that includes an equipment grounding conductor within its outer sheath. The equipment grounding conductor shall comply with 250.24(A)(5).

**(B) Grounding.** An equipment grounding conductor shall be installed with the feeder conductors between the grounding terminal of the pool equipment panelboard and the grounding terminal of the applicable service equipment or source of a separately derived system. For other than (1) existing feeders covered in 680.25(A), Exception, or (2) feeders to separate buildings that do not utilize an insulated equipment grounding conductor in accordance with 680.25(B)(2), this equipment grounding conductor shall be insulated.

**(1) Size.** This conductor shall be sized in accordance with 250.122 but not smaller than 12 AWG. On separately derived systems, this conductor shall be sized in accordance with Table 250.66 but not smaller than 8 AWG.

**(2) Separate Buildings.** A feeder to a separate building or structure shall be permitted to supply swimming pool equipment branch circuits, or feeders supplying swimming pool equipment branch circuits, if the grounding arrangements in the separate building meet the requirements in 250.32(B)(1). Where installed in other than existing feeders covered in 680.25(A), Exception, a separate equipment grounding conductor shall be an insulated conductor.

### 680.26 Equipotential Bonding.

**(A) Performance.** The equipotential bonding required by this section shall be installed to reduce voltage gradients in the pool area.

**(B) Bonded Parts.** The parts specified in 680.26(B)(1) through (B)(7) shall be bonded together using solid copper conductors, insulated covered, or bare, not smaller than 8 AWG or with rigid metal conduit of brass or other identified corrosion-resistant metal. Connections to bonded parts shall be made in accordance with 250.8. An 8 AWG or larger solid copper bonding conductor provided to reduce voltage gradients in the pool area shall not be required to be

extended or attached to remote panelboards, service equipment, or electrodes.

**(1) Conductive Pool Shells.** Bonding to conductive pool shells shall be provided as specified in 680.26(B)(1)(a) or (B)(1)(b). Poured concrete, pneumatically applied or sprayed concrete, and concrete block with painted or plastered coatings shall all be considered conductive materials due to water permeability and porosity. Vinyl liners and fiberglass composite shells shall be considered to be non-conductive materials.

(a) **Structural Reinforcing Steel.** Unencapsulated structural reinforcing steel shall be bonded together by steel tie wires or the equivalent. Where structural reinforcing steel is encapsulated in a nonconductive compound, a copper conductor grid shall be installed in accordance with 680.26(B)(1)(b).

(b) **Copper Conductor Grid.** A copper conductor grid shall be provided and shall comply with (b)(1) through (b)(4).

- (1) Be constructed of minimum 8 AWG bare solid copper conductors bonded to each other at all points of crossing
- (2) Conform to the contour of the pool and the pool deck
- (3) Be arranged in a 300-mm (12-in.) by 300-mm (12-in.) network of conductors in a uniformly spaced perpendicular grid pattern with a tolerance of 100 mm (4 in.)
- (4) Be secured within or under the pool no more than 150 mm (6 in.) from the outer contour of the pool shell

**(2) Perimeter Surfaces.** The perimeter surface shall extend for 1 m (3 ft) horizontally beyond the inside walls of the pool and shall include unpaved surfaces as well as poured concrete and other types of paving. Bonding to perimeter surfaces shall be provided as specified in 680.26(B)(2)(a) or (2)(b) and shall be attached to the pool reinforcing steel or copper conductor grid at a minimum of four (4) points uniformly spaced around the perimeter of the pool. For nonconductive pool shells, bonding at four points shall not be required.

(a) **Structural Reinforcing Steel.** Structural reinforcing steel shall be bonded in accordance with 680.26(B)(1)(a).

(b) **Alternate Means.** Where structural reinforcing steel is not available or is encapsulated in a nonconductive compound, a copper conductor(s) shall be utilized where the following requirements are met:

- (1) At least one minimum 8 AWG bare solid copper conductor shall be provided.
- (2) The conductors shall follow the contour of the perimeter surface.
- (3) Only listed splices shall be permitted.
- (4) The required conductor shall be 450 to 600 mm (18 to 24 in.) from the inside walls of the pool.
- (5) The required conductor shall be secured within or under the perimeter surface 100 mm to 150 mm (4 in. to 6 in.) below the subgrade.



**(3) Metallic Components.** All metallic parts of the pool structure, including reinforcing metal not addressed in 680.26(B)(1)(a), shall be bonded. Where reinforcing steel is encapsulated with a nonconductive compound, the reinforcing steel shall not be required to be bonded.

**(4) Underwater Lighting.** All metal forming shells and mounting brackets of no-niche luminaires shall be bonded.

*Exception: Listed low-voltage lighting systems with non-metallic forming shells shall not require bonding.*

**(5) Metal Fittings.** All metal fittings within or attached to the pool structure shall be bonded. Isolated parts that are not over 100 mm (4 in.) in any dimension and do not penetrate into the pool structure more than 25 mm (1 in.) shall not require bonding.

**(6) Electrical Equipment.** Metal parts of electrical equipment associated with the pool water circulating system, including pump motors and metal parts of equipment associated with pool covers, including electric motors, shall be bonded.

*Exception: Metal parts of listed equipment incorporating an approved system of double insulation shall not be bonded.*

(a) *Double-Insulated Water Pump Motors.* Where a double-insulated water pump motor is installed under the provisions of this rule, a solid 8 AWG copper conductor of sufficient length to make a bonding connection to a replacement motor shall be extended from the bonding grid to an accessible point in the vicinity of the pool pump motor. Where there is no connection between the swimming pool bonding grid and the equipment grounding system for the premises, this bonding conductor shall be connected to the equipment grounding conductor of the motor circuit.

(b) *Pool Water Heaters.* For pool water heaters rated at more than 50 amperes and having specific instructions regarding bonding and grounding, only those parts designated to be bonded shall be bonded and only those parts designated to be grounded shall be grounded.

**(7) Metal Wiring Methods and Equipment.** Metal-sheathed cables and raceways, metal piping, and all fixed metal parts shall be bonded.

*Exception No. 1: Those separated from the pool by a permanent barrier shall not be required to be bonded.*

*Exception No. 2: Those greater than 1.5 m (5 ft) horizontally of the inside walls of the pool shall not be required to be bonded.*

*Exception No. 3: Those greater than 3.7 m (12 ft) measured vertically above the maximum water level of the pool, or as measured vertically above any observation stands, towers, or platforms, or any diving structures, shall not be required to be bonded.*

**(C) Pool Water.** An intentional bond of a minimum conductive surface area of 5806 mm<sup>2</sup> (9 in.<sup>2</sup>) shall be installed in contact with the pool water. This bond shall be permitted to consist of parts that are required to be bonded in 680.26(B).

### 680.27 Specialized Pool Equipment.

**(A) Underwater Audio Equipment.** All underwater audio equipment shall be identified for the purpose.

**(1) Speakers.** Each speaker shall be mounted in an approved metal forming shell, the front of which is enclosed by a captive metal screen, or equivalent, that is bonded to, and secured to, the forming shell by a positive locking device that ensures a low-resistance contact and requires a tool to open for installation or servicing of the speaker. The forming shell shall be installed in a recess in the wall or floor of the pool.

**(2) Wiring Methods.** Rigid metal conduit of brass or other identified corrosion-resistant metal, liquidtight flexible non-metallic conduit (LFNC-B), rigid polyvinyl chloride conduit, or reinforced thermosetting resin conduit shall extend from the forming shell to a listed junction box or other enclosure as provided in 680.24. Where rigid polyvinyl chloride conduit, reinforced thermosetting resin conduit, or liquidtight flexible nonmetallic conduit is used, an 8 AWG insulated solid or stranded copper bonding jumper shall be installed in this conduit. The bonding jumper shall be terminated in the forming shell and the junction box. The termination of the 8 AWG bonding jumper in the forming shell shall be covered with, or encapsulated in, a listed potting compound to protect such connection from the possible deteriorating effect of pool water.

**(3) Forming Shell and Metal Screen.** The forming shell and metal screen shall be of brass or other approved corrosion-resistant metal. All forming shells shall include provisions for terminating an 8 AWG copper conductor.

### (B) Electrically Operated Pool Covers.

**(1) Motors and Controllers.** The electric motors, controllers, and wiring shall be located not less than 1.5 m (5 ft) from the inside wall of the pool unless separated from the pool by a wall, cover, or other permanent barrier. Electric motors installed below grade level shall be of the totally enclosed type. The device that controls the operation of the motor for an electrically operated pool cover shall be located such that the operator has full view of the pool.

FPN No. 1: For cabinets installed in damp and wet locations, see 312.2.

FPN No. 2: For switches or circuit breakers installed in wet locations, see 404.4.

FPN No. 3: For protection against liquids, see 430.11.



**(2) Protection.** The electric motor and controller shall be connected to a circuit protected by a ground-fault circuit interrupter.

**(C) Deck Area Heating.** The provisions of this section shall apply to all pool deck areas, including a covered pool, where electrically operated comfort heating units are installed within 6.0 m (20 ft) of the inside wall of the pool.

**(1) Unit Heaters.** Unit heaters shall be rigidly mounted to the structure and shall be of the totally enclosed or guarded type. Unit heaters shall not be mounted over the pool or within the area extending 1.5 m (5 ft) horizontally from the inside walls of a pool.

**(2) Permanently Wired Radiant Heaters.** Radiant electric heaters shall be suitably guarded and securely fastened to their mounting device(s). Heaters shall not be installed over a pool or within the area extending 1.5 m (5 ft) horizontally from the inside walls of the pool and shall be mounted at least 3.7 m (12 ft) vertically above the pool deck unless otherwise approved.

**(3) Radiant Heating Cables Not Permitted.** Radiant heating cables embedded in or below the deck shall not be permitted.

### III. Storable Pools

**680.30 General.** Electrical installations at storable pools shall comply with the provisions of Part I and Part III of this article.

**680.31 Pumps.** A cord-connected pool filter pump shall incorporate an approved system of double insulation or its equivalent and shall be provided with means for grounding only the internal and nonaccessible non-current-carrying metal parts of the appliance.

The means for grounding shall be an equipment grounding conductor run with the power-supply conductors in the flexible cord that is properly terminated in a grounding-type attachment plug having a fixed grounding contact member.

Cord-connected pool filter pumps shall be provided with a ground-fault circuit interrupter that is an integral part of the attachment plug or located in the power supply cord within 300 mm (12 in.) of the attachment plug.

**680.32 Ground-Fault Circuit Interrupters Required.** All electrical equipment, including power-supply cords, used with storable pools shall be protected by ground-fault circuit interrupters.

All 125-volt receptacles located within 6.0 m (20 ft) of the inside walls of a storable pool shall be protected by a ground-fault circuit interrupter. In determining these dimensions, the distance to be measured shall be the shortest

path the supply cord of an appliance connected to the receptacle would follow without piercing a floor, wall, ceiling, doorway with hinged or sliding door, window opening, or other effective permanent barrier.

FPN: For flexible cord usage, see 400.4.

**680.33 Luminaires.** An underwater luminaire, if installed, shall be installed in or on the wall of the storable pool. It shall comply with either 680.33(A) or (B).

**(A) 15 Volts or Less.** A luminaire shall be part of a cord-and-plug-connected lighting assembly. This assembly shall be listed as an assembly for the purpose and have the following construction features:

- (1) No exposed metal parts
- (2) A luminaire lamp that operates at 15 volts or less
- (3) An impact-resistant polymeric lens, luminaire body, and transformer enclosure
- (4) A transformer meeting the requirements of 680.23(A)(2) with a primary rating not over 150 volts

**(B) Over 15 Volts But Not over 150 Volts.** A lighting assembly without a transformer and with the luminaire lamp(s) operating at not over 150 volts shall be permitted to be cord-and-plug-connected where the assembly is listed as an assembly for the purpose. The installation shall comply with 680.23(A)(5), and the assembly shall have the following construction features:

- (1) No exposed metal parts
- (2) An impact-resistant polymeric lens and luminaire body
- (3) A ground-fault circuit interrupter with open neutral conductor protection as an integral part of the assembly
- (4) The luminaire lamp permanently connected to the ground-fault circuit interrupter with open-neutral protection
- (5) Compliance with the requirements of 680.23(A)

**680.34 Receptacle Locations.** Receptacles shall not be located less than 1.83 m (6 ft) from the inside walls of a pool. In determining these dimensions, the distance to be measured shall be the shortest path the supply cord of an appliance connected to the receptacle would follow without piercing a floor, wall, ceiling, doorway with hinged or sliding door, window opening, or other effective permanent barrier.

### IV. Spas and Hot Tubs

**680.40 General.** Electrical installations at spas and hot tubs shall comply with the provisions of Part I and Part IV of this article.

**680.41 Emergency Switch for Spas and Hot Tubs.** A clearly labeled emergency shutoff or control switch for the purpose of stopping the motor(s) that provide power to the



recirculation system and jet system shall be installed at a point readily accessible to the users and not less than 1.5 m (5 ft) away, adjacent to, and within sight of the spa or hot tub. This requirement shall not apply to single-family dwellings.

**680.42 Outdoor Installations.** A spa or hot tub installed outdoors shall comply with the provisions of Parts I and II of this article, except as permitted in 680.42(A) and (B), that would otherwise apply to pools installed outdoors.

**(A) Flexible Connections.** Listed packaged spa or hot tub equipment assemblies or self-contained spas or hot tubs utilizing a factory-installed or assembled control panel or panelboard shall be permitted to use flexible connections as covered in 680.42(A)(1) and (A)(2).

**(1) Flexible Conduit.** Liquidtight flexible metal conduit or liquidtight flexible nonmetallic conduit shall be permitted in lengths of not more than 1.8 m (6 ft).

**(2) Cord-and-Plug Connections.** Cord-and-plug connections with a cord not longer than 4.6 m (15 ft) shall be permitted where protected by a ground-fault circuit interrupter.

**(B) Bonding.** Bonding by metal-to-metal mounting on a common frame or base shall be permitted. The metal bands or hoops used to secure wooden staves shall not be required to be bonded as required in 680.26.

**(C) Interior Wiring to Outdoor Installations.** In the interior of a one-family dwelling or in the interior of another building or structure associated with a one-family dwelling, any of the wiring methods recognized in Chapter 3 of this Code that contain a copper equipment grounding conductor that is insulated or enclosed within the outer sheath of the wiring method and not smaller than 12 AWG shall be permitted to be used for the connection to motor, heating, and control loads that are part of a self-contained spa or hot tub or a packaged spa or hot tub equipment assembly. Wiring to an underwater luminaire shall comply with 680.23 or 680.33.

**680.43 Indoor Installations.** A spa or hot tub installed indoors shall comply with the provisions of Parts I and II of this article except as modified by this section and shall be connected by the wiring methods of Chapter 3.

*Exception: Listed spa and hot tub packaged units rated 20 amperes or less shall be permitted to be cord-and-plug-connected to facilitate the removal or disconnection of the unit for maintenance and repair:*

**(A) Receptacles.** At least one 125-volt, 15- or 20-ampere receptacle on a general-purpose branch circuit shall be located not less than 1.83 m (6 ft) from, and not exceeding 3.0 m (10 ft) from, the inside wall of the spa or hot tub.

**(1) Location.** Receptacles shall be located at least 1.83 m (6 ft) measured horizontally from the inside walls of the spa or hot tub.

**(2) Protection, General.** Receptacles rated 125 volts and 30 amperes or less and located within 3.0 m (10 ft) of the inside walls of a spa or hot tub shall be protected by a ground-fault circuit interrupter.

**(3) Protection, Spa or Hot Tub Supply Receptacle.** Receptacles that provide power for a spa or hot tub shall be ground-fault circuit-interrupter protected.

**(4) Measurements.** In determining the dimensions in this section addressing receptacle spacings, the distance to be measured shall be the shortest path the supply cord of an appliance connected to the receptacle would follow without piercing a floor, wall, ceiling, doorway with hinged or sliding door, window opening, or other effective permanent barrier.

**(B) Installation of Luminaires, Lighting Outlets, and Ceiling-Suspended (Paddle) Fans.**

**(1) Elevation.** Luminaires, except as covered in 680.43(B)(2), lighting outlets, and ceiling-suspended (paddle) fans located over the spa or hot tub or within 1.5 m (5 ft) from the inside walls of the spa or hot tub shall comply with the clearances specified in (B)(1)(a), (B)(1)(b), and (B)(1)(c) above the maximum water level.

(a) *Without GFCI.* Where no GFCI protection is provided, the mounting height shall be not less than 3.7 m (12 ft).

(b) *With GFCI.* Where GFCI protection is provided, the mounting height shall be permitted to be not less than 2.3 m (7 ft 6 in.).

(c) *Below 2.3 m (7 ft 6 in.).* Luminaires meeting the requirements of item (1) or (2) and protected by a ground-fault circuit interrupter shall be permitted to be installed less than 2.3 m (7 ft 6 in.) over a spa or hot tub:

- (1) Recessed luminaires with a glass or plastic lens, non-metallic or electrically isolated metal trim, and suitable for use in damp locations
- (2) Surface-mounted luminaires with a glass or plastic globe, a nonmetallic body, or a metallic body isolated from contact, and suitable for use in damp locations

**(2) Underwater Applications.** Underwater luminaires shall comply with the provisions of 680.23 or 680.33.

**(C) Wall Switches.** Switches shall be located at least 1.5 m (5 ft), measured horizontally, from the inside walls of the spa or hot tub.

**(D) Bonding.** The following parts shall be bonded together:

- (1) All metal fittings within or attached to the spa or hot tub structure



- (2) Metal parts of electrical equipment associated with the spa or hot tub water circulating system, including pump motors
- (3) Metal raceway and metal piping that are within 1.5 m (5 ft) of the inside walls of the spa or hot tub and that are not separated from the spa or hot tub by a permanent barrier
- (4) All metal surfaces that are within 1.5 m (5 ft) of the inside walls of the spa or hot tub and that are not separated from the spa or hot tub area by a permanent barrier

*Exception No. 1: Small conductive surfaces not likely to become energized, such as air and water jets and drain fittings, where not connected to metallic piping, towel bars, mirror frames, and similar nonelectrical equipment, shall not be required to be bonded.*

*Exception No. 2: Metal parts of electrical equipment associated with the water circulating system, including pump motors that are part of a listed self-contained spa or hot tub.*

- (5) Electrical devices and controls that are not associated with the spas or hot tubs and that are located not less than 1.5 m (5 ft) from such units; otherwise, they shall be bonded to the spa or hot tub system

**(E) Methods of Bonding.** All metal parts associated with the spa or hot tub shall be bonded by any of the following methods:

- (1) The interconnection of threaded metal piping and fittings
- (2) Metal-to-metal mounting on a common frame or base
- (3) The provisions of a solid copper bonding jumper, insulated, covered, or bare, not smaller than 8 AWG

**(F) Grounding.** The following equipment shall be grounded:

- (1) All electrical equipment located within 1.5 m (5 ft) of the inside wall of the spa or hot tub
- (2) All electrical equipment associated with the circulating system of the spa or hot tub

**(G) Underwater Audio Equipment.** Underwater audio equipment shall comply with the provisions of Part II of this article.

**680.44 Protection.** Except as otherwise provided in this section, the outlet(s) that supplies a self-contained spa or hot tub, a packaged spa or hot tub equipment assembly, or a field-assembled spa or hot tub shall be protected by a ground-fault circuit interrupter.

**(A) Listed Units.** If so marked, a listed self-contained unit or listed packaged equipment assembly that includes integral ground-fault circuit-interrupter protection for all electrical parts within the unit or assembly (pumps, air blowers, heaters,

lights, controls, sanitizer generators, wiring, and so forth) shall be permitted without additional GFCI protection.

**(B) Other Units.** A field-assembled spa or hot tub rated 3 phase or rated over 250 volts or with a heater load of more than 50 amperes shall not require the supply to be protected by a ground-fault circuit interrupter.

**(C) Combination Pool and Spa or Hot Tub.** A combination pool/hot tub or spa assembly commonly bonded need not be protected by a ground-fault circuit interrupter.

FPN: See 680.2 for definitions of *self-contained spa or hot tub* and for *packaged spa or hot tub equipment assembly*.

## V. Fountains

**680.50 General.** The provisions of Part I and Part V of this article shall apply to all permanently installed fountains as defined in 680.2. Fountains that have water common to a pool shall additionally comply with the requirements in Part II of this article. Part V does not cover self-contained, portable fountains. Portable fountains shall comply with Parts II and III of Article 422.

### 680.51 Luminaires, Submersible Pumps, and Other Submersible Equipment.

**(A) Ground-Fault Circuit Interrupter.** Luminaires, submersible pumps, and other submersible equipment, unless listed for operation at 15 volts or less and supplied by a transformer that complies with 680.23(A)(2), shall be protected by a ground-fault circuit interrupter.

**(B) Operating Voltage.** No luminaires shall be installed for operation on supply circuits over 150 volts between conductors. Submersible pumps and other submersible equipment shall operate at 300 volts or less between conductors.

**(C) Luminaire Lenses.** Luminaires shall be installed with the top of the luminaire lens below the normal water level of the fountain unless listed for above-water locations. A luminaire facing upward shall comply with either (1) or (2):

- (1) Have the lens adequately guarded to prevent contact by any person
- (2) Be listed for use without a guard

**(D) Overheating Protection.** Electrical equipment that depends on submersion for safe operation shall be protected against overheating by a low-water cutoff or other approved means when not submerged.

**(E) Wiring.** Equipment shall be equipped with provisions for threaded conduit entries or be provided with a suitable flexible cord. The maximum length of each exposed cord in the fountain shall be limited to 3.0 m (10 ft). Cords extending beyond the fountain perimeter shall be enclosed in



approved wiring enclosures. Metal parts of equipment in contact with water shall be of brass or other approved corrosion-resistant metal.

**(F) Servicing.** All equipment shall be removable from the water for relamping or normal maintenance. Luminaires shall not be permanently embedded into the fountain structure such that the water level must be reduced or the fountain drained for relamping, maintenance, or inspection.

**(G) Stability.** Equipment shall be inherently stable or be securely fastened in place.

#### 680.52 Junction Boxes and Other Enclosures.

**(A) General.** Junction boxes and other enclosures used for other than underwater installation shall comply with 680.24.

**(B) Underwater Junction Boxes and Other Underwater Enclosures.** Junction boxes and other underwater enclosures shall meet the requirements of 680.52(B)(1) and (B)(2).

##### (1) Construction.

(a) Underwater enclosures shall be equipped with provisions for threaded conduit entries or compression glands or seals for cord entry.

(b) Underwater enclosures shall be submersible and made of copper, brass, or other approved corrosion-resistant material.

**(2) Installation.** Underwater enclosure installations shall comply with (a) and (b).

(a) Underwater enclosures shall be filled with an approved potting compound to prevent the entry of moisture.

(b) Underwater enclosures shall be firmly attached to the supports or directly to the fountain surface and bonded as required. Where the junction box is supported only by conduits in accordance with 314.23(E) and (F), the conduits shall be of copper, brass, stainless steel, or other approved corrosion-resistant metal. Where the box is fed by nonmetallic conduit, it shall have additional supports and fasteners of copper, brass, or other approved corrosion-resistant material.

**680.53 Bonding.** All metal piping systems associated with the fountain shall be bonded to the equipment grounding conductor of the branch circuit supplying the fountain.

FPN: See 250.122 for sizing of these conductors.

**680.54 Grounding.** The following equipment shall be grounded:

- (1) All electrical equipment located within the fountain or within 1.5 m (5 ft) of the inside wall of the fountain
- (2) All electrical equipment associated with the recirculating system of the fountain

- (3) Panelboards that are not part of the service equipment and that supply any electrical equipment associated with the fountain

#### 680.55 Methods of Grounding.

**(A) Applied Provisions.** The provisions of 680.21(A), 680.23(B)(3), 680.23(F)(1) and (F)(2), 680.24(F), and 680.25 shall apply.

**(B) Supplied by a Flexible Cord.** Electrical equipment that is supplied by a flexible cord shall have all exposed non-current-carrying metal parts grounded by an insulated copper equipment grounding conductor that is an integral part of this cord. The equipment grounding conductor shall be connected to an equipment grounding terminal in the supply junction box, transformer enclosure, or other enclosure.

#### 680.56 Cord-and-Plug-Connected Equipment.

**(A) Ground-Fault Circuit Interrupter.** All electrical equipment, including power-supply cords, shall be protected by ground-fault circuit interrupters.

**(B) Cord Type.** Flexible cord immersed in or exposed to water shall be of a type for extra-hard usage, as designated in Table 400.4, and shall be a listed type with a "W" suffix.

**(C) Sealing.** The end of the flexible cord jacket and the flexible cord conductor termination within equipment shall be covered with, or encapsulated in, a suitable potting compound to prevent the entry of water into the equipment through the cord or its conductors. In addition, the ground connection within equipment shall be similarly treated to protect such connections from the deteriorating effect of water that may enter into the equipment.

**(D) Terminations.** Connections with flexible cord shall be permanent, except that grounding-type attachment plugs and receptacles shall be permitted to facilitate removal or disconnection for maintenance, repair, or storage of fixed or stationary equipment not located in any water-containing part of a fountain.

#### 680.57 Signs.

**(A) General.** This section covers electric signs installed within a fountain or within 3.0 m (10 ft) of the fountain edge.

**(B) Ground-Fault Circuit-Interrupter Protection for Personnel.** All circuits supplying the sign shall have ground-fault circuit-interrupter protection for personnel.

##### (C) Location.

**(1) Fixed or Stationary.** A fixed or stationary electric sign installed within a fountain shall be not less than 1.5 m (5 ft)



inside the fountain measured from the outside edges of the fountain.

**(2) Portable.** A portable electric sign shall not be placed within a pool or fountain or within 1.5 m (5 ft) measured horizontally from the inside walls of the fountain.

**(D) Disconnect.** A sign shall have a local disconnecting means in accordance with 600.6 and 680.12.

**(E) Bonding and Grounding.** A sign shall be grounded and bonded in accordance with 600.7.

**680.58 GFCI Protection for Adjacent Receptacle Outlets.** All 15- or 20-ampere, single-phase 125-volt through 250-volt receptacles located within 6.0 m (20 ft) of a fountain edge shall be provided with GFCI protection.

## VI. Pools and Tubs for Therapeutic Use

**680.60 General.** The provisions of Part I and Part VI of this article shall apply to pools and tubs for therapeutic use in health care facilities, gymnasiums, athletic training rooms, and similar areas. Portable therapeutic appliances shall comply with Parts II and III of Article 422.

FPN: See 517.2 for definition of health care facilities.

**680.61 Permanently Installed Therapeutic Pools.** Therapeutic pools that are constructed in the ground, on the ground, or in a building in such a manner that the pool cannot be readily disassembled shall comply with Parts I and II of this article.

*Exception: The limitations of 680.22(C)(1) through (C)(4) shall not apply where all luminaires are of the totally enclosed type.*

**680.62 Therapeutic Tubs (Hydrotherapeutic Tanks).** Therapeutic tubs, used for the submersion and treatment of patients, that are not easily moved from one place to another in normal use or that are fastened or otherwise secured at a specific location, including associated piping systems, shall conform to Part VI.

**(A) Protection.** Except as otherwise provided in this section, the outlet(s) that supplies a self-contained therapeutic tub or hydrotherapeutic tank, a packaged therapeutic tub or hydrotherapeutic tank, or a field-assembled therapeutic tub or hydrotherapeutic tank shall be protected by a ground-fault circuit interrupter.

**(1) Listed Units.** If so marked, a listed self-contained unit or listed packaged equipment assembly that includes integral ground-fault circuit-interrupter protection for all electrical parts within the unit or assembly (pumps, air blowers, heaters,

lights, controls, sanitizer generators, wiring, and so forth) shall be permitted without additional GFCI protection.

**(2) Other Units.** A therapeutic tub or hydrotherapeutic tank rated 3 phase or rated over 250 volts or with a heater load of more than 50 amperes shall not require the supply to be protected by a ground-fault circuit interrupter.

**(B) Bonding.** The following parts shall be bonded together:

- (1) All metal fittings within or attached to the tub structure
- (2) Metal parts of electrical equipment associated with the tub water circulating system, including pump motors
- (3) Metal-sheathed cables and raceways and metal piping that are within 1.5 m (5 ft) of the inside walls of the tub and not separated from the tub by a permanent barrier
- (4) All metal surfaces that are within 1.5 m (5 ft) of the inside walls of the tub and not separated from the tub area by a permanent barrier
- (5) Electrical devices and controls that are not associated with the therapeutic tubs and located within 1.5 m (5 ft) from such units.

**(C) Methods of Bonding.** All metal parts required to be bonded by this section shall be bonded by any of the following methods:

- (1) The interconnection of threaded metal piping and fittings
- (2) Metal-to-metal mounting on a common frame or base
- (3) Connections by suitable metal clamps
- (4) By the provisions of a solid copper bonding jumper, insulated, covered, or bare, not smaller than 8 AWG

**(D) Grounding.**

**(1) Fixed or Stationary Equipment.** The equipment specified in (a) and (b) shall be connected to the equipment grounding conductor.

(a) *Location.* All electrical equipment located within 1.5 m (5 ft) of the inside wall of the tub shall be connected to the equipment grounding conductor.

(b) *Circulation System.* All electrical equipment associated with the circulating system of the tub shall be connected to the equipment grounding conductor.

**(2) Portable Equipment.** Portable therapeutic appliances shall meet the grounding requirements in 250.114.

**(E) Receptacles.** All receptacles within 1.83 m (6 ft) of a therapeutic tub shall be protected by a ground-fault circuit interrupter.

**(F) Luminaires.** All luminaires used in therapeutic tub areas shall be of the totally enclosed type.

## VII. Hydromassage Bathtubs

**680.70 General.** Hydromassage bathtubs as defined in 680.2 shall comply with Part VII of this article. They shall not be required to comply with other parts of this article.





**680.71 Protection.** Hydromassage bathtubs and their associated electrical components shall be on an individual branch circuit(s) and protected by a readily accessible ground-fault circuit interrupter. All 125-volt, single-phase receptacles not exceeding 30 amperes and located within 1.83 m (6 ft) measured horizontally of the inside walls of a hydromassage tub shall be protected by a ground-fault circuit interrupter.

**680.72 Other Electrical Equipment.** Luminaires, switches, receptacles, and other electrical equipment located in the same room, and not directly associated with a hydromassage bathtub, shall be installed in accordance with the requirements of Chapters 1 through 4 in this *Code* covering the installation of that equipment in bathrooms.

**680.73 Accessibility.** Hydromassage bathtub electrical equipment shall be accessible without damaging the building structure or building finish.

**680.74 Bonding.** All metal piping systems and all grounded metal parts in contact with the circulating water shall be bonded together using a solid copper bonding jumper, insulated, covered, or bare, not smaller than 8 AWG. The bonding jumper shall be connected to the terminal on the circulating pump motor that is intended for this purpose. The bonding jumper shall not be required to be connected to a double insulated circulating pump motor. The 8 AWG or larger solid copper bonding jumper shall be required for equipotential bonding in the area of the hydromassage bathtub and shall not be required to be extended or attached to any remote panelboard, service equipment, or any electrode.

## ARTICLE 682 Natural and Artificially Made Bodies of Water

### I. General

**682.1 Scope.** This article applies to the installation of electrical wiring for, and equipment in and adjacent to, natural or artificially made bodies of water not covered by other articles in this *Code*, such as but not limited to aeration ponds, fish farm ponds, storm retention basins, treatment ponds, irrigation (channels) facilities.

### 682.2 Definitions.

**Artificially Made Bodies of Water.** Bodies of water that have been constructed or modified to fit some decorative or commercial purpose such as, but not limited to, aeration

ponds, fish farm ponds, storm retention basins, treatment ponds, and irrigation (channel) facilities. Water depths may vary seasonally or be controlled.

**Electrical Datum Plane.** The electrical datum plane as used in this article is defined as follows:

- (1) In land areas subject to tidal fluctuation, the electrical datum plane is a horizontal plane 600 mm (2 ft) above the highest tide level for the area occurring under normal circumstances, that is, highest high tide.
- (2) In land areas not subject to tidal fluctuation, the electrical datum plane is a horizontal plane 600 mm (2 ft) above the highest water level for the area occurring under normal circumstances.
- (3) In land areas subject to flooding, the electrical datum plane based on (1) or (2) above is a horizontal plane 600 mm (2 ft) above the point identified as the prevailing high water mark or an equivalent benchmark based on seasonal or storm-driven flooding from the authority having jurisdiction.
- (4) The electrical datum plane for floating structures and landing stages that are (1) installed to permit rise and fall response to water level, without lateral movement, and (2) that are so equipped that they can rise to the datum plane established for (1) or (2) above, is a horizontal plane 750 mm (30 in.) above the water level at the floating structure or landing stage and a minimum of 300 mm (12 in.) above the level of the deck.

**Equipotential Plane.** An area where wire mesh or other conductive elements are on, embedded in, or placed under the walk surface within 75 mm (3 in.), bonded to all metal structures and fixed nonelectrical equipment that may become energized, and connected to the electrical grounding system to prevent a difference in voltage from developing within the plane.

**Natural Bodies of Water.** Bodies of water such as lakes, streams, ponds, rivers, and other naturally occurring bodies of water, which may vary in depth throughout the year.

**Shoreline.** The farthest extent of standing water under the applicable conditions that determine the electrical datum plane for the specified body of water.

**682.3 Other Articles.** Wiring and equipment in or adjacent to natural or artificially made bodies of water shall comply with the applicable provisions of other articles of this *Code*, except as modified by this article. If the water is subject to boat traffic, the wiring shall comply with 555.13(B).

### II. Installation

**682.10 Electrical Equipment and Transformers.** Electrical equipment and transformers, including their enclosures,

