

# Aquatic Facility Rules Fact Sheet #9

*What you should know about the Code*

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/PL

OAR 333-060-1000,  
CHAPTER 4.8.6.2.1

## 4.8.6.2.1

### **Discourage Climbing**

ENCLOSURES shall be designed to discourage climbing from outside the enclosure and be located at an AQUATIC VENUE or an AQUATIC FACILITY to prevent access to nearby structures to simplify climbing over it, such as light poles, site furnishings, overhanging tree limbs or other obvious footholds or handholds.

OAR 333-062-1000,  
CHAPTER 5.8.6.1

## 5.8.6.1

### **General Requirements**

All required ENCLOSURES shall be maintained to prevent unauthorized entry to the protected space.

### **PUBLIC HEALTH REASONS:**

Enclosures that can be easily climbed pose a significant safety risk, especially to small children who may attempt to scale fences or gain access to the pool area unsupervised. Such attempts may lead to unauthorized entry, falls accidents, and accidental drownings, making it crucial for pool enclosures to be designed in a way that eliminates climbing hazards. Properly constructed enclosures play a vital role in maintaining pool safety by ensuring unsupervised children cannot access the pool area.

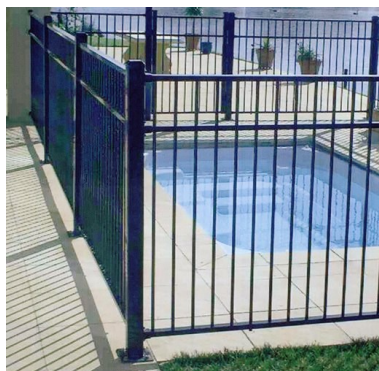
## Discourage Climbing

To ensure a safe and secure pool environment, aquatic venue enclosures must be designed to discourage climbing, which can present a serious risk for small children. If an enclosure can be climbed, children scaling the fence can fall or get into the pool area without supervision.

Pool enclosures should be designed to include the following:

### **Fence Design:**

Enclosures should be smooth and solid with no horizontal rails, which can serve as climbing aids. If a horizontal rail is required to ensure structural integrity of the fence, it must be spaced a minimum 42 inches from the top or bottom rail with no other footholds/handholds in between. Vertical bars must be spaced a maximum 4 inches apart to prevent small children from squeezing through the bars. This is an example of an appropriate design with horizontal rails >42 inches from bottom rail:

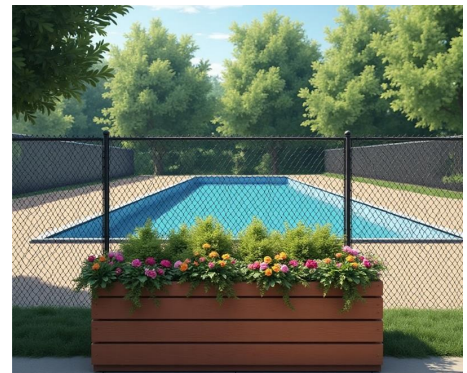


### **Height and Structure:**

Aquatic venue enclosures must be at least 6 feet or higher, to deter climbing. The enclosure should be clear of any objects that could be used as footholds or handholds, such as benches, projecting door/gate hinges,

es, trees, landscaping features, pipes, outlets, speakers, trash bins, parked vehicles, cable/electrical boxes or other objects near the enclosure. If such objects are located near the enclosure, they should be moved at least 42 inches away from the enclosure.

**These are examples of objects that compromise the enclosure:**



**Decorative items like planters and rocks outside the enclosure, are prohibited within 42 inches.**

### **Gate Security:**

Gates should be self-closing and self-latching, with the latch positioned a minimum of 42 inches from the ground or floor to prevent small children from opening the gate or door and accessing the pool area.

