**Policy Name:**
Required Permits for Spa/Hot Tubs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code/Year</th>
<th>Section of Code</th>
<th>Title of Code Section/Subsection</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NEC/2008</td>
<td>Art 680</td>
<td>Spa/Hot Tub Installations</td>
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<tr>
<td>IRC/2009</td>
<td>Sec. 105</td>
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**Statement/Background of Issue**
To clarify when permits are required for spa/hot tub installations.

**Division Interpretation/Policy**

A. When a spa or hot tub is installed *within a dwelling*:
   1. An electrical permit is required for both self-contained (plug-in) and "hard-wired" installations.
   2. A building permit is required in order to determine:
      a. Safe floor loading (water weighs 8.34 lbs/gallon and 62.22 lbs/cubic foot)
      b. Structural stability
      c. Flame spread ratings
      d. Labeled or listed unit

B. When a spa or hot tub is installed *outside a dwelling*:
   1. An electrical permit is required for both self-contained (plug-in) and "hard-wired" installations.
   2. All units must meet required setback restrictions.
   3. A building permit is required for hard-wired installations, or when the spa or hot tub is to be located on an existing deck.
   4. No building permit is required for a Self-contained (plug-in) spa or hot tub; however, a site plan must be submitted with the electrical permit application.

C. A listed safety cover meeting ASTM standards must cover all spas or hot tubs, when not in use.

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<tr>
<th>Interpretation/Policy No.</th>
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<tr>
<td>BCP11-04</td>
<td>March 1, 2011</td>
<td>Hadi Mansouri</td>
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