

International Awards of Excellence

Categories

Not sure which category your project belongs in? A handy question matrix on the entry site will help you choose from these categories.

Installations in the U.S. and Canada

Residential Concrete Pools

Pools with a Vanishing Edge:

Any shape, design or type of construction, **600 sq. ft. or less** of water surface area. Water feature detail in which water flows over the edge of at least one of the pool walls and is collected in a catch basin.

Pools with a Vanishing Edge

Any shape, design or type of construction, **601 sq. ft. or more** of water surface area. Water feature detail in which water flows over the edge of at least one of the pool walls and is collected in a catch basin.

Freeform:

Combination of non-geometric curves (and straight lines), **600 sq. ft. or less** of water surface area.

Freeform:

Combination of non-geometric curves (and straight lines), **601 sq. ft. or more** of water surface area.

Traditional:

(e.g., rectangle, Roman-/Grecian-ended) **600 sq. ft. or less** of water surface area.

Traditional:

(e.g., rectangle, Roman- or Grecian-ended) **601 sq. ft. or more** of water surface area.

Geometric:

Combination of straight lines and angles, and/or radius curves, **600 sq. ft. or less** of water surface area.

Geometric:

Combination of straight lines and angles, and/or radius curves, **601 sq. ft. or more** of water surface area.

Natural Setting:

(e.g., woods, desert, mountain or rock setting) construction includes products fabricated to resemble natural material any shape or design.

Natural Material:

(e.g., woods, desert, mountain or rock setting) constructed with all natural materials (excluding mortar, grout, hidden structural elements and pool plaster) any shape or design.

Residential Vinyl-Lined Pools**Pools with a Vanishing Edge:**

any shape, design or type of construction. Water feature detail in which water flows over the edge of at least one of the pool walls and is collected in a catch basin.

Freeform:

combination of non-geometric curves (and straight lines).

Traditional:

(e.g., rectangle, Roman-ended, Grecian-ended)

Geometric:

Combination of straight lines and angles, and/or radius curves.

Commercial Pool Categories**Competition Pools:**

Swimming pools that are constructed specifically for competition events that would include swim meets, board and/or platform diving, water polo games, synchronized swimming and/or other competitions.

* Facilities may include: Municipal, Secondary Schools, YMCA, College/Universities, Home Owner Association and Developments, Country Clubs.

Recreation/Leisure Pools:

Swimming pools that are constructed specifically for leisure and recreation.

* Facilities may include: Municipal, College or University (recreation specific, non competition use), Home Owner Associations and Developments, Resorts, Country Clubs, and HMAAC (Hotels, Motels, Apartments and Condos). Private residences, single dwellings through four-plexes are excluded if not part of a Homeowner Association.

Therapy Pools:

Small swimming pools, spas, hot tubs, cold plunge, endless pools, day spa/resort spa pools, etc.

that are constructed specifically for therapy purposes.

* Facilities may include: Wellness Centers, Health Clubs, Hospitals, YMCA.

Multi-Use Pools:

Facilities that may include swimming pools, spas, hot tubs, and other water vessels that are constructed for multiple uses. These pools/water bodies must have a combination of different zones.

* Facilities may include: Municipal, YMCA, Health Clubs, Home Owner Associations and Developments, Country Clubs.

Water Park:

An amusement park that features water play areas such as wave action pools, waterslides, lazy rivers, surf pools. The facility can be owned/operated by either a public entity, private business, or corporation.

Also see *Category 26, Pool Renovations*, and *Category 35, Commercial Water Features*.

Miscellaneous Pool Categories

Residential Aboveground/Package Pools:

Oval/Round/Rectangular with no added accessories/equipment (i.e., decking, heater, etc.) unless included by the original equipment manufacturer.

Residential Fiberglass Pools:

Includes pools with fiberglass and/or metal walls and concrete or rolled glass floor.

Residential Pools with Automatic Covers:

Any type of construction. Must submit: two separate photographs, one showing pool covered, and one showing pool uncovered.

Residential Interior Pools:

Any type of construction. Must be enclosed in a permanent structure that permits year-round use.

Screened Enclosed Residential Pools:

Any type of construction.

Pool Renovations:

***NOTE NEW PHOTOGRAPHY GUIDELINES:** Construction with some aspect of the original pool still in existence. Includes both residential and commercial installations. Photographs before construction commences, during construction and after construction must be submitted. All photos are to be taken from the same vantage point. Photographs taken during renovation are not acceptable as “Before” photos. *Be sure to label “Before” “During” or “After” on back of photo or in filename of photo.*

Technical/Engineering Achievement:

Swimming pools of any size or type constructed under unusual circumstances requiring unique technical/engineering expertise. Must include photos taken during construction highlighting the technical expertise/unusual circumstances.

Classic Residential Pools:

Any residential pool, regardless of size or type of construction, built at least ten (10) years prior to deadline that has not had any cosmetic changes or modernizations that would otherwise qualify it in the "Pool Renovations" category. Year pool was finished MUST accompany entry. Installations that won awards in previous years are eligible. Pools located outside U.S. and Canada are also eligible for this category.

Hot Tubs, Spas, and Water Features**Exterior/Interior Portable Hot Tubs:**

Self-contained units with hydromassage jets that are manufactured from prefabricated materials at a factory. Units are made of an acrylic or thermoplastic shell and are surrounded by a cabinet that houses the controls, the pump, heater and filter. Portable hot tubs can be moved to another location and reinstalled.

Hot Tub Shells:

Units are made of an acrylic or thermoplastic shell, but the pump, heater and filter are not an integral part of the unit - they are located separately. This type of hot tub is permanent once installed.

Concrete Spas

Not attached to a swimming pool. Permanently installed units with hydromassage jets that are constructed out of concrete (gunite, shotcrete, etc.). Includes residential and semipublic/public installations.

Spas Built in Conjunction with Swimming Pools:

Permanently installed units with hydromassage jets that are constructed out of concrete (gunite, shotcrete, etc.) and attached to a pool. The pool portion of the installation cannot have been submitted in a previous year's competition, nor can it be entered in the current year's competition.

Swim Spas:

Hot tub or spa that has swim jets in a portion of the vessel. Can be manufactured from prefabricated materials at a factory or constructed out of concrete (gunite, shotcrete, etc.).

Residential Water Features:

Nonbathing entity such as fountains and atriums, not connected to or part of a swimming pool, used only for aesthetic purposes.

Commercial Water Features:

Nonbathing entities such as fountains and atriums, not connected to or part of a swimming pool,

used only for aesthetic purposes

Installations Outside the U.S. and Canada

Residential Concrete Pools

Freeform:

Combination of non-geometric curves (and straight lines).

Traditional:

(e.g., rectangle, Roman-ended, Grecian-ended).

Geometric:

Combination of straight lines and angles, and/or radius curves.

Natural:

(e.g., woods, desert, mountain or rock setting, with natural and/or artificial water and/or landscape features) any shape or design.

Residential Vinyl-lined Pools

Residential Fiberglass Pools

Residential Interior Pools

Commercial Pools

Pool Renovations:

Any type of construction. Includes both residential and commercial installations. “Before” and “After” photographs must be submitted. Photographs taken during renovation are not acceptable as “Before” photos. Be sure to label “Before” or “After” on back of photo.

Hot Tubs/Spas:

Any type of manufacture/construction. Includes both residential and commercial installations.