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Q&A:

"ASK THE INSPECTOR'S INSPECTOR"

MCDONALD

HOME INSPECTION, INC.
ILLINOIS LICENSE # 450001666

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About MHI

McDonald Home Inspection, Inc. is owned and operated by Jim McDonald, a life-long resident of Rockford, IL and vicinity with strong community ties. MHI is not a franchise with a revolving stable of novice inspectors. All home inspections are performed by me, an inspector with over 30 combined years in residential, multi-

Q&A: "Ask the Inspector's Inspector"

by Jim McDonald, Owner MHI / IL Licensed Home Inspector

McDonald Home Inspection (MHI) has started a new question and answer eNews series to help homeowners, home seekers, and realtors understand important tips about home inspections and maintaining your home, with the occasional humorous "home inspection nightmare" sprinkled in. Learn and enjoy!

Email with your good questions to answer in future issues: ASK@inspect4us.com

Visit the McDonald Home Inspection website to learn more: www.inspect4us.com

Pool's Rules

Rockford Homebuyer asks:

family, and
commercial building,
rehabilitation and
inspection.

Contact MHI

To schedule your
inspection (usually
within 48 hours):

1. Call Jim at (815)
742-1083

OR

2. Send email to:

JIM@inspect4us.com

with your phone #s,
current address, and
property address and
when you are hoping
to schedule your
inspection.

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Q: I am buying a house that has an in ground pool. Besides the home inspection is the pool also included as part of the inspection?

A: After talking to some people about if I inspect pools or not I feel they are more concerned with the recreational side rather than safety. The pool, in ground or above ground are pretty simple if they are up and running. Filter is on, water is circulating and clear, no leaks. Done. The real attention should be safety and responsibility of possible liability.

Is there a sturdy fence around the pool at least 4 foot above grade and no less than 4" between any openings. Self latching gates above where a child cannot reach, usually no less than 54" If the wall of the dwelling is part of the barrier then attention is brought to doors open to the pool. Today's code would require that these have an alarm which sounds when opened. All required GFCI outlets within 20 feet of the pool to be in good working order.

This is a general idea of what the concerns are for pools, spas or hot tubs. If installing a pool and a permit is obtained (which is rare for an above ground pool) the codes will go beyond this.

Swimming pools can be lots of fun but if there is an accident it's just another big hole with water.

The answer to the question would be no, I don't inspect pools but I do pay close attention to what is going on around the pool and so should you.

For more helpful links about systems that keep homes safe and running smoothly, visit "HELPFUL" tab on my website.

