INSPECTION DEPARTMENT INFORMATION PUBLICATION

WOOD DECKS/PORCHES



Before a permit can be issued, in addition to a completed permit application, the following information is required.

Documents that include:

A Plat of Survey of the parcel where the deck is proposed including dimensions from property lines and the proposed deck.

Provide the location of all other structures on proposed construction site with distances from the other structures on the property clearly indicated.

Submit a plan view of the proposed deck including square footage, location of posts, beams and joist spacing. Provide the size and spacing of these structural components.

Provide an elevation view of the deck identifying post depth. The construction and dimensions of the stairs, rails, including baluster spacing, and bolts or fasteners used may be detailed or submitted on a section drawing.

(Clear and accurate information expedites the plan review process and the permit issuance procedure.)

The City adopts the State of Wisconsin Building Code for the construction of one and two family residential decks and porches.
https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/code/admin_code/sps/safety_and_buildings_and_environment/320_325/321.pdf

This informational sheet is not intended to be a "How to construct a deck". It has been prepared to answer commonly asked questions. Proper location and construction is the responsibility of the owner or his designated agent. IF YOU HAVE ANY OTHER QUESTIONS PLEASE ASK US. (414-769-2209)

CALL DIGGERS HOTLINE
BEFORE YOU DIG
PHONE # 811

NOTE: Please phone 48 hours in advance to schedule an inspection.

State Building Code requirements for your proposed deck/porch include:

- Construction materials be of treated or naturally decay-resistant lumber.
- Structural members be secured with corrosion resistant fasteners (i.e. bolts, nails, screws, hangers, straps)
  NOTE: Deck screws shall be used to secure decking material only.
- Use proper nails in conjunction with all metal connectors as required by the manufacturer.
- Graspable handrails must be provided with stairways more than 3 risers (proper hand rail height measures not less than 30" or more than 38" vertically from a tread nosing).
- Space balusters and openings so as to prevent the passage of a sphere 4" in diameter.
- At least 36 inch high guardrails are required where a deck/porch is higher than 24" above grade.
- City ordinance requires set backs of at least 3' from property lines if the structure is located more than 10' from dwelling.
- City zoning code mandates building setback compliance where the structure is proposed is less than 10' from dwelling.
- Compliant stairs require an 8" maximum rise and a minimum of 9" tread width. Any deviation in dimensional uniformity must be not greater than 3/8 inches.
- See the State Uniform Dwelling Code for other building code requirements.
- INSPECTIONS REQUIRED:
- Footings prior to backfilling of posts holes/foundation.
- Rough framing inspection (prior to deck covering).
- Final inspection (stairs, rails, decking, etc.)

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