# **Building a Deck:**



# **Information Guide for Building Permit Applications**

# These are general guidelines only and more information may be required on a case by case basis

#### When is a building permit required for a deck?

- If the deck is not attached to a dwelling and is larger than 10 m<sup>2</sup> or 108 ft<sup>2</sup>
- All decks attached to a dwelling or structure
- If structural renovations will be made to an existing deck

Note: A permit is not required for decks less than 24" (2 feet) from grade

### **Required Documents for Building Permit Application**

- Fully completed application form, including required schedules
- Comprehensive site plan
- 1 complete set of construction drawings
- Owner Authorization form, if applicant is not property owner
- \*\*\* All forms, permit documents and construction drawings, to be submitted electronically in PDF Format Only.

#### **Site Plan Requirements**

A comprehensive site plan or copy of the property survey showing:

- a. Proposed site of new construction, including all existing structures
- b. Distance from proposed structure to lot lines
- c. Location well and septic system and measurements to proposed construction

#### **Construction Drawings Requirements**

Please note, depending on the nature of the proposed construction and other variables, plans may be required to have a designer stamp, BCIN, Architect and/or Engineer (as applicable). The construction drawings must show:

### a. Plan view including:

- i. Footing detail (Helical Piles must be stamped by a professional engineer)
- ii. Joist/beam sizing, spans and direction
- iii. Stairs and landings
- iv. Connection to existing structure (if attached)
- v. Roof construction (truss layout and direction (if deck/porch is covered)
- b. **Elevation views** (front and side)
  - i. Height of deck and guard above grade to be noted

#### c. Sections

- i. Cross Section
- ii. Wall sections (as needed)

See attached sample drawings for further details

#### Guards/Railings (for decks 24" or higher)

The Ontario Building Code permits the installation of wood guards/railings. Should you plan on installing anything other than a wood guard/railing, please submit a copy of the Pre-Engineered guard/railing details with your building permit application. Typically you can receive this package of details from the supplier.

**NOTE**: Hollow plastic or vinyl guards or railings are not permitted

# Approved Decking Materials (for decks 24" or higher)

Any CCMC approved material is acceptable.

# **Timeline for Applications**

Once a **complete** building permit application is submitted, the permit will be reviewed within 10 business days.

#### Where to apply for a building permit?

Please submit your complete application in PDF format to <a href="mailto:building@get.on.ca">building@get.on.ca</a>
For more information please visit:

https://www.get.on.ca/living-here/building-permits-and-inspections

#### **Cost of building permit**

Please see Schedule "A" of By-Law 13/2018 for applicable building permit fees. These fees cover all plans review, building permit, and resulting inspections. Note: All fees and charges listed herein are payable upon collection of the Building Permit.

#### Questions?

Contact the Building Department for assistance:

Phone: 519.856.9596 X 114 Email: building@get.on.ca

#### Zoning

All structures must meet the requirements for the zone in which it is located. If you are unsure of the zoning on your property, please call the Planning Department 519.856.9596 X 112

# Grand River Conservation Authority Applicable only if your proposed deck/porch is covered

Is your property under the GRCA's regulated area? Property owners are encouraged to check their property at <a href="www.grandriver.ca">www.grandriver.ca</a> before applying for a building permit; additional permission from the GRCA may be required for you proposed construction.

# CALL BEFORE YOU DIG - IT'S THE LAW!

Planting a tree, building a deck or a fence? Contact ON1Call first to get a locate so you can dig safely. Remember, you are liable for any damage or injury caused by interfering with buried infrastructure. Request your free locate online or call 1-800-400-2255, open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week!





