



## RESIDENTIAL ACCESSORY STRUCTURES - DECKS & PLATFORMS

### FAQ's - Frequently Asked Questions

#### ***Do I need a building permit?***

Yes, more than likely. If your deck or platform is used as a means of egress from your home or is in anyway permanently affixed to the ground via foundation, slab, piers, etc; then you will definitely need a building permit.

#### ***What Information do I need to obtain a building permit?***

You will need to fill out a Residential Building Permit Application, as well as, provide a site plan locating the proposed deck or platform on your property as it relates to property lines, existing structures, wells, septic systems, etc and a basic plan, which indicates all major components used. The back side of this document can be used for simple decks.

#### ***How much does a building permit cost?***

Basic uncovered decks start at \$100, which includes the base fee and necessary inspections. Complex deck configurations may require plan review at \$1/10 sqft.

#### ***When do I need to have it inspected?***

Permanent structures usually require two inspections. The first being a foundation inspection (before covering the foundation/footings) and a final inspection upon completion. Please call the Building Inspector at 715-842-0983 to schedule inspections or if you have any questions.

#### ***Are there any restrictions I should be aware of?***

Wisconsin Statute 182.0175 requires all excavators - including homeowners and construction contractors - to notify owners and operators of buried utilities of their intent to dig at least three business days prior to beginning their work. Call Diggers Hotline at 800-242-8511 before excavating.

If your property is within a Natural Resource Protection Overlay District, approvals and permits from either Marathon County or the Wisconsin DNR would be required to be obtained prior to the Town issuing a Building Permit.

### Other General Requirements

All lumber must be pressure-preservative-treated, a naturally durable species, or a manufactured product which complies with ASTM D7032.

All Fasteners, Joist Hangers, Anchors, and other Hardware must be galvanized steel, stainless steel, or approved for use with preservative-treated lumber and installed in accordance with the manufacturer instructions.

Every deck must have an electrical outlet along the perimeter of the deck and within 6.5 ft of the deck surface in accordance with NEC 210.52(E)(3).

All deck components shall be designed and constructed to support the loads applied. Most sizing charts are limited to uniform loading conditions and often do not take into account items like roofs, planters, hot tubs, multi-level decks, etc.

Safety glazing at decks shall be in accordance with the requirements of the Uniform Dwelling Code.

Construction over utility lines or any service pipe is prohibited.

### Permitted Intrusions into Required Yard Setbacks

Terraces, steps, uncovered porches, detached decks, stoops, or similar appurtenances to residential buildings which do not extend above the floor level of the adjacent building entrance may protrude into the required front or street yard setbacks provided they do not locate closer than 15 feet from any street right-of-way.

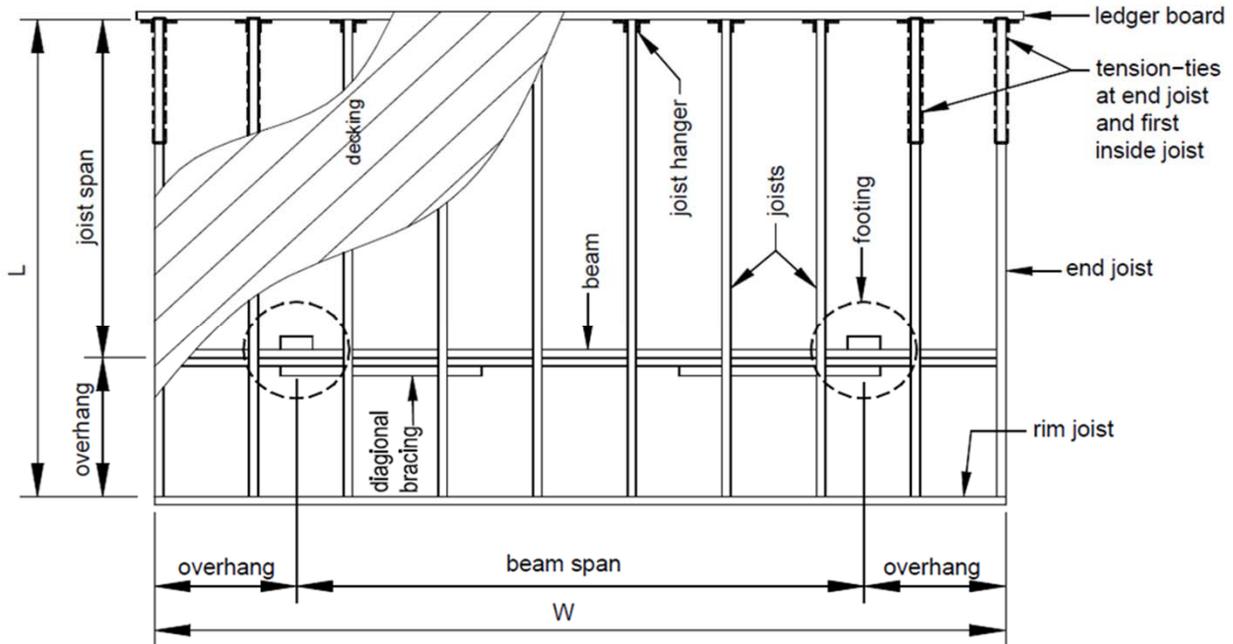
Terraces, steps, uncovered porches, detached decks, stoops, or similar appurtenances to residential buildings which do not extend more than 3 feet above grade may protrude into the required rear yard provided they do not locate closer than 8 feet to the rear lot line.

Balconies or similar appurtenances to residential buildings may protrude into the required rear yard provided they do not extend more than 6 feet into the required rear yard.

## Deck Component Sizing and Specifications

Please refer to SPS 320 to 325 Appendix B for Details, Sizing Charts, and Connection requirements. Follow the link below to the Department of Safety and Professional Services Website.

[DSPS Link](#)



Please indicate the component type and size you plan to use for all areas listed below.

**Total Deck Size:** L = \_\_\_\_\_ (ft) - \_\_\_\_\_ (in) x W = \_\_\_\_\_ (ft) - \_\_\_\_\_ (in)

**Footing Type:**  Full Depth Sonatube  
 Footing w/ 12" Concrete Stem  
 Treated Post Embedded in Concrete  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Footing Size:** \_\_\_\_\_ inches  
 Round  Square

**Footing Thickness:** \_\_\_\_\_ inches

**Post Height:** \_\_\_\_\_ (ft) - \_\_\_\_\_ (in)  
*(Measured from top of footing to underside of beam)*

**Post Size:**  4x4  4x6  
 6x6  \_\_\_\_\_

**Post to Beam Connection:**  Notched Post (2-Ply Only)  Post Cap (2 or 3 Ply)  Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Beam Type:**  Dropped Beam  Flush Beam

**Beam Size:**  2x6  2x10  
 2x8  2x12

**Beam Overhang:** \_\_\_\_\_ (ft) - \_\_\_\_\_ (in)

No. of Plies: \_\_\_\_\_

**Joist Span:** \_\_\_\_\_ (ft) - \_\_\_\_\_ (in)

**Overhang Dimension:** \_\_\_\_\_ (ft) - \_\_\_\_\_ (in)

**Joist Size:**  2x6  2x8  2x10  2x12

**On Center Spacing:**  12"  16"  24"

**Ledger Connection:**  Through Bolt  Lag Screw  Wood Screw  Other  
 Expansion Anchor  Adhesive Anchor

**Ledger Board:**  2x8  2x10  2x12  N/a Freestanding Deck

**Decking Materials:**  2x4  2x6  5/4 Board  Composite  Other

**Lateral Support:**  Tension Tie  Diagonal Bracing  45 deg Decking  Hold-down Device

**Stair Stinger Type:**  Cut Stringer  Notched Stringer  N/a