



Building Safety Newsletter

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Building Safety

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Inspection Request Line: **(757) 890-3910**

Hours of Operation

Monday-Friday: 8:15 a.m.- 5 p.m.

Website:

yorkcounty.gov/buildingsafety

Forms and other useful information can be found on our website. In addition, all of the current Virginia codes can be viewed.

Design Details For YORK COUNTY

Ground Snow Load: 15PSF

Wind Speed: 115 MPH

Frost Line Depth: 16"

Our New Name

Building Regulation was changed to **Building Safety** in 2019. The new name is synonymous with what we do, and that is to insure the health, **safety**, and welfare of the residents of the Commonwealth of Virginia in accordance with the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code.

Duct Testing

Effective **September 4, 2018**, the **2015 Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code** replaced the 2012 code. There are some changes in the **Energy Code** that apply specifically to HVAC installations in residential construction. A significant change is in regard to **Duct Testing**.

Section N1103.3.3 states that duct testing for air leakage is now mandatory. The visual inspection is no longer an alternative to duct testing. A duct air leakage test is not required for ducts and air handlers that are located entirely in the building thermal envelope. Please be aware that inspectors need to receive test results before they can pass your final mechanical inspections. Contact inspectors Ralph Motley or Rick Savala for more information.



Permit Software Upgrade Coming Soon

New and exciting software is coming soon to York County. It will allow us to provide better customer service to our citizens and contractors alike. Stay posted for updates as they become available.

When is a Permit Required?

VUSBC Section 108 requires a permit to be issued by the building official for most construction activity. Listed below are some of the common activities which require a permit:

- Constructing, enlarging, altering, repairing, or demolishing a building or structure.
- Removal or addition of any wall, partition, or portion thereof; any structural component.
- When installing or altering any plumbing, electrical, or mechanical systems.
- Removing any asbestos containing material.
- Fences associated with swimming pools.
- Storage buildings greater than 256 square feet.
- Retaining walls supporting more than 3 feet of unbalanced fill.
- When erecting a tent greater than 900 square feet in size and intended to be used by fifty or more persons.

Swimming Pools - Questions and Answers

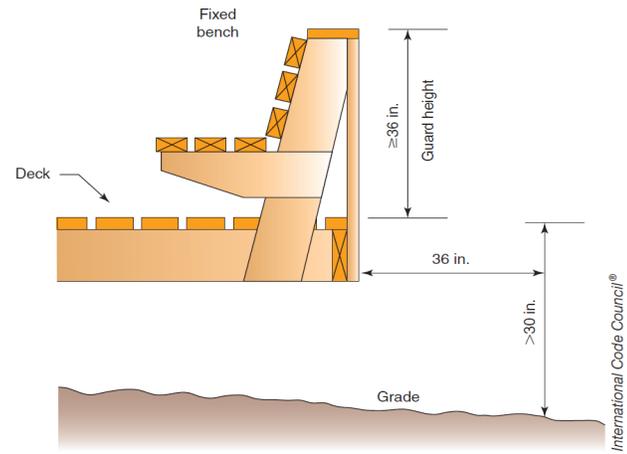
“When do I need a permit?” Swimming Pools that have a surface area greater than 150 square feet, exceed 5000 gallons, and are more than 24 inches deep require a permit.

“Do I need a fence?” All pools which require a permit, including in-ground, aboveground or an on-ground pool, hot tub or spa, must meet barrier requirements. Please contact our office to obtain more information.



2015 Code Change: R312.1.2 Guard Height

CHANGE SUMMARY: The provision requiring that the guard height be measured from the surface of adjacent fixed seating has been removed from the code. Consensus held that fixed seating, similar to movable furniture and other objects found adjacent to guards on a deck, should not be regulated as a walking surface. See Illustration at right.



Measuring guard height at fixed seating

Plumbing Tips

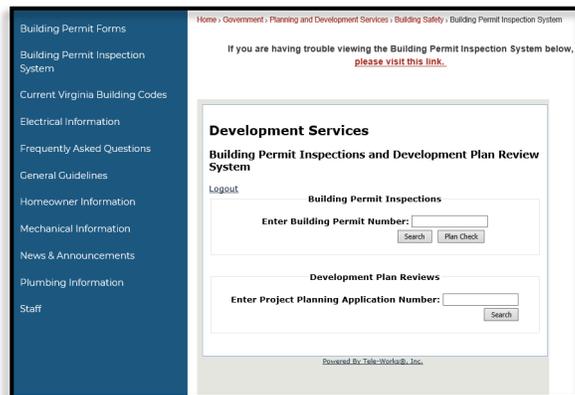


- **P2903.5** Water hammer arrestors shall be installed where quick closing valves are utilized. This includes ice-maker, dishwasher, and washer boxes.
- **R602.6** When drilling pipe holes in wood framing, drill the hole to fit the pipe size, no larger.
- **R602.6** Any stud in an exterior wall or bearing partition shall not be notched to a depth exceeding 25 percent of its width. Studs in nonbearing partitions shall be permitted to be notched to a depth not to exceed 40 percent of a single stud width.

Schedule an Inspection Online

Inspections may be scheduled by visiting our website and clicking on “Building Permit Inspection System”.

- Online requests are recommended whenever you have special instructions for the inspectors.
- Once the new system goes live we will no longer have a request line through the phone system.



Contact Us:

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