



Community Development Department
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DECKS, PORCHES, AND GAZEBOS

Building permits are required for all decks over 24 sq ft in size or 24" or more above grade as well as all covered decks and gazebos.

Covered Decks, Porches, and Gazebos

If you plan on building a covered porch, gazebo, or screen room that is attached to a principal structure, you must meet the following yard setback requirements:

- 30' minimum rear yard (distance from building to rear lot line)
- 6' minimum side yard (distance from building to side lot line)
- 16' aggregate side yard
This means that if you have the minimum 6' on one side, you must have at least 10' on the other so there is a total of 16' side yard.
- 25' minimum setback (distance from deck to front lot line)

If you plan on building a detached gazebo or screen room that is on or connected to an attached deck, you must meet the following yard setback requirements:

- 8' minimum rear yard
- 6' minimum side yard
- Not allowed in actual front yard

If you plan on building a detached freestanding gazebo or screen room, you must meet the following requirements:

- 3' minimum rear yard
- 3' minimum side yard or
- 6' minimum side yard if structure is to be built in the actual side yard of the home
- Not allowed in actual front yard

Uncovered Decks

If you plan on building an uncovered deck attached or within 5' of the principal structure, you must meet the following yard requirements:

- 8' minimum rear yard
- 6' minimum side yard and an aggregate minimum on both sides of 16'
- may extend maximum of 8' from front line of principle building into required setback

If you plan on building an uncovered deck further than 5' from the principal structure, you must meet the following yard requirements:

- 3' minimum rear yard
- 3' minimum side yard or
- 6' minimum side yard if structure is to be built in the actual side yard of the home
- Not allowed in actual front yard

Corner Lots

Corner lot line setback rules must be obtained directly from the building inspector.

Size Limitations

Gazebos or screen rooms not attached to the principle structure are limited in size to not more than 300 gross sq. ft. They are also limited to a maximum wall height of 10' on two sides and a maximum overall height of 15'.

Building Permits

Please reference the City of Neenah Inspections website for a complete fee list. Permit fees for all attached porches, screen rooms, and gazebos are based on size by square footage.

ITEMS REQUIRED FOR PERMIT APPLICATION SUBMITTAL

- Site plan showing distances off of side and rear lot lines (sample provided in this handout)
- Completed deck worksheet (last page of handout)
- Framing plan with lumber sizes, spans and footing locations (sample provided on the last page of this handout, top of the page)

BEWARE OF UNDERGROUND UTILITY WIRES

Please remember that there may be underground electric, phone, or cable T.V. wires buried on your property generally in 5' or 6' wide easements on your side and rear lot lines. Please call the Digger's Hotline before you do any digging on your property. **DIGGERS HOTLINE: (800) 242-8511**

This information is only a general guide to help you plan a building project. While we have made an attempt to answer the questions most often asked of this department, your situation may not be included. Please feel free to call or email with any questions you may have. 920-886-6130 or inspections@ci.neenah.wi.us

Example Site Plan

