

WORK MUST START WITHIN SIX (6) MONTHS OF ISSUANCE OF PERMIT OR PERMIT WILL EXPIRE. IF, AFTER STARTING, THE WORK IS DISCONTINUED FOR A PERIOD OF 12 MONTHS, THIS PERMIT IMMEDIATELY EXPIRES.

MISSION STATEMENT

To serve the citizens of Chowan County by providing protection for the public health, safety and welfare. Serving with the goal of meeting the needs of the citizens.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

If you would like more information regarding obtaining a building permit you may contact:

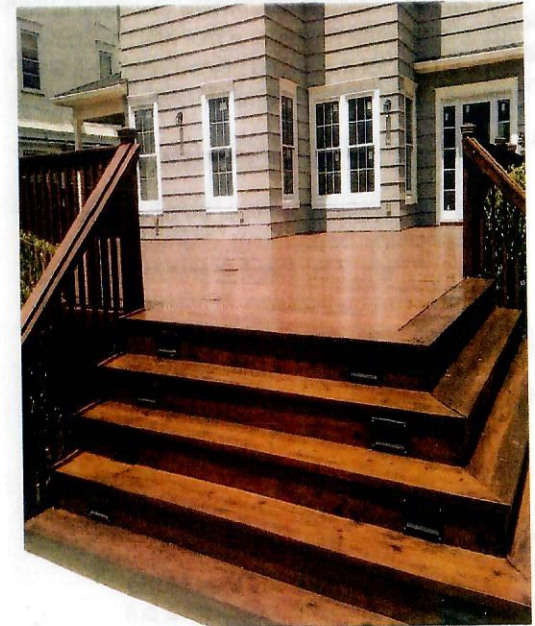
**Edenton-Chowan
BUILDING INSPECTIONS
252-482-5618**

**Hours: 8:00 a.m.– 12:30 p.m.
1:15 p.m. -- 5:00 p.m.
Monday— Friday**

**All current State
Building Codes can be
viewed at www.ncbia.org**

EDENTON-CHOWAN BUILDING INSPECTIONS DEPARTMENT

**PERMIT REQUIREMENTS
FOR DECKS/PORCHES**



The following is for general information only & may not cover every situation. Please consult with this office BEFORE building a Deck/Porch addition for any questions. Permits are always required.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

1—Do I need a permit?

Yes, a permit is required to assure compliance with: Zoning, CAMA, FEMA, fire district, etc.

2—How do I obtain a permit application?

You can stop by this office or call to have one e-mailed, faxed or mailed to you.

3—What information do I need to complete the application?

You will need the address where the deck is being added, size, material type, a plot plan to show where on the lot it is being placed and who will do the work. Additional information may be required.

4—Can I get permit the same day?

No. The application must be approved by the Inspections Department, Planning Department, and Tax department before a permit can be issued.

5—How much does the permit cost?

Minimum Fee \$100.00

6—I have an existing patio. Can I build a deck on top of it?

No, a concrete patio is not generally designed to carry the dead load of the floor. Loading points will need to be cut through the slab.

7—How deep do my footings have to be?

Footings must be a minimum of 12" below grade. Thickness and width vary for the footing load. Support post shall be supported by a footing. Discuss with the inspector.

8—Can I use 5/8" lag screws for fastening my deck to the house and posts?

No, 5/8" hot dipped galvanized through bolts with nut and washer are required as minimum.

9—When do I need handrails or guardrails?

Four or more steps require a handrail and where the porches, decks, balconies or raised floor surfaces located 30 inches or more above the floor or grade, guards are required.

10—How high does a railing have to be?

Handrails on stairs are required to be a minimum of 34 inches and a maximum of 38 inches. Guardrails are 36 inches high, minimum.

11—Do I need joist hangers or ledger strips for my joist?

Yes, a minimum of 2" ledger strip with 3 nails per joist or an approved joist hanger.

12—How far apart do the pickets on my railing/ steps have to be?

Maximum spacing is 4" for any opening below the handrail to deck or step surface.

13—How far can my deck carry out over a dropped girder?

The maximum allowable cantilever over a dropped girder is 24".

14—How close can I place my building to the side property line?

Depends on zoning district. Consult with appropriate planner (Town-252-482-2155 or County 252-482-5618)

15—Can I place the deck over my septic tank?

Generally, no; however, you must receive written approval from the Chowan County Health Department before a permit to build the deck can be issued. (Health Department phone number-252-482-1199)

16—Can I locate the deck within 75' of the water?

Generally, yes. If the deck is located less than 75' from the water body you will need a CAMA permit.

17—Can I put a roof over my deck?

Generally, yes. Discuss this with the inspector at the time you make application.

18—Can I have a ceiling fan?

Yes, provided you have a 6'-8" clearance from the floor to the fan paddle and fan is manufactured for damp locations.

