Residential Deck Submittal Requirements

All new decks, additions to decks, and structural repairs of existing decks require a building permit. Please submit the following information for decks being built per the Design for Code Acceptance 6 (DCA 6) Prescriptive Residential Wood Deck Construction Guide.

If your project will not be built per the DCA 6 you will be required to submit a framing plan. The plan will need to be reviewed and accepted prior to the permit being issued. Engineered Design may be required.

Engineered Design will be required for the following:

- Multi-span decks, e.g. deck with center bearing beams carrying loads from joists on each side
- Decks for supporting hot tubs, a roof over a deck, or sunroom on a deck
- Using listed wood connectors or materials other than those specified in the DCA 6

Please submit the following items with your application. Please check that these items are included with your application. If they are not checked your application will not be accepted.

☐ Two copies of the plat showing to scale the following items: deck, house, out buildings, sidewalks, and patios, etc.

☐ Building permit application completely filled out and signed

If you are not building using the DCA 6 you must also submit the following information:

☐ A complete framing plan including but not limited to the following:
  - Framing lay out
  - Framing member sizes
  - Footing depth and size
  - Connector types
  - Fastener types and location
  - Beam schedule
  - Post schedule

Any electrical, plumbing, mechanical, or gas fitting work will require additional permits.

All contractors are required to be licensed and to obtain their own permits.

Please review page 2 for additional inspections, local information, and clarification of some requirements that are required by the DCA 6 Prescriptive Residential Wood Deck Construction Guide.

Please call 540.994.8606 if you have any questions.
The DCA 6 Prescriptive Residential Wood Deck Construction Guide is approved for planning and building single span, single level decks without a roof, sunroom, or similar construction on them including hot tubs.

The frost depth in the Town of Blacksburg is a minimum of 24” to the bottom of the footing.

Snow load is 30 p.s.f.

All footings must be free of roots, organic material, water or loose dirt.

The bottom of the footing shall be firm undisturbed soil or compacted fill (may require soil evaluation by a specialty inspector at owner’s or contractor’s expense).

Ledger strips are not approved in deck construction.

Carriage bolts are not an acceptable substitution of through bolts.

Minimum Inspections Requirements:

You must have a copy of the DCA 6 Prescriptive Residential Wood Deck Construction Guide available to the inspector at each inspection. It will be used by the inspector to help effectively explain any corrections on your project. You do not need to be onsite for your inspection; however, you must provide a ladder and access to all parts of the deck.

1. Footings and ledger board attachment - you must provide access to the interior of the house and wall/ceiling finishes must be removed for inspection of each fastener

2. If deck or portions of deck are less than 48” above grade a framing inspection is required prior to installing deck boards

3. Final

Please call 540.994.8606 or email jmckinney@pulaskitown.org to schedule an inspection. You must request an AM or PM inspection or you will be assigned either depending on schedule requirements. All requests for inspections must be made before 5:00 PM the day before the requested date.