



Do I Need a Permit?

City of
Columbia Heights
Community Development
Department

To insure the safety of all residents of the City of Columbia Heights, the State Statutes regarding the Minnesota State Construction Code and Contractor Licensing is strictly enforced.

PERMITS ARE REQUIRED FOR:

An owner or authorized agent who intends to construct, enlarge, alter, repair, move, demolish, or change the occupancy of a building or structure; erect, install, enlarge, alter, repair, remove, convert, or replace any gas, mechanical, electrical, plumbing system, or other equipment, the installation of which is regulated by the code; or cause any such work to be done, shall first make application to the building official and obtain the required permit.

Please call (763) 706-3678 if you have questions about whether or not a permit is required.

Electrical permits are obtained from the State Board of Electricity website at www.electricity.state.mn.us or by calling 651-284-5064.

PERMITS NOT REQUIRED FOR:

- Building permits are not required for Fences under seven feet in height. However, the City's Zoning Ordinance requires residential fences to be 6 ft or under unless a Conditional Use permit is approved. And the Zoning Code does NOT allow any fence to be higher than 7 feet.
- One story detached accessory structures, provided the floor area does not exceed 200 square feet (such as sheds, playhouses). These structures must still meet setback requirements per our Zoning Code.
- Retaining walls that are not over four feet in height measured from the bottom of the footing to the top of the wall.
- Sidewalks and driveways.
- Decks and platforms not more than 30 inches above adjacent grade and not attached to a structure with frost footing.
- Painting, papering, tiling, carpeting, cabinets, countertops, and similar finish work.
- Pre-fabricated swimming pools which are 24 inches or less in depth, do not exceed 5,000 gallons, and are installed entirely above ground.
- Window awnings.
- Gutters.

PLEASE NOTE: EVEN IF PERMITS ARE NOT REQUIRED, YOU STILL MUST ADHERE TO ANY CITY ORDINANCES, ZONING REGULATIONS, AND SETBACK REQUIREMENTS.

City of Columbia Heights Building Inspection Department
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Columbia Heights, MN 55421
(763) 706-3678