

# Deck Permit

## DEFINITIONS

- ◆ A deck is an exterior floor system supported on at least two opposing sides by an adjoining structure and/or posts, piers, or other independent supports.

## REQUIREMENTS

- ◆ Post and span requirements depend on total square footage of deck that will be supported. See back page for more information.

## PERMITS

- ◆ A permit is required by the City of Norwalk before the erection, construction, alteration, placing or locating of any deck.
- ◆ Price of a deck permit is \$120.

## PROCESS

- ◆ Obtain and fill out a permit application from Development Services Department at Norwalk City Hall or online at: [www.norwalk.iowa.gov](http://www.norwalk.iowa.gov)
- ◆ Submit a completed application with a copy of detailed plans, specs, and proposed materials; include a site plan showing details of the size, location, distance to property lines.
- ◆ After an application and all required information has been submitted, the Department has 12 business days to review the application.
- ◆ You will be notified by telephone or e-mail of approval and any fees.
- ◆ Once the permit has been approved and paid, you may begin your project.
- ◆ Inspections are required for deck footings, framing, and upon deck completion.

\* The City of Norwalk recommends that property owners verify the deck they desire is allowed under any restrictive covenants.



**Know what's below.  
Call before you dig.**



City of Norwalk Community Development Department  
705 North Avenue  
Norwalk, IA 50211  
Phone: 515.981.9530  
Fax: 515.981.4305  
[www.norwalk.iowa.gov](http://www.norwalk.iowa.gov)  
Email permits to: [Permits@norwalk.iowa.gov](mailto:Permits@norwalk.iowa.gov)

# Deck Permit Continued

## DECK CONSTRUCTION

Drawing must include:

1. HEIGHTS ABOVE GRADE
2. SUPPORTS
3. SIZE AND NUMBER OF HOLES:

If free-standing:

$$\frac{\text{Total sq. ft. of deck}}{\text{Number of holes}} = \text{Sq. ft. to be displaced}$$

If attached:

$$\frac{1/2 \text{ Total sq. ft. of deck}}{\text{Number of holes}} = \text{Sq. ft. to be displaced}$$

- ◆ Compare to list at right; if square feet falls in between listed figures, round up to next size
  - ◆ Holes should be dug at least 42" deep (frost footing) with minimum 8" concrete pad.
4. **HANDRAILS:** required if the deck is 30" or more above grade. Railing should be 36" tall with less than 4" spacing.

5. **SPANS:** See table at right

Deck thickness required:

24" on center = 2"

16" on center = 1 1/4"

12" on center = 3/4"

### IMPORTANT NOTES:

- ⇒ **All fasteners must be galvanized**
- ⇒ **All load-bearing bolts and lags must be a minimum of 1/2"**
- ⇒ **Framing must be nailed, not screwed**

### DECK DISPLACEMENT

- (1) 12" hole = 32 sq ft of deck
- (1) 14" hole = 44 sq ft of deck
- (1) 16" hole = 56 sq ft of deck
- (1) 18" hole = 72 sq ft of deck

Size	24" on center	16" on center	12" on center
2 x 6	8'1" span	9'4" span	10'3" span
2 x 8	10'3" span	12'3" span	13'6" span
2 x 10	12'7" span	15'5" span	17'3" span
2 x 12	14'7" span	17'10" span	20'7" span

**NOTE: We will gladly accept a drawing from you favorite home improvements store as engineered plans**