

Town of Groton

101 Conger Boulevard, PO Box 36, Groton, NY 13073
Code Enforcement Officer -- Gary L. Coats
607-898-4428

Basic Deck/ Porch Construction

Is it Freestanding or Attached?

If **attached** the Ledger Board shall be pressure treated, **bolted or lag screwed** to the structure and be properly flashed.

Requirements for all Decks:

All wood that comes into contact with the ground shall be pressure treated.

Sizes and open spans will determine lumber dimensions—check with Code Officer.

All holes for pressure treated posts shall be 42” deep, concrete may be used at base of hole, but concrete shall not surround the post.

Post size to be determined by size and span – see Code Officer

After holes are dug they shall be inspected by Code Officer

All framing shall be bolted/ lag screwed to the posts

Hangers shall be on both ends of joists

Decking determined by spacing/ spans of floor joists—see Code Officer

If decking is 30 or more inches off the ground the deck shall have a guard not less than 36” High and nowhere shall a 4” sphere be able to pass through.

Handrails shall be at least on one side of stairway with two or more risers--handrail height not less than 34”

The handrail itself is subject to the same 4” sphere requirements.

Stairway Requirements:

36” wide or more

8 ¼” maximum riser height (all risers shall be within 3/8” of each other)

9” minimum tread depth (all risers above 30” shall be subject to the same 4” sphere requirements)

The handrail must meet a graspability standard – see Code Officer

Final inspection required by Code Officer and Certificate of Compliance will be issued.

This is just a list of a few Deck/Porch questions that I commonly receive—This is not meant to be a primer on Deck/Porch Construction, but merely an informational tool.
