



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PORT HURON

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DECK STRUCTURES CONSTRUCTION POLICY

- **All Decks**, will need to comply with the following:
 - A Mortgage Survey, Property Survey or a Plot Plan Drawing will be required to be submitted with the location of all existing and proposed structures drawn to scale.
 - All structures must be anchored to the ground to prevent possible upheaval/damage.
 - All structures must comply with the State of Michigan Building Code to ensure compliance with safety requirements. The "Prescriptive Residential Wood Deck Construction Guide", as produced by the 2010 American Forest & Paper Association, Inc." meets the requirements found in the 2009 International Residential Code and can be downloaded @ www.awc.org/publications/dca/dca6/dca6-09.pdf for guidance in constructing a deck in compliance with the current State Residential Building Code.

AND

- A "**Zoning Permit**" application will be required to be filled out and turned in by the property owner or a licensed builder for all decks **not adjacent or attached to a residence, that are under 200 sq. ft.**

OR

- A "**Building Permit**" application will be required to be filled out and turned in by the property owner or a licensed builder for all decks **adjacent or attached to a residence that are over 200 sq. ft.**

- "**Decks**", that are "**Adjacent**" to a residence, that do not exceed 200 sq. ft. will also be able to comply with the following additional exception:
 - Decks not supported by a dwelling (attached) need not be supported by footings that extend below the frost line. A simple "on grade" masonry footing may be used per the MI Res. Code Section 403.1.4.1 Frost Protection, Exception 3.

- "**Decks and Structures**" that are "**Attached**" to a dwelling or exceeding 200 sq. ft., and are constructed of standard deck framing, such as Posts and Beam, will need the following:
 - A "Building Permit" will be required per MI Bldg. Code Section 105.1 – 105.2
 - 42" footings need to be installed for the posts.
 - Compliance with the 2009 Michigan Building Code which requirements are also listed in the document noted above, the American Forest & Paper Assoc. "Deck Construction Guide" found at www.awc.org/publications/dca/dca6/dca6-09.pdf .

Owners and/or builders of Decks are expected to read and follow the above information. Decks that are not constructed in accordance with the above information will given notice of any violations upon inspection and be expected to complete repairs in a timely manner. Failure to comply will result in the issuance of a Municipal Civil Infraction, including a fine and possible court appearance.