

I want to build a deck! What do I need to do?

- A. This isn't rocket science but it does require planning because it will be a structure that should be **safe**, and built to last for decades. Start by considering where you want to place the deck, taking into account any vents (dryer, boiler, furnace), doorways, windows and hose connections on the side of the house, as well as any water, gas or sewer/septic lines underground.
- B. Sketch your proposed deck onto a **COPY** of your property survey so that one can see the relationship of the deck to the house and to property lines as well as other structures and driveways. If you don't have a survey then create a line drawing **to scale** with the general property features shown.
- C. Make another plan view (looking down) sketch of the deck itself showing the construction details. This should include lumber sizes and types, and hardware being used to connect members. Part of this sketch should be an elevation (looking sideways) showing the height of the deck above **ground level**, and the depth of the supporting members below **ground level**, as well as steps and railing construction, if any.
- D. Internet sources such as these are excellent resources to design decks to code approval :
 - www.Decks.com and
 - www.awc.org/publications/DCA/DCA6/DCA6-09.pdf
- E. Bring your paperwork to the Code Enforcement office and we'll review your plans and issue the permit. Call ahead to ensure a Code Official will be able to meet with you.