



## Permits for Decks

### **Do I need a permit for building a deck?**

Anyone building a new deck, replacing or adding onto an existing deck needs to obtain a building permit. Other permits may also be required.

Exception: An uncovered deck less than 2 feet above finished grade does not require a permit.

### **What do I need to apply for a deck permit?**

- Permit Application
- A copy of your Real Property Report
- Deck plans and standard uncovered deck design form

### **Contractor Information:**

If a contractor is constructing your deck, you will need to provide the name of the contractor who will be performing the work.

- Contractors require a City of Airdrie business license

### **Inspections are required when the deck construction is completed or prior to the expiry of the permit.**

Book inspection online with your MyAirdrie account [www.airdrie.ca](http://www.airdrie.ca)

Call inspection in at: 403-948-8833

Email: [inspection.requests@airdrie.ca](mailto:inspection.requests@airdrie.ca)

### **Real Property Report** will need to be to scale and show:

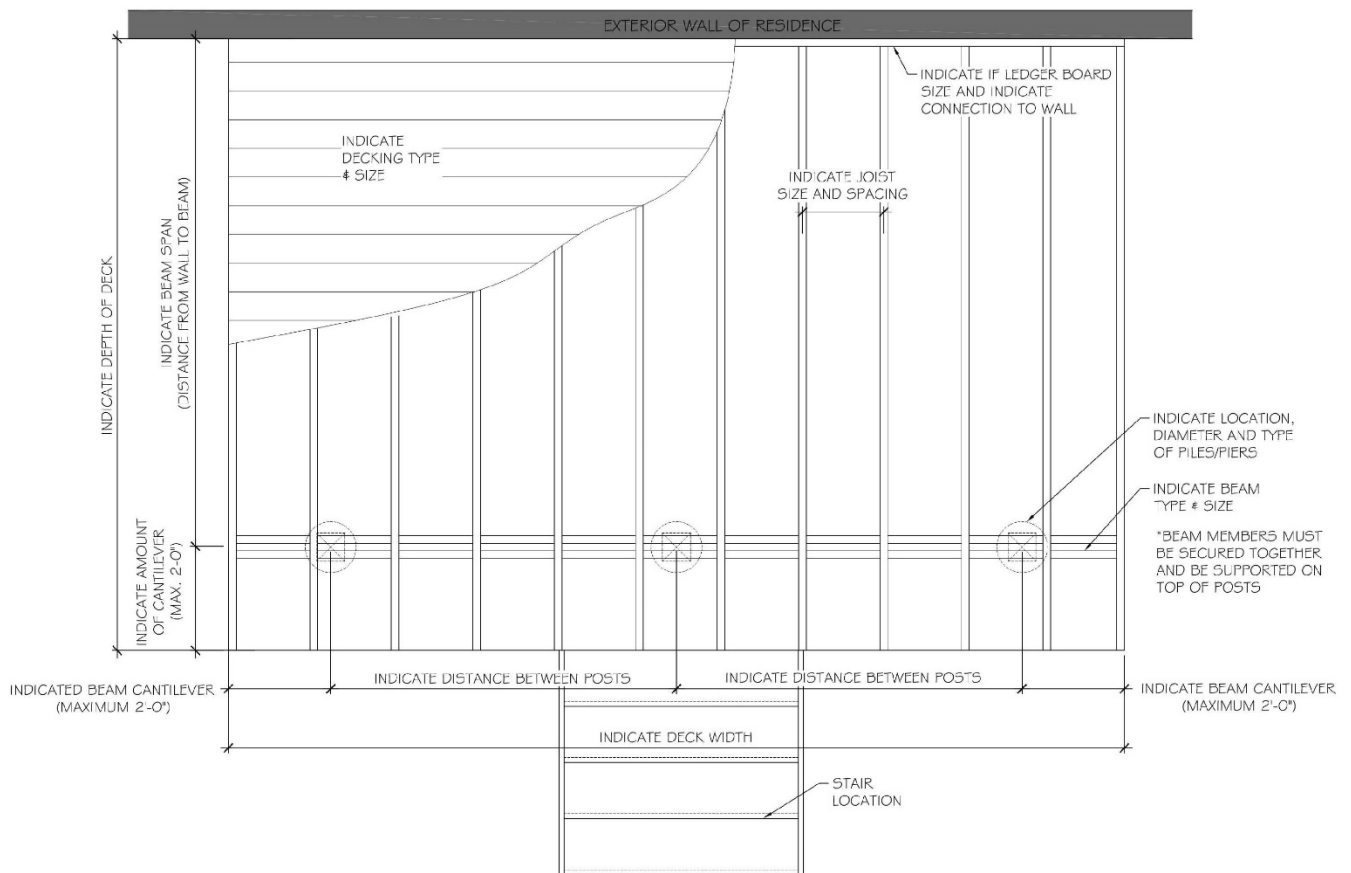
1. the location of the proposed deck
2. the distance from the deck to the property lines and existing buildings

### **See sample below**

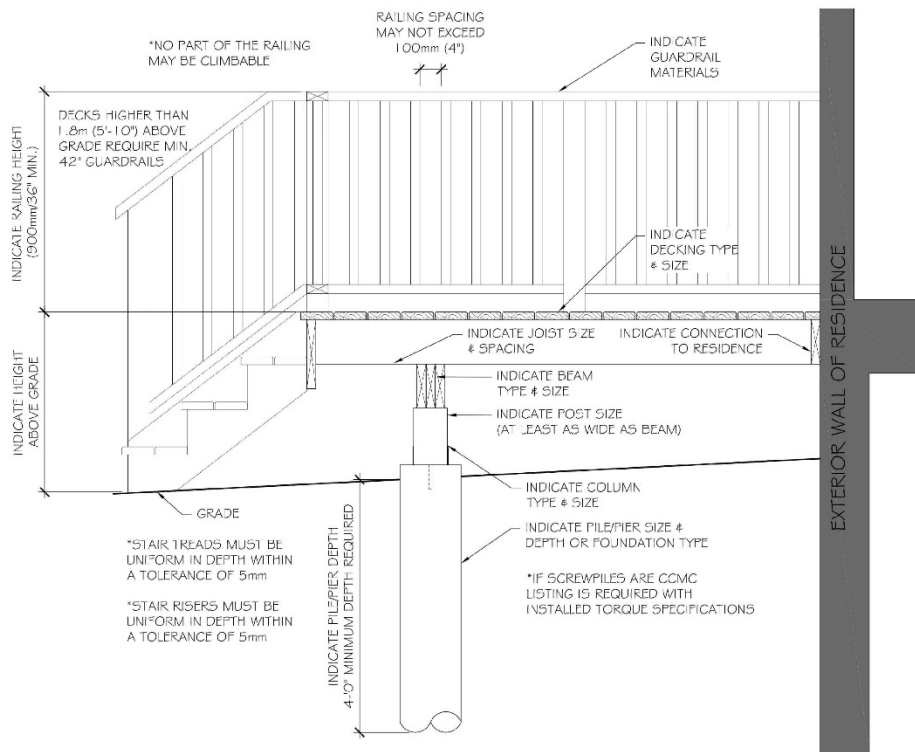
**Construction Plans** (plan and section) are required to be drawn to a scale of not less than 1:100 or legible drawing showing the following (see sample drawings below): Maximum paper size 8 ½" x 14".

- A side elevation that shows the height of the deck, height of the railing with spindle/pickets spacing, concrete columns and stairs if applicable.
- Floor joist type and spacing
- Size and type of deck planking
- Size of deck (length, width, height)
- Size of beams and number of piles
- Size and type of columns and spacing
- Guard
- Handrails
- Stairs (rise and run)
- Type of foundation

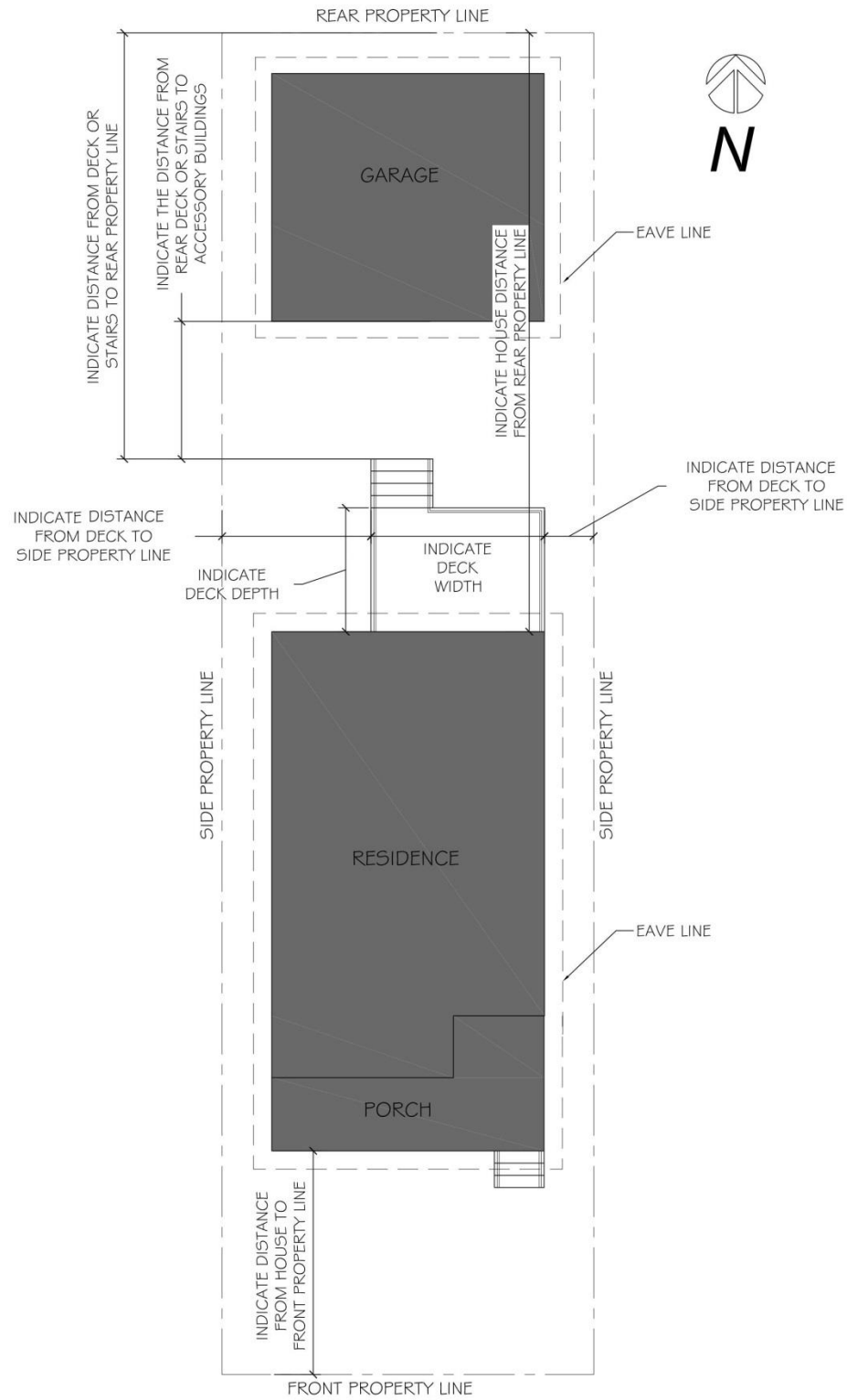
**[See attached sample drawings for full requirements](#)**



**Sample Deck Plan (provide details as indicated)**



**Sample Deck Section (provide details as indicated)**



**Sample Real Property Report (provide details as indicated)**

## **Some Basic Requirements**

1. Decks over 2 feet (600mm) above grade have setback requirements. Please contact the Planning & Development department for specific information: (403) 948-8848.
2. Beam members must be secured together and supported on top of the supporting posts. The width or diameter of a support post cannot be less than the width of the beam being supported.
3. Any wood within 6" must be adequately protected or use preserved wood.
4. A handrail must be provided for stairs with more than three steps and be mounted between 865mm and 965mm measured vertically from the stair nosing. If the handrail is acting as a guard it must be mounted between 900mm and 1070mm.
5. Guards are required for decks over 2 feet high. If the deck floor is 2' to 5' 11" above ground level, guards must be a minimum of 36" (900mm) high. If the deck floor is over 5' 11" (1.8m) above ground, level guards must be 42" (1072mm) high.
6. Deck bench brackets have special requirements. Please call (403) 948-8832 for information.
7. Guards around decks must be designed so there is no opening larger than 100mm (4").
8. Foundation support columns for attached decks must penetrate the frost level the same depth as the building or a minimum of 4 feet. **Exception:** When the distance from finished ground to the underside of the joists is not more than 600 mm (2 ft), not supporting a roof and not attached to a structure.
9. There will be additional requirements if you intend to cover or enclose your deck.
10. Other conditions may apply once a full plan review is completed by the Safety Codes Officer.

**UTILITIES CALL BEFORE YOU DIG  
BEFORE PERFORMING ANY WORK CALL  
ALBERTA 1 CALL – 1-800-242-3447  
[www.albertaonecall.com](http://www.albertaonecall.com)**

**SHAW CALL BEFORE YOU DIG  
BEFORE PERFORMING ANY WORK CALL  
1-866-344-7429  
[www.digshaw.ca](http://www.digshaw.ca)**

### **Contact Inquiry Numbers for City Inspectors**

Building, HVAC, Electrical, Gas and Plumbing

Phone: (403) 948-8832

Email: [building.inspections@airdrie.ca](mailto:building.inspections@airdrie.ca)

Office Hours: 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

Payment may be cash, personal cheque, debit card, and credit card