



# Residential Decks

## City of Meadow Lake

This brochure covers open decks for single dwellings only. Covered or enclosed decks or verandas, upper floor balconies, and decks on other types of buildings must meet additional requirements.

A building permit is required for decks more than 200mm (8 inches) above grade and more than 3.344 square meters (36 square feet)

The following guide explains some of the basic requirements.

### Zoning Regulations (Zoning Bylaw 4/2002)

- 1 Maximum projection into *required* front or rear yard: 2 meters (6.6 feet)

### Building Code Requirements

- 1 Foundation: Piles installed to at least 3.05m (10ft) below grade OR concrete pads installed on bare subsoil with provision for future levelling of deck
- 2 Materials: All wood and metal to be protected from rot, corrosion and insect damage
- 3 Guards and Handrails:
  - Guards required on all decks where deck surface is 600mm (24") or more above the ground, or if the ground is sloped
  - Guards must be 1070mm (42") high, or 900mm (35.5") if the deck surface is less than 1800mm (71") above the ground
  - Guards must be solidly constructed, not climbable, and have no openings greater than 100mm (4") in diameter
  - Handrails required on steps with more than 3 risers
- 4 Beams and Joists: Must meet span table requirements
- 5 Where the deck is attached to the house, it shall be solidly attached to the rim joist using bolts or structural screws (not deck screws) and/or supported on a minimum 2x6 ledger that is solidly attached to the wall. Further requirements apply to upper floor balconies.
- 6 A deck installed above a basement bedroom window shall not restrict egress from the window.

### Span Charts

#### Joists (PWF lumber)

Size	16" o.c.	24" o.c.	Maximum Cantilever
2x6	9' 4"	8' 2"	12"
2x8	12' 4"	10' 9"	16"
2x10	14' 6"	13' 6"	24"

## Beams (PFW Lumber)

### 2-ply Beam

Supported Joist Length	2x6	2x8	2x10
8'0"	6'6"	8'6"	10'0"
10'0"	6'0"	8'0"	9'6"
12'0"	5'6"	7'0"	8'0"

### 3-ply Beam

Supported Joist Length	2x8	2x10
8'0"	10'0"	13'0"
10'0"	9'6"	11'6"
12'0"	8'6"	10'0"
14'0"		
16'0"		

### Maximum Beam Cantilever

Beam Material	Maximum Cantilever
2x6	12"
2x8	18"
2x10	24"

## Application

To apply for a building permit to construct a deck, you must submit a plan showing the following information:

1. Plot plan, showing dimensions of your yard, existing buildings, driveways and services
2. Top-view of your deck plan, including location of doors, windows, stairs, handrails. Be sure to show swing of doors and operation of windows, and if any door or window is to be moved, added or removed.
3. Cross section(s) showing design of foundation, posts, beams, decking, guards, handrails, stairs.
4. Materials list (from supplier)
5. Cost of project

Application for a building permit may be made by appointment between 8:30 am and 4:00 pm Monday to Friday at City Hall, 120 1st Street East, telephone 306-236-3622.

*This information sheet has no legal status and cannot be used as an official interpretation of the codes and regulations currently in effect. The City of Meadow Lake accepts no responsibility for any consequences resulting from persons relying solely on this information.*