When Do I Need a Building Permit?

This information is not meant to cover all code requirements. When in doubt, contact Burnsville’s Protective Inspections Division prior to the start of any project at 952-895-4444.

The Protective Inspection Division works with contractors, tenants and property owners to ensure new construction and alterations to existing structures are code compliant.

Building Permits must be obtained **before beginning** any residential or commercial work that requires a permit. The qualified person responsible for doing the work must make the application for the required permits, which may include zoning, building, plumbing, mechanical, electrical, sign and grading permits.

### The Following Work Requires Permits:

**New construction, remodeling, additions or alterations to existing structures including, but not limited to:**

- decks
- siding
- windows
- swimming pools
- retaining walls
- basement finish
- garages
- roofing
- fences (over 6 feet)
- demolition
- entry doors
- sheds (over 120 square feet. \(^1\))
- porches
- garage door replacement
- pole barns

**Any replacement, alteration or moving of appliances and fixtures including, but not limited to:**

- water heaters
- air conditioners
- laundry facilities
- ranges
- gas fireplaces
- water softeners
- furnace/boilers
- exhaust fans
- water treatment systems

**All mechanical, plumbing, electrical, water and sewer work (new or replacement) including, but not limited to**

- fire protection systems
- mechanical vents/ductwork
- water supply piping
- irrigation systems
- septic systems
- plumbing drain, waste, and vent
- gas piping
- fixture replacement (toilets, faucets, sinks)
- electrical devices/fixtures (outlets, switches, light fixtures)
- generators

Many informational handouts are available at Burnsville City Hall, or at [www.burnsville.org/permit](http://www.burnsville.org/permit) to assist you with questions about permits and construction of accessory structures, decks, porches, swimming pools, fences and others. When in doubt call Inspections staff at 952-895-4444.

\(^1\) Structures less than 120 sq. ft. in floor area and more than 50 sq. ft. in floor area require a Zoning Permit.