

CITY OF HARPER WOODS  
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### **WOOD DECK REQUIREMENTS**

- 4" X 4" posts 42" deep in the ground and six feet (6') apart. Backfill can be either gravel or concrete. **Post hole inspection required prior to backfill.**
- Distance from a detached garage is minimum of four feet (4').
- Wood must be either cedar, pressure treated, womanized or composite.
- 2" x 6" beams are to be bolted on both side of the 4" x 4" posts.
- 7" risers and 11" treads are required for steps.
- If there are three (3) steps or more, a 36" tall handrail and guardrail is required.
- Electrical service drop must be at least ten feet (10') above the deck.

### **Guards:**

- Installation on all open sides of stairways, porches, balconies or raised surfaces more than thirty inches (30") above floor or grade below.
- Minimum height of thirty-six inches (36") for porches, balconies and raised floor surfaces; thirty-four inches (34") permitted at guards on open sides of stair.
- Balusters or ornamental closures which will not allow a four inch (4") sphere to pass through.

### **Permit:**

A permit is required to install a deck. The cost of the permit is based on construction cost. Please contact us with any questions.