

Department of Planning and Development

Building and Inspections

inspection@cityoflacrosse.org 608-789-7530

GAZEBO/PERGOLA

Do I need a building permit?

Yes.

Data Requirements:

- Completed and signed Application for Building Permit
- Two (2) sets of plans: A set includes a top or "plan view" looking down on your project and a side or "cutaway" view showing your proposed method of construction, size and placement of joists, depth of posts (48" minimum depth is required below ground), and height of guard rail (36" minimum height from top of decking is required when deck is 24" or more above ground).
- Two (2) copies of a survey or accurate land drawing showing your existing home and location of proposed deck addition. Be sure to indicate distance from lot lines to the edge of the new deck.
- If the home owner does not hire a contractor to perform work under the building permit that is bonded and insured, a Cautionary Statement must be signed and submitted with the application (SEE ATTACHED FORM).

If you would like to submit the permit application electronically, please upload the forms and email them to inspection@cityoflacrosse.org

How long does it take to get my permit?

Permits are reviewed on a first come, first serve basis. Inspectors are allowed 10 business days to complete. They may take longer depending on circumstances. For an additional cost you can EXPEDITE your application, moving it to the forefront.

How much does a permit cost?

Building Permit Fees can be found on the City website at this link, [Appendix C - FEE SCHEDULE | Code of Ordinances | La Crosse, WI | Municode Library](#)

How close to my lot line can I build my gazebo/ pergola?

Generally, you must stay at least 2' from side and rear yard property lines.

What size can I build my gazebo/ pergola?

The square footage of all accessory structures may total up to 35% of the rear yard area up to a maximum of 1,000 square feet.

Do I need concrete footing under my gazebo/ pergola?

Depending on construction type, footings may be required. A concrete footing is required to help ensure proper distribution of loads to the soil. Remember, pier footings must be at least 48" deep.

When must I call for building inspections?

Inspections are required:

- When 48" deep (minimum) holes are ready for viewing before posts are installed
- When all joists are in place before decking is installed
- When the project is complete

Frequently encountered issues:

Following is a list of frequent problems or errors we encounter:

- No pier depth inspection if required,
- Pier depth less than 48" if required,
- Guard rail less than 36" high if required
- Guardrail balusters too far apart — must not be able to pass 4 3/8" diameter ball through if required,
- Stair built incorrectly: the "riser" height and "tread" depth must be uniform with each other. Maximum riser height allowed is 8". Minimum tread depth (front-to-back) allowed is 9". This is crucial for a safe stair.
- Please maintain a minimum of 10' from the roof surface to any overhead electrical wires.

The property owner is responsible for correct placement of structures.

CAUTIONARY STATEMENT TO OWNERS OBTAINING BUILDING PERMITS

101.65(lr) of the Wisconsin Statutes requires municipalities that enforce the Uniform Dwelling Code to provide an owner who applies for a building permit with a statement advising the owner that:

If the owner hires a contractor to perform work under the building permit and the contractor is not bonded or insured as required under s. 101.654 (2) (a), the following consequences might occur:

(a) The owner may be held liable for any bodily injury to or death of others or for any damage to the property of others that arises out of the work performed under the building permit or that is caused by any negligence by the contractor that occurs in connection with the work performed under the building permit.

(b) The owner may not be able to collect from the contractor damages for any loss sustained by the owner because of a violation by the contractor of the one- and two- family dwelling code or an ordinance enacted under sub. (1) (a), because of any bodily injury to or death of others or damage to the property of others that arises out of the work performed under the building permit or because of any bodily injury to or death of others or damage to the property of others that is caused by any negligence by the contractor that occurs in connection with the work performed under the building permit.

CAUTIONARY STATEMENT TO CONTRACTORS FOR PROJECTS INVOLVING BUILDING BUILT BEFORE 1978

If this project is in a dwelling or child-occupied facility, built before 1978, and disturbs 6 sq. ft. or more of paint per room, 20 sq. ft. or more of exterior paint, or involves windows, then the requirements of ch. DHS 163 requiring Lead-Safe Renovation Training and Certification apply. Call (608)261-6876 or go to the Wisconsin Department of Health Services' lead homepage for details of how to be in compliance.

WETLANDS NOTICE TO PERMIT APPLICANTS

You are responsible for complying with state and federal laws concerning the construction near or on wetlands, lakes, and streams. Wetlands that are not associated with open water can be difficult to identify. Failure to comply may result in removal or modification of construction that violates the law or other penalties or costs. For more information, visit the Department of Natural Resources wetlands identification web page or contact a Department of Natural Resources service center.

ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES FOR OWNERS OF PROJECTS DISTURBING ONE OR MORE ACRE OF SOIL

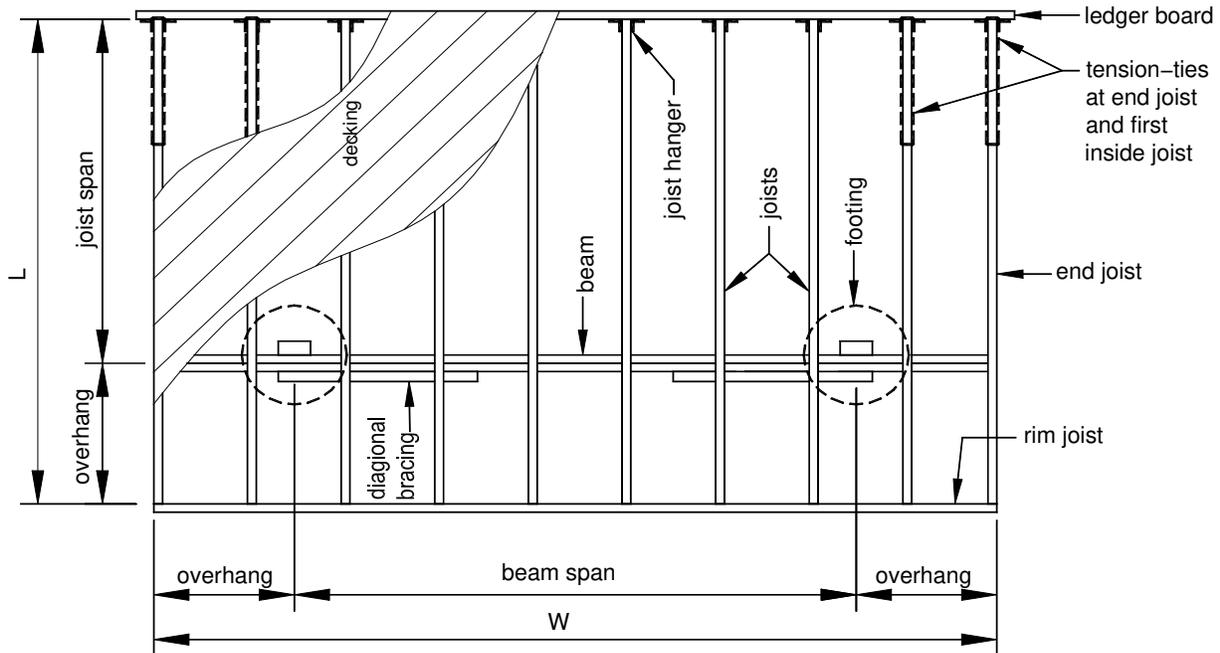
I understand that this project is subject to ch. NR 151 regarding additional erosion control and stormwater management standards, and will comply with those standards.

Owner: (Print Name) (Sign) (Date)

Owner: (Print Name) (Sign) (Date)

| OFFICE USE ONLY | | |
|--------------------|------------|-------|
| For Permit Number: | Inspector: | Date: |

TYPICAL DECK FRAMING PLAN



Decking: 2x4 2x6 five-quarter board wood-plastic composite (per ASTM D 7032)
 Other decking, evaluation report number: _____

Joists: size: 2x6 2x8 2x10 2x12 spacing: 12 in. 16 in. 24 in.
joist span dimension: _____ ft. - _____ in.
overhang: Yes No overhang dimension: _____ ft. - _____ in.
rim joist: 2x6 2x8 2x10 2x12

Beam(s): number of plies: 2 3 size: 2x6 2x8 2x10 2x12
overhang: Yes No overhang dimension: _____ ft. - _____ in.

Posts: size: 4x4 4x6 6x6 height: _____ ft. - _____ in.

Footings: size: _____ in. square round thickness: _____ in.

Ledger: ledger board size: 2x8 2x10 2x12 Not applicable (free-standing deck)
fastener: Through bolt Lag screw Wood screw
 Expansion anchor Adhesive anchor

Lateral support: Tension-tie Diagonal bracing, size: 2x
(not permitted for free-standing deck)

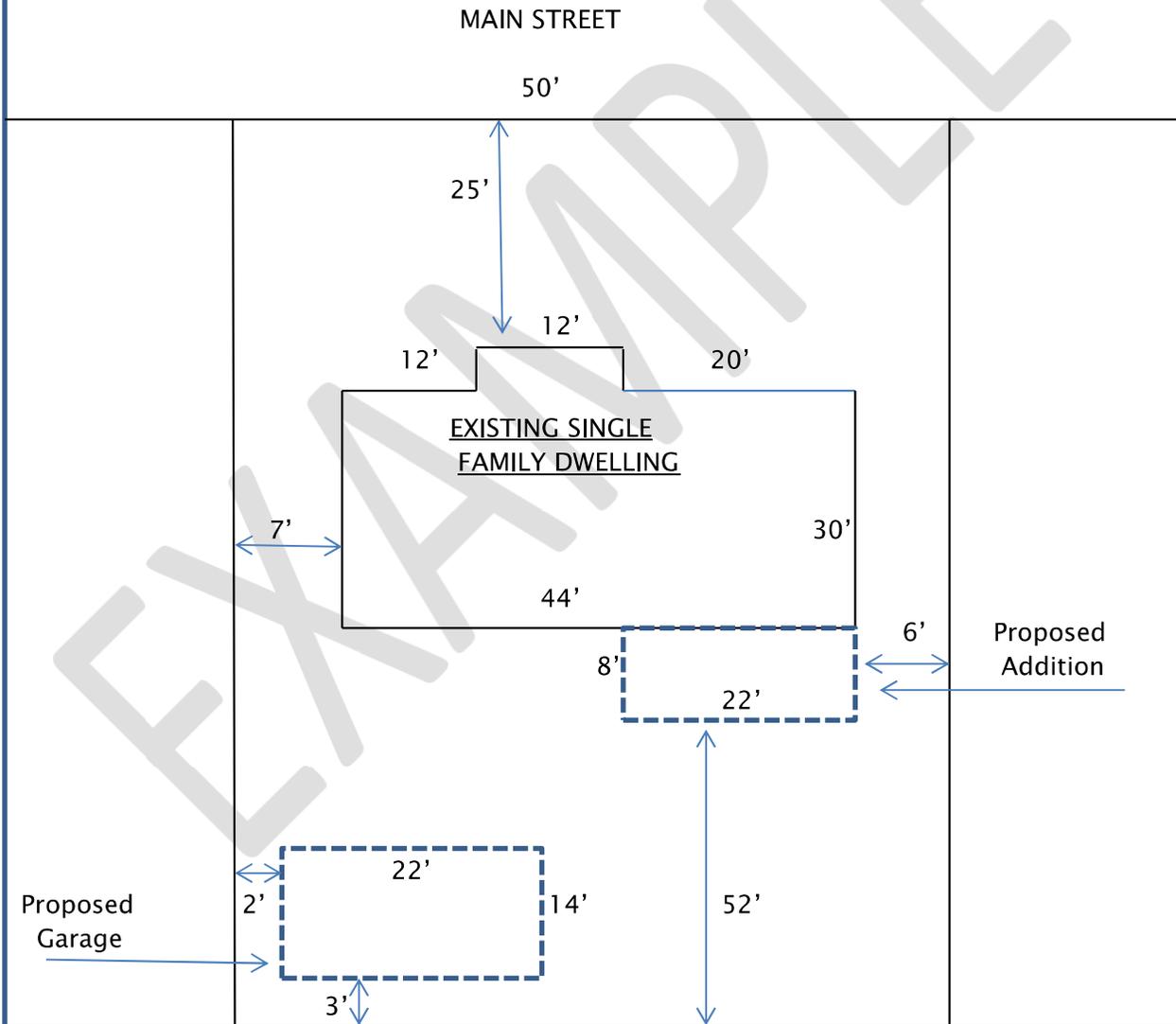
Deck size: L= _____ ft. - _____ in. W= _____ ft. - _____ in.

Guards: "Height" - Guards shall extend to at least 36 inches above the floor or to the underside of a stair handrail complying with s.SPS 321.04 (3) (b). Measurement shall be taken from the hard structural surface beneath any finish material to the top of the guard.

"Opening size" - Guards shall be constructed to prevent the through-passage of a sphere with a diameter of 4 3/8 inches, when applying a force of 4 pounds.

EXAMPLE PLOT PLAN
COMMUNITY RISK MANAGEMENT
CITY OF LA CROSSE
www.cityoflacrosse.org

This sample plot plan has been designed to assist you in preparing a similar plot plan of your own premises, when necessary to obtain a building permit, or when required by the Board of Zoning and Appeals, Board of Housing Appeals, or Board of Building Appeals. Plot plans for larger buildings shall go into more detail.



NOTE: DRAWING IS NOT TO SCALE