

## DECK GUIDELINES

The following items must be included when submitting an application to build a deck

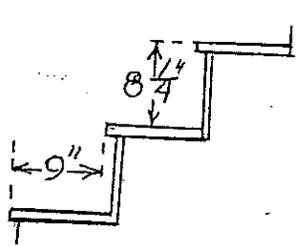
1. Readable diagram including a **plot plan** with accurate dimensions

2. Deck construction details:

- Post spacing, size, depth (42" minimum) and must be encased in concrete
- Beam spacing and size
- Joist spacing and size
- Decking/floor material and size
- Deck height from ground – determines railing requirements (30" and higher from grade require guard rail to code)

3. Stairway details:

- Riser dimension – maximum 8 1/4" and equal spacing
- Tread dimension – Minimum 9" and equal spacing
- Width – minimum 36".



4. Railings – if required or requested

- Height – minimum 36"
- Spacing of spindles – maximum 4" between

**WITH OUT THE ABOVE MINIMUM INFORMATION YOUR APPLICATION WILL BE REJECTED**

5/2/07 KJ

**Residential Deck Plan Review Checklist**  
**Based on the**  
**2006 Michigan Residential Code**

**Footings**

**For attached decks:**

R403 Footings shall be supported on undisturbed natural soils or engineered fill.

No post to be located closer than 36" to the house unless it rests on undisturbed soil.

R403.1.4 Footings for deck and stairs must extend a min. of 42" below actual grade.

**A footing inspection is required after holes are dug and cleaned out and prior to setting support posts.**

**For detached decks:**

R403.1.4.1 ex. 3. Decks not attached to the house do not require footings that extend below frost. Grass, top soil and other organic material shall be removed prior to placement of deck support blocks

**If posts are used that extend into the ground follow the previous step for footings.**

**Ledger Boards**

R502.2.2 Ledger boards shall be bolted to the house.

R703.1 Flashing shall extend under existing siding and over the ledger board.

**Decks cannot bear on cantilevers**

**Beams**

R301.4 & R301.5 Beams shall consist of a minimum of 2-2x? with posts spaced to provide a min. of 40 lb/sq. live ft. load.

**Joists**

Floor joists shall be designed according to table 502.3.1(2) When required, joist hangers shall be triple dipped galvanized or better.

R502.7 Joists shall be supported laterally by attachment to a header, band, or rim joist.

Joists shall be spaced according to the manufactures specs for the decking used.

**Stairs**

R311 Max Riser height- 8 ¼

Min Tread depth- 9" measured nose to nose

Nosing Minimum ¾ - Maximum 1 ¼

Minimum Width – 36"

Open risers may not permit the passage of a 4" sphere when total rise of stairs exceeds 30".

**Handrail**

R311.5.6 A graspable handrail is required when there are 4 or more risers. The handrail measured vertically from the tread nosing shall be 34" minimum and 38" maximum. Handrail ends shall be returned. Handrails shall have a space not less than 1 ½ " between the wall and handrail. Handrail outside diameter: minimum 1 ¼" – Maximum 2".

**Guardrail**

R312.1 All decks located more than 30" above grade shall have a guardrail not less than 36" in height.

R312.2 No opening in guardrail may permit the passage of a 4" sphere.

Guardrails and handrails must be able to withstand a 200lb. force in any direction.

**Miscellaneous**

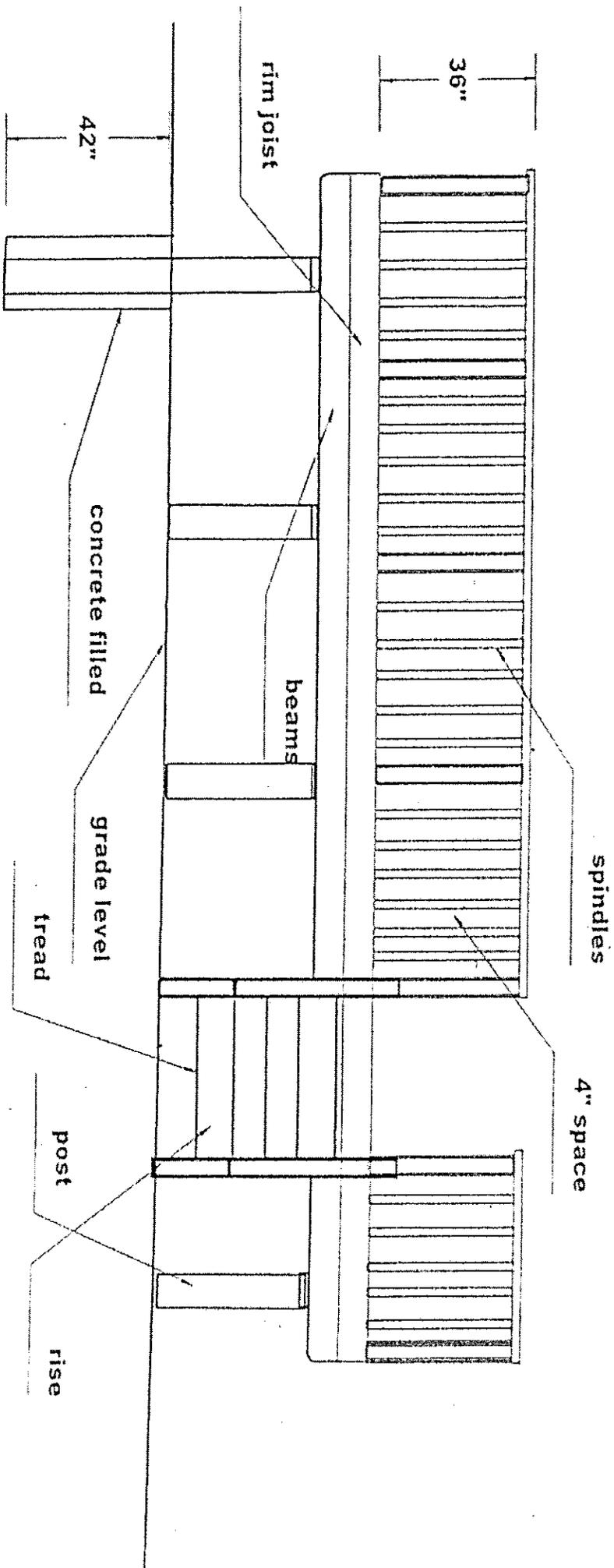
R319 All framing members shall be pressure treated.

All fasteners shall be triple dipped galvanized or better per manufactures specs.

A rough framing inspection is required prior to the placement of decking if the bottom side of joists is closer than 18" to the ground or if underside of deck will be enclosed.

A final inspection is required upon completion.

# SAMPLE



Wolmanized Deck

scale

# SAMPLE

Volvanized Deck

scale

