



TOWN OF NEW IPSWICH

661 Turnpike Rd, New Ipswich, NH 03071
OFFICE OF THE BUILDING INSPECTOR



PERMIT APPLICATION GUIDE AND REQUIREMENTS

The 2021 International Building Code and the 2021 International Residential Code, as amended by the State Building Code Review Board, together with this Guide, is hereby adopted and shall be known as the Town of New Ipswich Building Code.

CURRENT CODES

The Town of New Ipswich has authorized the Building Inspector to enforce applicable sections of the New Ipswich Zoning Ordinance, Subdivision Regulations, and Site Plan Review Regulations and the current New Hampshire State Building Codes.

PERMITS AND INSPECTIONS

PLEASE NOTE: 24-hour notice required for inspection. The town reserves the right to request third party plan review for commercial and health care type facilities. It is the responsibility of the permit holder to call the Building Inspector to schedule inspections.

The inspections listed below are intended to inform the applicant of their obligation to inform the Building Inspector at different stages of the construction project. In some cases, the Building Inspector may require additional inspections to ensure compliance with the Town of New Ipswich's building and land use codes.

Prior to covering, it shall be the **duty of the permit holder or representing agent to notify the Building Inspector that such work is ready for inspection.** The Building Inspector must be able to see all parts of construction required to be inspected.

Should an inspector find that some of the work does not conform to approved application, plans or applicable codes, the Building Inspector will advise and possibly issue a notice for corrections that will require a re-inspection.

Inspections required (in order):

1. **Footings & piers:** once forms and rebar are set, *prior* to pouring of concrete.
2. **Foundation, damp-proofing, and drainage**
3. **Rough framing and exterior waterproofing:** Prior to mechanical inspections, insulation, or any concealment. Any assembly that cannot be verified as acceptable by the manufacturer to the Inspector will require an engineer's stamp. The use of wide flange beams will require documentation of the load carrying specifications by the contractor.
4. **Rough plumbing and test:** Sanitary drainage will be filled to the roof of the building with water or 5 psi of air for 20 minutes. Protective plates and supports for all piping must be installed. The manufacturer's instructions for all installed equipment must be on site. Draft stopping/fire blocking installed.
5. **Rough electrical:** Rough wiring prior to insulation and drywall. Protective plates installed. Draft stopping/fire blocking installed. Must bond foundation rebar. Service

upgrades and temporary services need town approval prior to a utility company energizing them.

6. **Chimneys/Fireplaces (during progress):** Foundation, hearth firebox, smoke chamber and damper. A galvanized metal draft stop installed between floors, lay in mortar joint. Termination about roof and nearest object. Outdoor air inlet within 24" of firebox.
7. **Energy & Insulation:** The building thermal envelope, insulation, vapor barrier, piping insulation, duct sealing and insulation, window, and door U factors.
8. **Heating system, clearances, backflow, controls, and venting:** Manufacturer's instructions for all equipment must be on site, equipment installed must have manufacture installer's certificate. Gas piping requires a minimum of 3 psi of air, 20 min. test with approved gauge. Bonding of corrugated stainless-steel tubing (CSST) is required. Listed protective plates for CSST must be used.
9. **Final inspection:** electrical, plumbing, mechanical, fire safety and life safety.
10. **Issuance of certificate of occupancy:** Requires bacteria water test and 72-hour notice for new homes. All the above prior inspections (1 through 9) approved with no outstanding fees or violations. Bacteria water test results and septic approval for operation from New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services.

VIOLATION PENALTIES

Starting any work without a permit will result in all permit fees being doubled and paid prior to the commencement of work again. A fee schedule is available on our website and at the Town Office. **Violations are \$100.00 per day** until resolved or an agreement is reached with Code Enforcement (building and fire). Applications submitted incomplete for the same project more than twice will be charged \$24.00 each subsequent time it is submitted for review. Deviating from the permitted plan without amendment(s) will cost an additional 50% of original fees.

CHANGES TO PERMIT FEES

The Board of Selectmen, upon the advice of the Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector or other town official, may reduce or increase the building permit fee commensurate with the relative complexity of the work involved. In no case should any building permit be less than **\$50.00**.

TERMS OF PERMIT

Every building permit issued shall become invalid unless work authorized by such permit is commenced within 180 days after issuance, or if the work authorized by such permit is suspended or abandoned for a period of 180 days after the time the work is commenced. The Building Inspector is authorized to grant, in writing, one or more extensions of time for periods not more than 180 days each. The extension shall be requested in writing, with justifiable cause demonstrated. In no case will a permit be extended for more than a two-year period, commencing with the first date of issuing the building permit.

Setback Regulations

	Village Districts I & II	Rural District
Minimum lot size (in acres)	1	2
*Minimum road frontage (in feet)	200	200
Minimum front setback of structure from boundary of right-of-way of road (in feet)	30	30
Minimum side setback for structures (in feet)	20	20
**Minimum setback from wetlands and surface waters for structures (in feet)	50	50
Minimum setback from wetlands for septic system tanks and leach fields (in feet)	75	75
*** Minimum natural woodlands buffer from wetlands and surface waters (in feet)	25	25
****Maximum height of building above mean ground level (in feet)	45	45
***** Minimum setback in feet from edge of driveway to property line (in feet)	20	20

* For the exception, see article XIII, Section D of the Zoning Ordinance.

**The following uses are exempt from the 50-foot setback requirement: docks, boat landings, boat houses and saunas.

***The following uses are exempt from the 25-foot buffer requirement: docks, boat landings, boat houses and saunas.

****The following uses are exempt from the 45-foot height requirement: domestic radio and television antennas, silos for storage of feed crops, church towers, water storage structures, chimneys, wind operated devices, barns for agriculture use and telecommunications facilities. Any other structure proposed to be higher than 45 feet requires a variance appeal to the Zoning Board of Adjustment.

*****The Planning Board may waive the twenty 20-foot setback from the edge of the driveway to property line for back lots.

Building Requirements

Minimum Requirements for Stairs and Handrails

Minimum Run: 11 inches Measured from Nosing to Nosing

Maximum Rise: 4-7 inches

Minimum Head Clearance: 6 feet 8 inches

Handrail Height: Between 32 -38 inches, Measured Vertically from Tread Nosing

Minimum Requirements for Guardrails

Required for steps/stairs with three risers or more.

Porches, decks & raised floors: 30 inches or more Above Grade

Guardrail minimum: 36 inches High (42 inches high commercial applications)

Between Balusters: 4 inches Maximum

Escape Windows Dimensions (residential bedrooms)

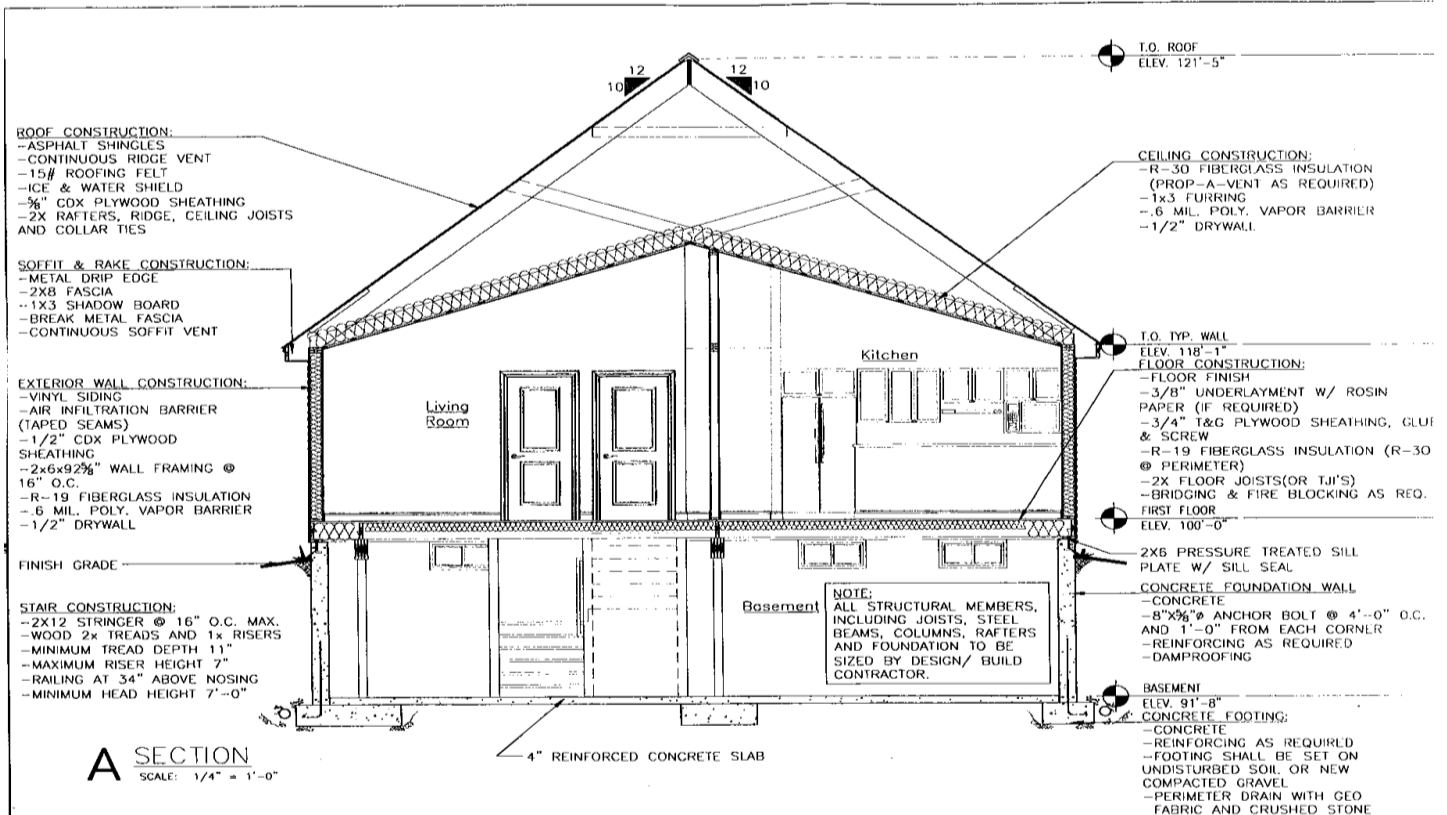
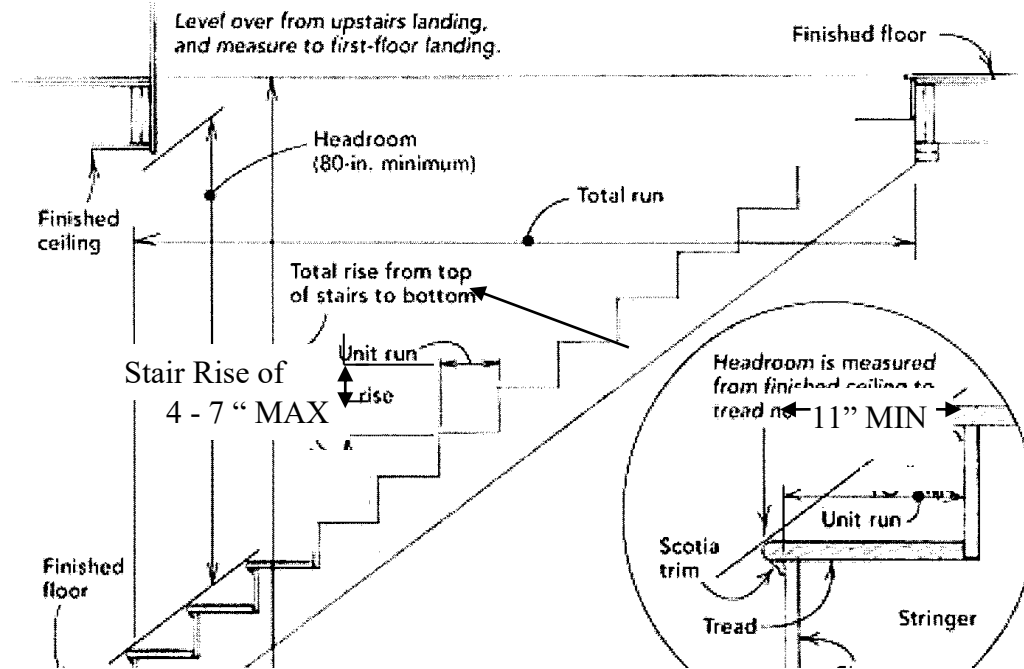
Escape windows shall have a minimum net clear area of 5.7 square feet AND the minimum net clear opening height shall be a minimum of 24 inches; the minimum net clear opening width shall be a minimum of 20 inches. The finished sill height shall not exceed 44 inches above the floor. The finished windowsill shall be within 20 feet (240 inches) of the outside finished grade level.

Means of Escape Requirements

In dwellings or dwelling units of two rooms or more, every sleeping room and living area, including basements with habitable space shall have **not less than one primary means of escape and one secondary means of escape**. A secondary means of escape shall not be required where one of the following conditions is met

1. The bedroom or living area has a door leading directly to the outside of the building at grade level.
2. The dwelling unit is protected throughout by an approved automatic sprinkler system.

Stairway & Cross Section – Based on IBC 1011



Site Plan

To verify that the proposed construction will comply with zoning regulations relative to building setbacks, a plot plan indicating property lines and the distances of all existing and proposed buildings or additions from the property lines and water is required. This plan should be drawn to scale and be on an 8.5" x 11 sheet of paper or graph paper. If the lot is large, a portion of land with no buildings on it need not be drawn.

↑ Use arrows to show measurements and distances from proposed buildings to other structures and property lines



Use solid lines to indicate existing structures

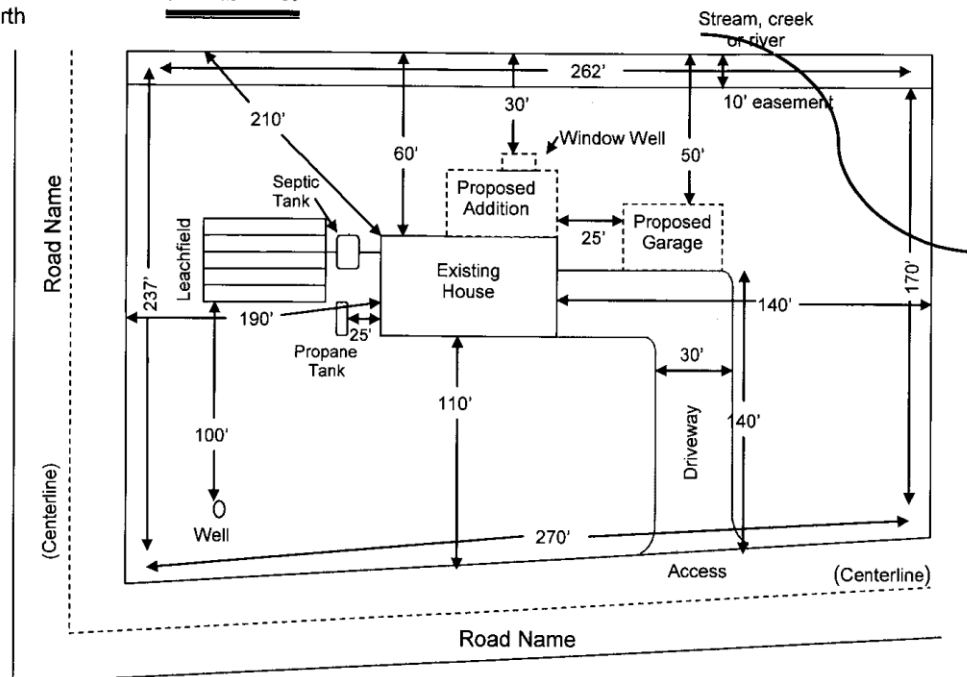


Use dashed lines to indicate proposed structures



Scale: 1 inch = 50 ft
0 25 50

John Smith Residence
PT SE1/4 31-7-66 Lot A RE-1223



Revised 02/2010

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**** Plans must show all wetlands if applicable ****

Minimum Requirement for Residential Plan

1. Floor Plan drawn to scale.
2. Foundation plan drawn to scale.
3. A "Complete" cross section cutting through the entire width of building drawn to scale and framing details showing all structural components.
4. Floor Framing plans if the framing plan is not typical.

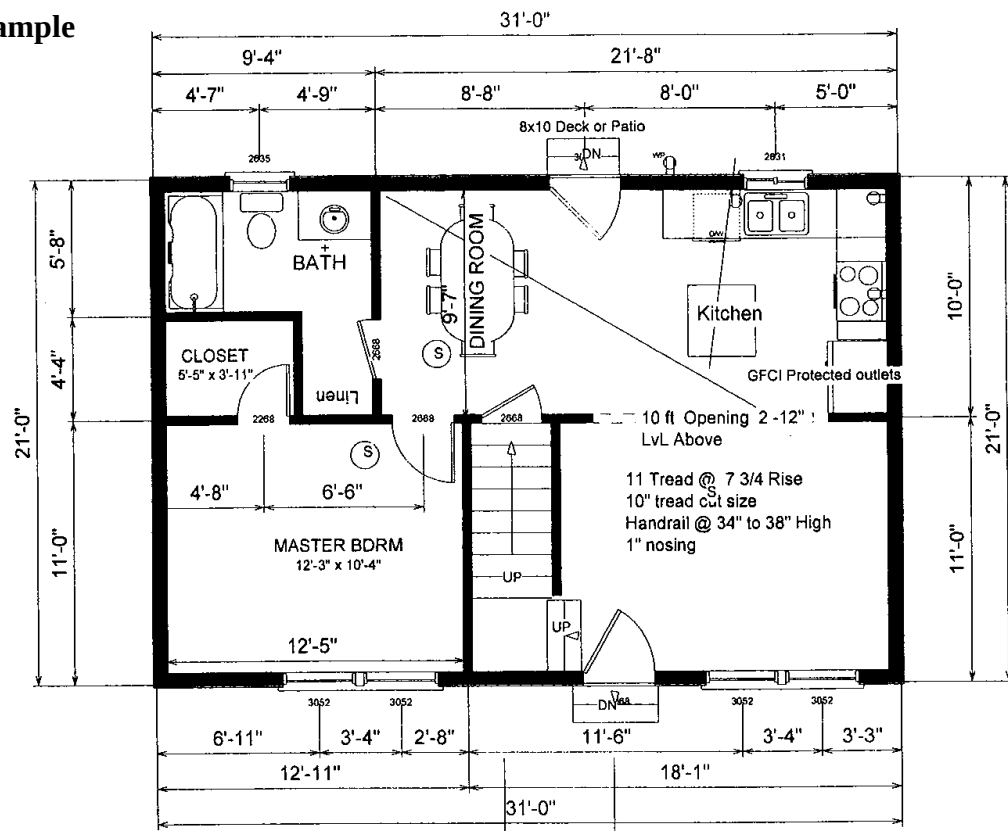
5. Header sizes for all openings located in bearing wall (interior and exterior) if framing plan is not typical.
6. Denote all building materials, sizes, and types.
7. Provide a roof-framing plan drawn to scale if the if framing plan is not typical.
8. Drawings of at least two exterior elevations.
9. Show the scale size used on all drawings.
10. Show stair details such as riser and tread sizes, railing design, baluster spacing, and head clearance.
11. Window type, location, and sizes shall be noted.
12. Energy conservation details shall be indicated.

Floor Plan

1. The Floor Plan should show all structural elements including:
2. Location, width and shape of all rooms, doors, and windows
3. Major appliances (stove, refrigerator, laundry etc.)
4. Major plumbing fixtures (sink, tub, toilet)
5. Mechanical equipment (furnace, hot water heater)
6. Closets and built-in counters.
7. All rooms labeled.

** Do not show movable objects such as furniture. For additions, you do not have to show the entire house, only enough to indicate how the new room(s) connects with the existing structure. **

Floor Plan example



GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

1. WHAT REQUIRES A PERMIT?

Proposals that intend to construct, enlarge, alter, repair, move or demolish a building or structure, or to erect, install, enlarge, alter, repair, remove or replace any electrical, gas, mechanical or plumbing system as provided for in the **International Building Code** (IBC 2021) and the **International Residential Code for One and Two Family Dwellings** (IRC 2021) shall first make application and obtain a permit prior to start of work. The following are examples of projects that require a permit:

- All structures greater than 200 square feet and larger.
- Demolition of a structure requires a demolition application.
- Additions to an existing structure.
- Change in use of an existing structure.
- Conversion from seasonal to year-round occupancy of a dwelling.
- Construction or relocation of a fence higher than six feet.
- Roofing (new roofing, re-roofing that involves stripping of existing roof)
- Repairs that involve:
 - Cutting away of any wall, partition, or portion thereof.
 - Removal of any structural beam or load bearing support.
 - Removal or change of any required means of egress, or rearrangement of parts of a structure affecting the egress requirements.
 - Addition to or alteration of sewer or septic systems, lot or parcel drainage, gas piping, soil waste, venting or similar piping, electric wiring, or mechanical work (including water heaters, boilers, and furnaces) or any item that affects public health or general safety.

2. WHAT DOES NOT REQUIRE A BUILDING PERMIT?

Ordinary repairs that are incidental in nature do not require a permit or any notification from the Building Inspector as provided for in the **International Building Code and International Residential Code**. Examples of work that is exempt from obtaining a building permit are:

- All accessory buildings less than 200 square feet.
- Portable vehicle and equipment shelters under 50 feet in length.
- Portable plastic covered Greenhouses less than 25 feet in length.
- Fences not over 6 (six) feet in height.
- Roofing (minor roof repair)
- Retaining walls that are not over four feet in height.
- Painting, papering, tiling, carpeting, cabinets, countertops, and similar finish work.
- Prefabricated swimming pools that are less than 24 inches deep.
- Siding replacement.
- Window repair/replacement. (Equal or lesser size, bedroom windows shall meet egress requirements)

3. BUILDING PERMIT APPLICATIONS

Completed applications for building permits are processed in the order in which they are received. An application is considered complete once a building permit application is received with copy of plans (site and construction) and payment of fees. If the application or submitted documentation is incomplete, the applicant shall be notified so that the permit can be processed in a timely manner. Except in unusual cases, the Building Inspector shall act upon

or deny a building permit within 30 days. If approval requires a longer period, the Building Inspector will notify the applicant and explain the reason for the delay. Non-residential applications or residential applications encompassing more than 10 dwelling units shall be approved or denied within 60 days.

4. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

Starting work: A building permit is required before starting any work.

Posting: A copy of the building permit and a copy of the plans, copy of trade license (if applicable) must be on record with the Town Offices at 661 Turnpike Road, New Ipswich, New Hampshire 03071.

Inspections: It is the applicant's responsibility to schedule required inspections.

Required inspections will be determined by the Building Inspector and Fire Chief upon issuance of the building permit. A minimum of 24-hour prior notice must be given.

Renewal: Construction must be completed within 180 days of issuance. If construction has been substantially initiated but not completed within 180 days, the applicant may apply to renew the permit for another 180 days, provided there are no changes to the construction plans or town regulations governing the permit. No permit shall be renewed after two years beginning from the starting date.

Appeal: Any party, who has been aggrieved by the denial of a building permit application or Administrative Decision made by the Building Inspector, may appeal such action by filing with the Zoning Board of Adjustment, in writing, an appeal within 30 days from the date of notice.

5. TWO STANDARDS FOR CONSTRUCTION

Climate and Geographic Design Criteria Values:

- Ground Snow Load: 80 lbs per square foot
- Wind speed: 100 mph
- Seismic Design Class: C
- Weathering: Severe
- Frost Line Depth: 48"
- Termite Probability: Slight to Moderate (7)
- Weather Geographic Design area: 5-A

Dwelling Unit Area:

Every dwelling unit to be used by a single family shall have a minimum of 600 square feet of living area, except efficiency or one-bedroom units, which shall have a minimum of 400 square feet. In compliance with NH-RSA's, manufactured housing shall have a minimum of 320 square feet.

6. CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY

The Building Inspector shall issue a **Certificate of Occupancy** only when the applicant has satisfied the requirements that all the work has been completed in compliance with the applicable codes and regulations, the septic system meets the requirements of the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services, Subsurface Bureau, and local regulations. The driveway entrance has been approved by the Public Works Director and if applicable, the New Hampshire Department of Transportation, and the Fire Chief has reviewed the work and finds no violations of any state or local laws within the jurisdiction of the Fire Department.

7. REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION (By Type of Building Permit)

New Construction – Single and Two-Family Homes (Including Mobil Homes, Modular Homes)

- Completed application.
- One set electronic plan.
- One set construction plan.
- Septic System design approved by the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services Subsurface System Bureau. (if applicable).
- Driveway Permit approved by the Public Works Director or the New Hampshire Department of Transportation.
- Site Plan showing the size and location of new construction, existing structures on the site, septic system, driveway, proposed parking areas and their distances to property lines on an approved building lot. (Must show all wetlands if applicable)
- Completed and Approved Certificate of Compliance, energy compliance form (EC-1) with calculations Forms can be submitted through an online portal at: <https://www.puc.nh.gov/energycodes/residential.htm> or downloaded from this website. You can also visit Town Hall for the form or contact NH Public Utilities Commission at (603)271-2431.
- If you live on one of the following bodies of water, the State Shoreline Protection Act applies to you: Mountain Pond, Pratt Pond, Waterloom Pond, Souhegan River, Dam Sites 13,14,19, and 35. See the Building Inspector or Land Use Manager for more information.
- A permit fee will be assigned.

New Construction – *Commercial, Industrial, and Multi-Family*

- Completed application.
- Two complete sets of construction plans with all required Life Safety devices including, but not limited to: exit signs, emergency lighting, emergency pull stations, horns, strobes, and sprinkler plans as applicable (Sprinkler plans to be approved by Fire Department prior to submission and installation).
- Septic System design approved by the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services Subsurface System Bureau.
- Driveway Permit approved by the Public Works Director or the New Hampshire Department of Transportation (if applicable).
- Approved Site Plan signed by the Planning Board (if applicable).
- If you are on one of the following bodies of water, the State Shoreline Protection Act applies to you: Mountain Pond, Pratt Pond, Waterloom Pond, Souhegan River, Dam Sites 13,14,19, and 35. See the Building Inspector or Land Use Manager for more information.
- Completed and Approved Certificate of Compliance, energy compliance form (EC-1) with calculations Forms can be submitted through an online portal at: <https://www.puc.nh.gov/energycodes/residential.htm> or downloaded from this website. You can also visit Town Hall for the form or contact NH Public Utilities Commission at (603)271-2431.
- Fire Department approval.
- A permit fee will be assigned.

Residential Additions, Alterations, Remodeling, Etc.

- Completed application.

- One set of electric plans showing changes to the structure.
- Site Plan showing the size and location of new additions, existing structures on the site, septic system (if applicable) and their distances to property lines and wetlands (if applicable)
- Completed and Approved Certificate of Compliance, energy compliance form (EC-1) with calculations Forms can be submitted through an online portal at: <https://www.puc.nh.gov/energycodes/residential.htm> or downloaded from this website. You can also visit Town Hall for the form or contact NH Public Utilities Commission at (603)271-2431.
- Septic System design approved by the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services Subsurface System Bureau (if applicable).
- A permit fee will be assigned.

Residential Accessory Buildings – *Shed greater than 200 square feet, Garage, Outbuilding, Deck, etc.*

- Completed application.
- One set construction plan.
- One set electronic plan – if applicable.
- Site Plan showing the size and location of new construction, existing structures on the site, septic system, driveway, proposed parking areas and their distances to property lines on an approved building lot. (Must show all wetlands if applicable)
- If you live on one of the following bodies of water, the State Shoreline Protection Act applies to you: Mountain Pond, Pratt Pond, Waterloom Pond, Souhegan River, Dam Sites 13,14,19, and 35. See the Building Inspector or Land Use Manager for more information.
- A permit fee will be assigned.

Additions or remodeling OTHER THAN One, and Two-Family Structures

- Completed application.
- Two (2) complete sets of construction plan showing structure before remodel or addition and after remodel or addition with all required life safety devices, including but not limited to: exit signs, emergency lighting, emergency pull stations, horns, strobes, and sprinkler plans as applicable. (Sprinkler plans to be approved by Fire Department prior to submission and installation).
- Completed and Approved Certificate of Compliance, energy compliance form with calculations (Forms are available for download at <http://www.puc.nh.gov/EnergyCodes/energypg.htm>, from the Town or contact the NH Public Utilities Commission at 271-6306).
- Approved site plan by Planning Board (if applicable).
- Septic System design approved by the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services Subsurface System Bureau (if applicable).
- If you are on one of the following bodies of water, the State Shoreline Protection Act, RSA 483-B applies to you: Mountain Pond, Pratt Pond, Waterloom Pond, Souhegan River, Dam Sites 13,14,19, and 35. See the Building Inspector or Land Use Manager for more information.
- Fire Department approval.
- Permit fee will be assigned.

Swimming Pools (with a depth of 24 inches or greater)

- Completed application.
- Site Plan showing the swimming pool, existing structures on the site, septic system, well and their distances to property lines.
- Plan of pool showing proposed location of GFCI electrical receptacles, light locations, and describe construction type (if applicable).
- Proposed fencing details. If it is an above the ground pool it must have a locked gate or removable ladder so no one can enter.
- Permit fee will be assigned. An invoice will be sent upon receipt of all the above.

Temporary Structures - *that cover an area greater than 200 square feet, including Special Event Tents.*

- Completed application.
- Site plan showing the temporary structure, existing structures on the site, septic system, well and their distance to the property lines.
- One set electronic plan – if applicable.
- One set of tent manufacturer installer tie down and wind load criteria instructions.
- If you live on one of the following bodies of water, the State Shoreline Protection Act applies to you: Mountain Pond, Pratt Pond, Waterloo Pond, Souhegan River, Dam Sites 13,14,19, and 35. See the Building Inspector or Land Use Manager for more information.
- Fire Department approval.
- Permit fee will be assigned.

8. COMPLETE SETS OF CONSTRUCTION PLANS SHALL INCLUDE, BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO THE FOLLOWING:***Foundation***

- Footing size (width and height) and depth below grade.
- Footing drains if required.
- Method of damp-proofing.
- Foundation wall thickness or pier size, height, and anchor bolt spacing.
- Steel reinforcing details and concrete strengths.

Framing

- Type and size of supporting columns.
- Manufactured lumber such as, but not limited to; Trusses, TJI's, LVL's and PSL's & Micro-Lams, shall have a computer-generated load calculation printout, which is normally available through the supplier to be provided for any proposed manufactured lumber.
- Girder size, material and spacing between supports.
- Floor and ceiling joist size, spacing, span and lumber type and grade.
- Sub-flooring details.
- Exterior wall stud size, grade, spacing, sheathing type and header details for all windows and door openings.
- Rafter sizes, spacing, spans, roof pitches, sheathing type, lumber grade, and type.
- Manufacturers engineered roof and or floor truss plans to be provided for any proposed trusses.

- Cathedral ceiling designs to show size, type, span of ridge beam with supports to foundation.
- Ridge board size.
- Roof covering.
- Framing cross sections as needed to describe construction details.

Other Details to be listed:

- Floor plans of each story.
- Location of hard-wired smoke detectors & carbon monoxide detectors.
- Insulation details including R-Value for floor or foundation, walls and ceiling or roof.
- Minimum finished ceiling heights.
- Stairway width, headroom, riser height, treads depth and handrail details required on interior or exterior stairways with two or more stairs.
- Window locations and clear opening sizes to be shown. Sleeping rooms shall have at least one operable window or door for an emergency egress/rescue directly to the outside. An emergency egress/rescue window shall have a minimum net clear opening of 5 square feet on the grade level and 5.7 square feet for all other locations and shall have a minimum height of 24" and width of 20". The sill height shall not be more than 44" above the finished floor level.
- Attic access location with a minimum dimension of 22" x 30" for attic areas with a clear height of 30" or more. Attics with access require a light fixture.
- Details of attic ventilation.
- Attached or under garages to include fire barrier/ separation details.

Permit Checklist

Name _____

Address _____ Map/Lot# _____

- _____ 1) Fully completed building permit application through the online portal.
<https://bsaonline.com/?uid=3081>
- _____ 2) Verify the map/lot number from the Town's property assessment listing.
- _____ 3) Is this parcel an approved lot of record? Yes ____ No ____
- _____ 4) A copy of all minutes regarding special exceptions granted by the ZBA or Planning Board is required.
- _____ 5) Private Road/Class VI Road agreement required? Yes ____ No ____
- _____ 6) Complete set of scaled house plans.
- _____ 7) State septic approval for building lot. Septic approval of subdivision not sufficient.
- _____ 8) Plans: Foundation, Floor, Cross section, Elevations.
- _____ 9) Description of all building materials: Sizes and types, including header size for all openings in interior and exterior bearing walls, window sizes and net openings in all bedrooms.
- _____ 10) Certificate of Compliance (EC1 Form completed -
<https://www.puc.nh.gov/energycodes/residential.htm>
- _____ 11) Site plan drawn on graph paper with distances from dwelling to road and property boundary lines.
- _____ 12) Copy of driveway permit approved by Department of Public Works' Road Agent.
- _____ 13) Proof of property ownership.
- _____ 14) All of above items completed. Pay fees to Town of New Ipswich.

Note: If trusses are used, stamped drawings must be submitted to the Building Inspector before approval of the building permit.

Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer:

Peter Kelleher
603-620-3688
inspector@newipswichnh.gov

Fire Chief:

Benjamin Hatcher
603-878-1364
nifirechief@newipswichnh.gov

Public Works Director/Road Agent:

Peter Somero
603-878-2447 ext. 428
dpw@newipswichnh.gov

Administrative Support:

Evelyn Milford
603-878-2772 ext. 452
adminsupport@newipswichnh.gov