



CONSTRUCTION SAFEGUARDS

1. Required exits, existing structural elements, fire protection devices, and sanitary safeguards must be maintained at all times during construction.

Exceptions:

- When these elements or devices are being repaired or altered, adequate substitute provisions must be made.
 - When the existing building is not occupied.
2. Waste materials must be removed in a manner that prevents injury or damage to persons, neighboring properties, and public rights-of-way.
 3. Fire safety must comply with the *Virginia Construction Code* and Chapter 33 of the *International Fire Code*.



CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR NEW CONSTRUCTION PROJECT

Congratulations on your upcoming construction project! We would like to welcome you to Norfolk and remind you to be a good neighbor during the construction process.

Included are some of the rules and regulations that will help you throughout while maintaining a safe environment for you and for those around you.

Feel free to contact Norfolk's Planning Department with any questions you might have during your project.

City of Norfolk Building Safety (Permits)

Development Services Center
City Hall Building
810 Union Street, 1st Floor
Norfolk, VA 23510

(757) 664-6565

City of Norfolk Building Safety (Inspections)

401 Monticello Avenue, 1st Floor
Norfolk, VA 23510

(757) 664-6512

What You Need To Know During Construction



UNDERSTANDING THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE VIRGINIA CONSTRUCTION CODE DURING BUILDING



SITE WORK

1. Stumps and roots must be removed from the soil to a depth of at least 12 inches below the surface of the ground in the area where the building will be located.
2. Wood forms that have been used in placing concrete, if within the ground or between foundation sills and the ground, must be removed before a building is occupied or used.
3. Before completion, loose or casual wood must be removed from under the building.
4. Existing footings or foundations that can be affected by any excavation must be underpinned and secured adequately.



PEDESTRIAN PROTECTION

1. Pedestrians must be protected during construction, remodeling, or demolition.
2. Signs must be provided to direct pedestrian traffic.
3. A walkway, at least 4 feet in width, must be provided for pedestrians in front of every construction and demolition site, unless the City authorizes the sidewalk to be fenced or closed. The walkway must be made of a durable walking surface.
4. Pedestrian traffic must be protected by a directional barricade where the walkway extends into the street. It must be of sufficient size and construction to direct vehicles away from the walkway.
5. Construction railings must be at least 42 inches high and sufficiently direct pedestrians around the construction area.
6. Barriers must be at least 8 feet high and be placed on the side of the walkway nearest the construction. Barriers must extend the entire length of the construction site. Openings must be protected by doors that are normally kept closed.
7. Covered walkways must have a clear height of at least 8 feet as measured from the floor surface to the canopy overhead. Adequate lighting must be provided at all times. Covered walkways must be designed to support all imposed loads.
8. Pedestrian protection must be maintained in place and kept in good order for the entire length of time pedestrians are endangered by the construction.
9. Every excavation on a site located 5 feet or less from the street lot line must be enclosed with a barrier at least 6 feet in height. When located more than 5 feet from the lot line, a barrier must be erected where required by the Building Official. Barriers must be of adequate strength to resist wind pressure.



PROTECTING ADJOINING PROPERTY

1. Neighboring public and private property must be protected from damage during construction, remodeling, and demolition work.
2. Protection must be provided for footings, foundations, party walls, chimneys, skylights, and roofs. Provisions must be made to control water runoff and erosion during construction or demolition activities.
3. The person making or causing an excavation must provide written notice to the owners of adjoining buildings advising them that the excavation is to occur and that the adjoining buildings should be protected. This notification must be delivered at least 10 days prior to the scheduled starting date of the excavation.