

Colonial Heights Department of Building Inspections

Residential Permit Requirements:

TYPE OF WORK	REQUIRED PERMIT TYPE
Building a porch or deck or associated steps	BUILDING
Building an attached or detached garage or car port	BUILDING
Building or installation of a tool shed over 256 square feet and does not exceed one story	BUILDING
Building an additional room such as a bath room, family room, etc.	BUILDING
Finishing unfinished space, such as an attic , basement , second floor , etc.	BUILDING
Moving or removing any load bearing wall or partition	BUILDING
Repair of damaged structural elements , such as wall studs, columns, piers, footings, foundations, floor joists, rafters, beams, girders, etc.	BUILDING
Electrical service upgrade or change, such as installing a new breaker panel	ELECTRICAL
Installing any new or replacing existing electrical wiring , overcurrent device , panel board , etc.	ELECTRICAL
Installing any gas piping and/or fixtures to an existing structure	GAS
Installing any gas piping and/or fixtures associated with any of the above Building Permits	GAS
Replacing existing gas piping and/or fixtures	GAS
Installing a new central air conditioning system (No existing system in place)	MECHANICAL
Installing a new furnace , hydronic piping (hot water heating) and/or ductwork associated with a building permit, including installing a new vent or chimney	MECHANICAL

Installing a new furnace , hydronic piping (hot water heating) and/or ductwork in an existing structure, including installing a new vent or chimney	MECHANICAL
Repairing or replacing an existing fuel fired appliance vent or chimney	MECHANICAL
Replacing existing furnace with one which utilizes a different fuel. If the new furnace requires new wiring, an *ELECTRICAL permit is also required. If the new furnace requires new gas piping, a **GAS permit is also required.	MECHANICAL (*ELECTRICAL) (**GAS)
Installing a lawn irrigation backflow prevention device (required). NOTE: While a permit is not required for the installation of the lawn irrigation system itself, a permit is required for the backflow device, which is required for all lawn irrigation systems connected to your home's water system. (If County water is available in your area, contact the Utilities Department for a special reduced rate for water used by lawn irrigation systems.)	PLUMBING
Installing any plumbing pipe to an existing structure, such as hot and cold water supply, County water and sewer connections, well connections, septic tank connections, drain pipe, waste pipe, vent pipe, plumbing fixtures (sink, toilet), etc.	PLUMBING
Installing any plumbing pipe associated with a building permit, such as hot and cold water supply, County water and sewer connections, well connections, septic tank connections, drain pipe, waste pipe, vent pipe, plumbing fixtures (sink, toilet), etc.	PLUMBING
Replacing existing plumbing pipe	PLUMBING
Replace existing plumbing fixtures and / or plumbing fixture fittings	NONE ²
Replacing existing fuel fired (gas or oil) water heater with an electric water heater	PLUMBING ELECTRICAL

Replacing existing electric water heater with a gas water heater	PLUMBING GAS
Replace existing electric water heater with electric water heater (No new wiring)	NONE ²
Repairing or replacing roof covering (re-roofing)	None ¹
Repairing or replacing siding (re-siding)	None ¹
Driveways and sidewalks	NONE ¹
Installing storm windows	NONE ¹
Installing new floor covering (vinyl, carpet, hardwood)	NONE ¹
Interior or exterior painting	NONE ¹
Recreational equipment, such as swings, sliding boards, jungle gyms, skateboard ramps, etc.	NONE ¹
Replacing existing kitchen and/or bathroom cabinets	NONE ¹
Additional attic insulation	NONE ²
Installing gutters and downspouts	NONE ²
Installing any wiring or equipment which operates at less than 50 volts	NONE ²
Repairing or replacing porch or deck flooring (not to include the supporting floor joists)	NONE ²
Repairing or replacing interior wall covering (drywall, plaster, paneling, etc.)	NONE ²
Replace existing non-fuel-fired HVAC equipment without change to electrical circuits (fan, humidifier, etc.)	NONE ²
Replacing existing windows and/or doors , where no structural changes are made and are of similar capacity	NONE ²

Replacing existing electric furnace with equivalent, including fan, humidifier, etc (no new wiring)	NONE ²
Replacing existing plumbing fixtures with equivalent (replace bathroom sink, replace kitchen sink, replace hose connection, replace faucet, etc.)	NONE ²
Replacing existing electrical fixtures with equivalent (replace light fixture, replace switch or receptacle, replace outlet box, etc.)	NONE ²

None¹- Items not addressed by the Building Code; please contact Engineering department regarding sitework requirements, right-of-way permits, etc.

None² - Although a permit and inspections are not required, these items are addressed by the Building Code and , therefore, must be installed in accordance with the code.

Note³ - For exception to permit requirements for apartments, townhouses and condominiums, please consult the office.
