



**Attention Contractors and Homeowners:**

Please be advised that the Delaware County Department of Building Safety now enforces the 2019 Residential Code of Ohio. With the adoption of the 2019 Residential Building Code there have been changes in what types of construction require approvals and what is exempt from approvals. Please see section 105 of the 2019 Residential Code of Ohio provided below as you prepare to do work on residential properties.

*Please be advised that replacement of any electrical, gas, mechanical, plumbing system, other residential building service equipment, or piping system, the installation of which is regulated by this code, or to cause any such work to be done, shall first make application to the building official and obtain the required approval. This includes furnace and hot water tank replacement.*

**2019 Residential Code of Ohio**  
**SECTION 105**  
**APPROVALS**

**105.1 Required.** Any owner or authorized agent who intends to construct, enlarge, alter, repair, move or change the occupancy of a *residential* building or structure, *or portion thereof*, or to erect, install, enlarge, alter, repair, remove, convert or replace any electrical, gas, mechanical, plumbing system, *other residential building service equipment, or piping system, the installation* of which is regulated by this code, or to cause any such work to be done, shall first make application to the building official and obtain the required *approval*.

**105.2 Work exempt from approval.** *Approvals* shall not be required for the following. Exemption from the *requirements* of this code shall not be deemed to grant authorization for any work to be done in any manner in violation of the provisions of this code or any other laws or ordinances of this jurisdiction.

**Building:**

1. One-story detached accessory structures, provided the floor area does not exceed 200 square feet (18.58 m<sup>2</sup>).
2. Fences not over 6 feet (1829 mm) high.

3. Retaining walls that are not over 4 feet (1219 mm) in height measured from the bottom of the footing to the top of the wall, unless supporting a surcharge.
4. Water tanks supported directly upon grade if the capacity does not exceed 5,000 gallons (18 927 L) and the ratio of height to diameter or width does not exceed 2 to 1.
5. Sidewalks and driveways not more than 30 inches (762 mm) above adjacent grade and not over any basement or story below.
6. Painting, papering, tiling, carpeting, cabinets, counter tops and similar finish work.
7. Prefabricated swimming pools that are less than 24 inches (610 mm) deep.
8. Swings and other playground equipment accessory to a one, two *or* three-family dwelling.
9. Window awnings supported by an exterior wall which do not project more than 54 inches (1372 mm) from the exterior wall and do not require additional support.

**Electrical:**

Repairs and maintenance: *Approval* shall not be required for minor repair work, including the replacement of lamps or the connection of approved portable electrical equipment to approved permanently installed receptacles.

**Gas:**

1. Portable heating, cooking or clothes drying appliances.
2. Replacement of any minor part that does not alter approval of equipment or make such equipment unsafe.
3. Portable fuel cell appliances that are not connected to a fixed piping system and are not interconnected to a power grid.

**Mechanical:**

1. Portable heating appliance.
2. Portable ventilation appliances.
3. Portable cooling unit.
4. Steam, hot or chilled water piping within any heating or cooling equipment regulated by this code.

5. Replacement of any minor part that does not alter approval of equipment or make such equipment unsafe.
6. Portable evaporative cooler.
7. Self-contained refrigeration systems containing 10 pounds (4.54 kg) or less of refrigerant or that are actuated by motors of 1 horsepower (746 W) or less.
8. Portable fuel cell appliances that are not connected to a fixed piping system and are not interconnected to a power grid.

If you have any questions or comments regarding the above information, code in general or if a question comes up in the future, please contact (740) 833-2200.

Sincerely,

Duane Matlack  
Deputy Chief Building Official