



Brunswick County, North Carolina  
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## GUIDE TO ACCESSORY BUILDINGS: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

### Permit Requirements:

- If your accessory structure is greater than 12 ft. in any direction (length, width, height) you will need to apply for an Accessory Structure Building Permit.
- If you are going to add any electrical, mechanical or plumbing to your structure you will need to apply for the appropriate Trade Permit(s).
- A Zoning Development Permit is required for all structures of any size through the Planning Department.
  - Be aware that if your accessory structure is within 50 ft. of your property line you will be required to provide a Site Survey.
    - The surveyor will perform the site survey after the permanent foundation is established.
- See section 5.4.1 of the [Brunswick County Unified Development Ordinance](#) regarding Accessory Structures and requirements.

**When you act as your own contractor on any building project the State of North Carolina requires you to follow current building codes. If you have any questions regarding current building codes we suggest that you consult the [North Carolina Building Codes](#). It is solely the responsibility of the contractor, licensed or unlicensed, to know and follow the building code.**

What a building inspector will look for when inspecting a permitted accessory structure:

- Engineer letter
- Tie-Downs in accordance with engineer's plan
- Trades (Electrical, Mechanical, Plumbing) if applicable

\*Site Plan: Brunswick County provides a service to help you design your site plan called [Parcel Sketch](#). You can enter your Parcel ID and it will pull up the property line with the measurements for your specific parcel. Selecting "Show Addresses" will include your address on the parcel sketch.

Sample Illustration:

