Residential Accessory Building or Miscellaneous Structures Permit

Residential Accessory Buildings are detached buildings and structures accessory to and associated with a primary single-family or multifamily structure. An Accessory Building does not include a dwelling unit, examples of an Accessory Building include a garage, storage building or carport.

Residential Miscellaneous Structures include construction such as fences, pools, retention walls, vaults and other similar structures.

A separate Residential Accessory Building or Miscellaneous Structures Permit is not required if the applicant is submitting for a Residential, New Construction or Residential, Remodel and Addition permit. Accessory Buildings and Miscellaneous Structures can be included as a combination permit.

When is a building permit required?

The International Building Code exempts certain structures from needing a building permit if they are less than 200 square feet and unconditioned space. Exempted structures do not require a building permit from the County but must comply with all King County code requirements.

For more information see our “Do you need a permit?” web page. Another resource is the MyBuildingPermit.com Guidelines and Tip Sheets web page.

Accessory structure location, lot coverage and height

Due to the wide range of zoning conditions, possible critical areas conditions, and Seattle – King County Health Department requirements, applicants should first undertake basic research for your property. See the Property Research Guide and Worksheet for more information. Please note that Permitting staff will not perform basic property research for you unless there are special circumstances or needs.

Additional Resources

Not all of the permitting and regulatory elements covered by this outline will be required for every project. There also may be additional permitting and regulatory elements for some projects. For additional information or follow-up questions, applicants may:

- Call the Permit Center at 206-296-6600 or email DPERWebInquiries@KingCounty.gov
- Permit Center hours and location
Residential Accessory Building Permits, continued

King County Department of Local Services, Permitting Division

- Residential, Single Family Remodel, Addition or Repair Packet
- Permit Fees
- On-line Permit Status, Invoice Payment and Inspection Scheduling
- IVR Inspection Scheduling, phone number and codes
- Residential Manufactured (Mobile) Home Permit
- Residential, Attached and Detached Dwelling Units (ADUs)
- Residential Tiny Homes

MyBuilding Permit.com (MBP)

- Guidelines and Tip Sheets
- Inspection Checklists
- Help, Contacts and User Guides

King County Green Building Handbook