

PERMITS

A permit grants legal permission to start a project in the City of Altoona. Building, Mechanical, Electrical, and Plumbing permits are required in the City of Altoona in accordance with the Pennsylvania Uniform Construction Code. Permits allow for the enforcement of the codes to ensure safe construction.

When Do I Need a Permit?

- Construction of any new building, both residential and commercial
- Building or repairing a deck, garage, accessory building
- Prefabricated structures and temporary structures
- Demolition of any structure or part of a structure
- Swimming pools
- Signs
- Replacing or repairing a roof, porch, foundation or siding
- Cutting away any wall, partition or portion thereof, removal or cutting of any structural beam or loadbearing support, or rearrangement of parts of a structure affecting egress requirements
- Four or more windows
- Four or more steps

Simple repairs such as painting, floor coverings, ceilings, cabinets, countertops, sidewalk repairs, spouting, and accessory structures less than 100 sq. ft. in size or replacing less than four windows are exempt from permit requirements.

Permit Applications

Applications for a building permit, plumbing permit, mechanical permit, and electrical permit may be found on the Forms and Documents tab on the City's website, or by clicking [here](#). Mechanical, Electrical and Plumbing permit applications may only be obtained by a licensed master tradesman.

Plan Reviews and Inspections

The City of Altoona reviews plans and conducts inspections for all residential building, plumbing, electrical and mechanical work.

RESIDENTIAL PLAN REVIEWS AND INSPECTIONS:

City Inspector Mike Baldwin 814-949-2406

For a commercial project, plans must be submitted electronically to your choice of either Laurel Municipal Inspection Agency or Middle Department Inspection Agency. One hard copy set of plans is required to be submitted to the City for internal review.

COMMERCIAL PLAN REVIEWS AND INSPECTIONS:

Laurel Municipal Inspection Agency 814-471-0424

Middle Department Inspection Agency 1-800-682-6342

Permit Fees

A schedule of City permit fees may be found [here](#). Fees for a commercial project are set by the inspection agency and are in addition to the City's permit fees.

Development Guides

Have an idea for a project but not sure how to get started? Click [here](#) to see the process

For guidelines on a a change of use and/or alteration, click [here](#)

Subdivision and Land Development

If your project requires a subdivision or land development, click [here](#) to review the process.

Questions should be directed to the Codes & Inspections Department by calling [814-949-2456](tel:814-949-2456) or use this [contact E-Form](#).