



City of Dunnellon - Community Development

20750 River Dr. | Dunnellon, Florida 34431

Phone: (352) 465-8500 x1010 | Email: planning@dunnellon.org

Website: www.dunnellon.org

For Office Use Only

Permit Number: _____

DECK PERMIT APPLICATION CHECKLIST 2023 Florida Building Code, 8th Edition

REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS FOR ALL PROJECTS:

1. COMPLETED PERMIT APPLICATION - Form attached.
2. NOTICE OF COMMENCEMENT (NOC) for jobs over \$5,000 (\$15,000 for HVAC) - The city requires a copy of the recorded NOC before scheduling first inspection. To be recorded at Marion County Clerk of Court Annex Building at 19 N Pine Ave, Room 124. Ocala FL 34478. Attached.
3. PROOF OF PROPERTY OWNERSHIP
4. COPY OF CONTRACTORS' CURRENT INSURANCE CERTIFICATES with City of Dunnellon, 20750 River Dr, Dunnellon, FL 34431 as certificate holder.

PLEASE ATTACH THE CORRESPONDING DOCUMENTS BASED ON PROJECT:

DECK:

1. BOUNDARY SURVEY - Two (2) signed and sealed surveys of less than one year old which include flood zone and panel number information.
2. BUILDING PLANS – Two (2) sets of drawn plans showing all footings and dimensions/depths (engineered plans may be required depending on characteristics of the proposed deck). Wood framed decks shall be in accordance with FL Building Code section 507. For decks using materials and conditions not prescribed in this section, refer to Section R301.
3. ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE PERMIT or EXEMPTION LETTER FROM FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OR SWFWMD – see below for criteria.
4. IMPERVIOUS SURFACE ASSESSMENT
5. EROSION CONTROL MEASURES – may be displayed on site plan or separate sheet.
6. FEMA 50% FORM – for structures in Flood Zones A/AE when deck is attached to house.
7. GRADING PLANS- for flood zones A or AE; in lieu of grading plans, may submit an engineering analysis, prepared in accordance with standard engineering practice by a registered design professional, that demonstrates the proposed work will not result in any increase in the level of the base flood, grading, excavation and earthwork construction, including fills and embankments (FBC, Appendix J)
8. OWNER-BUILDER DISCLOSURE STATEMENT - ONLY if owner acts as contractor - An affidavit signed by the owner/ builder certifying that the responsibilities and requirements of the construction process are understood by the owner. Attached.
9. SITE PLAN – Two (2) copies. Attached.
10. TREE SITE PLAN – To identify and number each tree to be removed/preserved.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE PERMIT (ERP) REQUIREMENTS

Contact Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) at 352-796-7211 with any questions.

62-330.020 Regulated Activities.

(1) A permit under this chapter is not required for activities that qualify for:

(a) Operation and routine custodial maintenance of projects legally in existence under Chapter 403 or Part IV of Chapter 373, F.S., provided the terms and conditions of the permit, exemption, or other authorization for such projects continue to be met, and provided the activity is conducted in a manner that does not cause violations of state water quality standards. However, this exemption shall not apply to any project that is altered, modified, expanded, abandoned, or removed;

(b) An exemption listed in Rule 62-330.051 or 62-330.0511, F.A.C., or in section 1.3 (District-specific exemptions) of the applicable Volume II;

(c) The "grandfathering" provisions of Section 373.4131(4), 373.414(11), (12)(a), (13), (14), (15), or (16), F.S.; or

(d) The "10/2" general permit for upland stormwater systems authorized in Section 403.814(12), F.S.

(2) Unless the activity qualifies under subsection (1), above, a permit is required prior to the construction, alteration, operation, maintenance, removal, or abandonment of any project that, by itself or in combination with an activity conducted after October 1, 2013, cumulatively results in any of the following:

(a) Any project in, on, or over wetlands or other surface waters;

(b) A total of more than 4,000 square feet of impervious and semi-impervious surface areas subject to vehicular traffic;

(c) A total of more than 9,000 square feet of impervious and semi-impervious surface area;

(d) A total project area of more than five acres;

(e) A capability of impounding more than 40 acre-feet of water;

(f) Any dam having a height of more than 10 feet, as measured from the lowest elevation of the downstream toe to the dam crest;

(g) Any project that is part of a larger common plan of development or sale;

(h) Any dry storage facility storing 10 or more vessels that is functionally associated with a boat launching area;

(i) Any project exceeding the thresholds in section 1.2 (District-specific thresholds) of the applicable Volume II, or

(j) Any modification or alteration of a project previously permitted under Part IV of Chapter 373, F.S.

(3) Construction and operation of projects under subsection (2), above, are subject to the additional limitations in paragraph 3.1.4(f) of Volume I.

(4) The following types of permits are available:

(a) A general permit, as provided in Rule 62-330.052, F.A.C., and Rules 62-330.410 through 62-330.635, F.A.C.;

(b) An individual permit, as provided in Rule 62-330.054, F.A.C.; and,

(c) A conceptual approval permit, as provided in Rule 62-330.055 or 62-330.056, F.A.C.

Rulemaking Authority 373.026(7), 373.043, 373.118, 373.4131, 373.4145, 373.418, 403.805(1) FS. Law Implemented 373.117, 373.118, 373.409, 373.413, 373.4131, 373.4132, 373.4145, 373.416, 373.426, 403.0877 FS. History—New 10-1-13, Amended 6-1-18.



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2023 FLORIDA BUILDING CODE 8TH ED.

PERMIT # _____

Date _____	Residential	Commercial	Owner-Builder
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Parcel ID _____ Project # / Related Permit / Code Case _____

Project Address _____ Flood Zone: _____

Lot	Blk	Unit	Sec	Twp	Rge	Subdivision / MH Park
-----	-----	------	-----	-----	-----	-----------------------

Property Owner _____

Address _____

Phone _____ E-mail: _____

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Accessory Structure | <input type="checkbox"/> Electric | <input type="checkbox"/> Residential (Add. / Alt.) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aluminum | <input type="checkbox"/> Exterior Door / Window | <input type="checkbox"/> Re- Roof |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Above Ground Pool | <input type="checkbox"/> Fence / Wall | <input type="checkbox"/> Solar |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial (New) | <input type="checkbox"/> Fire | <input type="checkbox"/> Swimming Pool / Spa |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial (Add. / Alt.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Mechanical / Gas / HVAC | <input type="checkbox"/> Tent / Temp Use |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Concrete | <input type="checkbox"/> Mobile Home | <input type="checkbox"/> Waterfront Structure |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Demolition | <input type="checkbox"/> Plumbing | <input type="checkbox"/> Window /Exterior Door |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DCA - Modular Building | <input type="checkbox"/> Residential (New) | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Description of Work _____

Job Cost \$ _____

Was This Building Damaged by Fire, Flood, or Other? Yes No Damage Assessment Report # _____

BUILDING: New sqft _____ Added sqft _____ Alteration/Renovation sqft _____ Temp Power Pole? Yes No

Stories _____ Bedrooms _____ Bathrooms _____ Under A/C _____ sqft No A/C _____ sqft

Water: Existing Well New Well Replacement Well Central Water Irrigation: Yes No Existing

CONTRACTOR'S Business Name _____

Contractor's Name _____ State Lic _____ County Cert _____

Address _____

Contact Phone _____ E-mail _____

SUBCONTRACTORS: Qualifier Name	County Cert #	State License #	E-mail
MECHANICAL	_____	_____	_____
ELECTRIC	_____	_____	_____
PLUMBING	_____	_____	_____
GAS	_____	_____	_____
ROOFING	_____	_____	_____
IRRIGATION	_____	_____	_____
OTHER	_____	_____	_____

Fee Simple Titleholder's Name (if other than owner): _____

Mortgage Lender Name: _____ Mortgage Lender Address: _____

PLEASE SIGN BELOW

Application is hereby made to obtain a permit to do the work and installations as indicated. All work will be performed in accordance with the standards of all State and City laws and ordinances regulating construction, whether specified herein or not. I further certify that I have read and examined this application and know the same to be correct, that all work shall be in compliance with all applicable laws regulating construction and zoning, and the building permit may be revoked in the case of a false statement or misrepresentation in the application and/or plans on which the permit was approved.

It shall also be agreed that Impact Fees shall be determined with the application for a building permit and shall be due before Final Inspection. Permit Fees shall be payable at issuance of a building permit. The owner and/or contractor have the sole responsibility of determining compliance with setbacks and non-encroachment of easements. Permits expire 6 months after issuance. You are responsible for the completion of the permit, inspections, and all re-inspection fees

WARNING TO OWNER: YOUR FAILURE TO RECORD A NOTICE OF COMMENCEMENT MAY RESULT IN YOUR PAYING TWICE FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO YOUR PROPERTY. A NOTICE OF COMMENCEMENT MUST BE RECORDED AND POSTED ON THE JOB SITE BEFORE THE FIRST INSPECTION.

IF YOU INTEND TO OBTAIN FINANCING, CONSULT WITH YOUR LENDER OR AN ATTORNEY BEFORE COMMENCING WORK OR RECORDING YOUR NOTICE OF COMMENCEMENT.

Owner's Signature _____

Print Name _____

Date: _____

STATE OF FLORIDA, COUNTY OF MARION

Sworn to (or affirmed) and subscribed before me by means of _____ physical presence or _____ online notarization,

this _____ day of _____ 20_____

By _____

Personally Known or Produced Identification

ID: _____

Notary Signature: _____

Notary Stamp:

Contractor's Signature _____

Print Name _____

Authorized Agent's Signature _____

Print Name _____

Date: _____

STATE OF FLORIDA, COUNTY OF MARION

Sworn to (or affirmed) and subscribed before me by means of _____ physical presence or _____ online notarization, this _____ day of _____ 20_____

By _____

Personally Known or Produced Identification

ID: _____

Notary Signature: _____

Notary Stamp:

Pursuant to Florida Statute 713.135(7) all signatures must be notarized

PERMIT APPROVED BY BUILDING OFFICIAL:

DATE:



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File this form at Marion County Clerk of Courts at 19 NW Pine Ave, Room 124, Ocala FL. Submit a copy of the recorded NOC to City of Dunnellon prior to scheduling the first inspection. F.S. 713.135 requires this form for jobs with direct contract value greater than \$7,500 OR greater than \$14,999 for repair/replacement of existing heating/AC systems.

Notice of Commencement

Permit no.: _____ Tax folio/Parcel ID: _____

The undersigned hereby gives notice that improvement will be made to certain real property, and in accordance with Florida Statutes (FS) chapter 713, the following information is provided in this notice of commencement.

1. Description of property should include the full legal description of property and street address, if available:

2. General description of improvement: _____
3. Owner or lessee information, if lessee is contracted for the improvement:
 - a. Name and address: _____
 - b. Interest in property: _____
 - c. Name and address of fee simple titleholder (if different from owner listed above): _____
4. Contractor / Qualifier: _____
 - a. Name and address: _____
 - b. Contractor phone number: _____
5. Surety name, address, and phone number (if applicable, attach copy payment bond): _____
 _____ 5c. Amount of bond: \$ _____
6. Lender name, address and phone number: _____
7. Persons within the state of Florida as designated by owner upon whom notices or other documents may be served as provided by FS section 713.13(1)(a),7 (provide name, mailing address and phone number of designated person): _____

8. In addition to himself or herself, owner designates _____ of _____ to receive a copy of the Lienor's Notice as provided in Section FS section 713.13(1)(b). Phone number of person/entity designated by owner: _____

9. Notice of commencement expiration date (the expiration date will be 1 year from the date of recording unless a different date is specified): _____

WARNING TO OWNER: ANY PAYMENTS MADE BY THE OWNER AFTER THE EXPIRATION OF THE NOTICE OF COMMENCEMENT ARE CONSIDERED IMPROPER PAYMENTS UNDER CHAPTER 713, PART I, SECTION 713.13, FLORIDA STATUTES, AND CAN RESULT IN YOUR PAYING TWICE FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO YOUR PROPERTY. A NOTICE OF COMMENCEMENT MUST BE RECORDED AND POSTED ON THE JOB SITE BEFORE THE FIRST INSPECTION. IF YOU INTEND TO OBTAIN FINANCING, CONSULT WITH YOUR LENDER OR AN ATTORNEY BEFORE COMMENCING WORK OR RECORDING YOUR NOTICE OF COMMENCEMENT.

 Signature of Owner (or authorized agent) Date

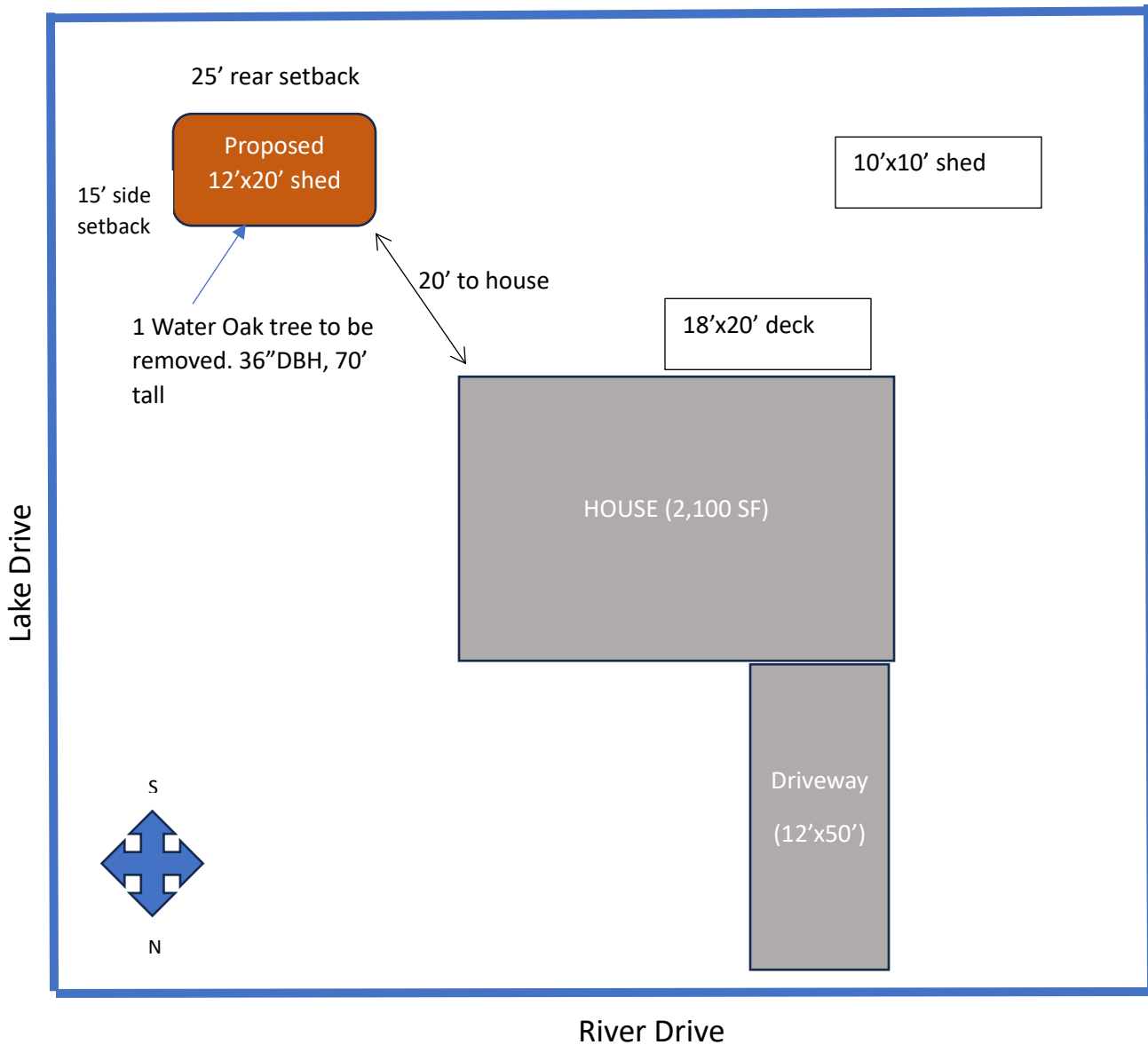
 Signatory's title/office
 STATE OF FLORIDA, County of _____ The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me by means of
 physical presence or online notarization, this _____ day of, _____ 20_____,
 By _____, as _____ for
Authority / representative type; officer, trustee or attorney-in-fact

 Name of party/corporation/company for whom instrument was executed Signature of Notary Public

Personally, known or Produced identification _____

RESIDENTIAL SAMPLE SITE PLAN

Do not use this example as your site plan. Use page 2 to create your site plan.



The following must be included on the site plan. Measurements should be identified in feet.

1. Identify location of proposed structure(s) and all existing structures on the property (include underground items).
2. Identify all setbacks from proposed structure to the property line using feet.
3. Identify the distance between the proposed structure to existing surrounding structures.
4. Show street names.
5. Show trees to be removed as a result of this request. Include species, circumference of tree at chest height and approximate height. A separate tree removal application needs to be submitted.
6. Show dimensions of all impervious surfaces on property. Include pavers, decks, buildings, concrete, pools, etc. The city will use this information to conduct an impervious surface assessment.

RESIDENTIAL SITE PLAN

Applicant site plan

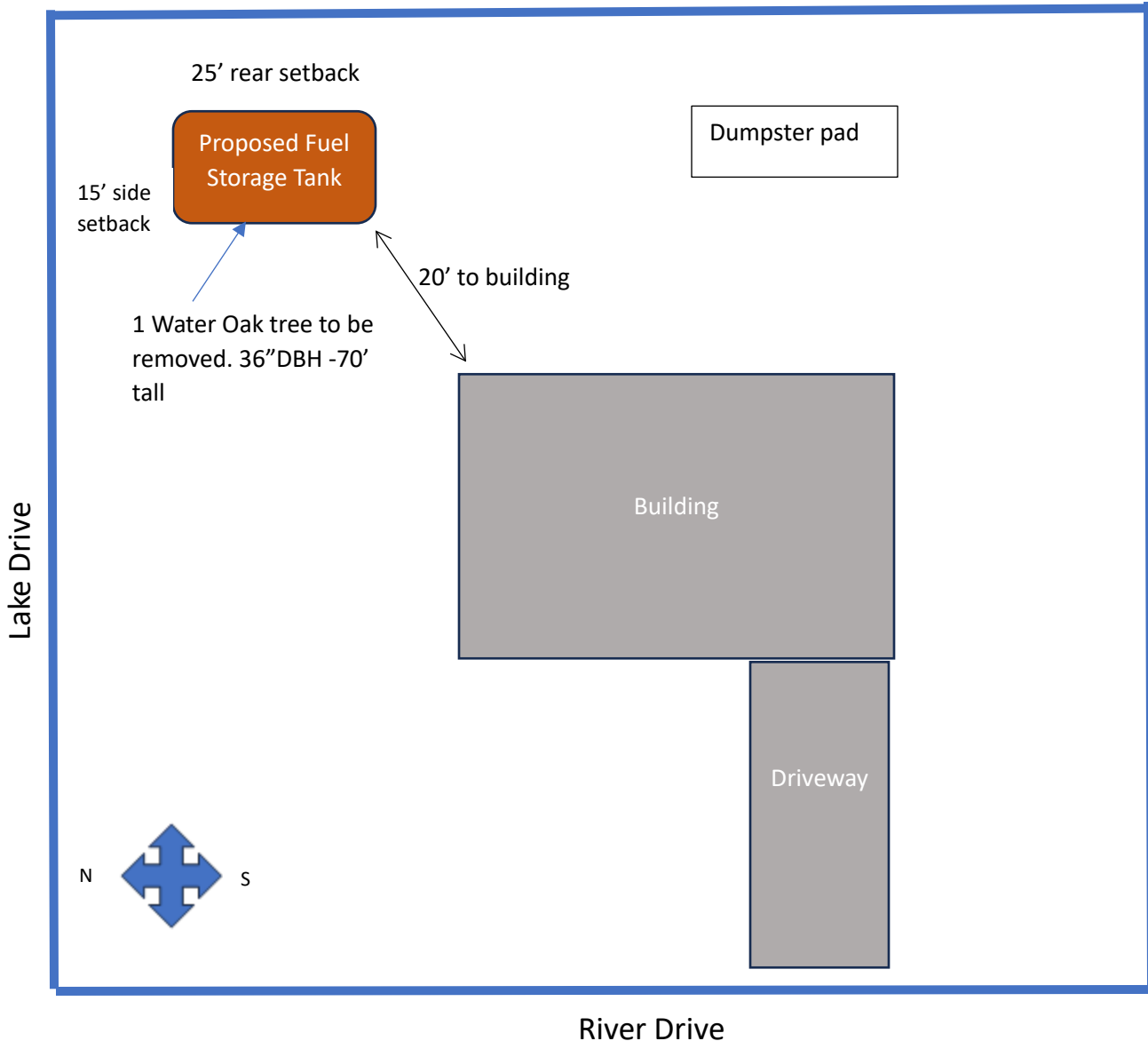
The following must be included on the site plan. Measurements should be identified in feet.

1. Identify location of proposed structure(s) and all existing structures on the property (include underground items).
2. Identify all setbacks from proposed structure to the property line using feet.
3. Identify the distance between the proposed structure to existing surrounding structures.
4. Show street names.
5. Show trees to be removed. A separate tree removal application will need to be submitted.
6. Show dimensions of all impervious surfaces on property. Include pavers, decks, buildings, concrete, pools, etc. The city will use this information to conduct an impervious surface assessment.



COMMERCIAL SAMPLE SITE PLAN

Do not use this example as your site plan. Use page 2 to create your site plan.



The following must be included on the site plan. Measurements should be identified in feet.

1. Indicate North, South, East and West.
2. Identify location of proposed structure(s) and all existing structures on the property (include underground items).
3. Identify all setbacks from proposed structure to the property line using feet.
4. Identify the distance between the proposed structure to existing surrounding structures.
5. Show street names.
6. Show parking spaces
7. Show trees to be removed as a result of this request. Include species, circumference of tree at chest height and approximate height. A separate tree removal application needs to be submitted.
8. Show dimensions of all impervious surfaces on property. Include pavers, decks, buildings, concrete, pools, etc. The city will use this information to conduct an impervious surface assessment.

COMMERCIAL SITE PLAN

Applicant site plan

The following must be included on the site plan. Measurements should be identified in feet.

1. Indicate North, South, East and West.
2. Identify location of proposed structure(s) and all existing structures on the property (include underground items).
3. Identify all setbacks from proposed structure to the property line using feet.
4. Identify the distance between the proposed structure to existing surrounding structures.
5. Show street names.
6. Show parking spaces and number the spaces. Identify ADA spaces.
7. Show trees to be removed. A separate tree removal application will need to be submitted.
8. Show dimensions of all impervious surfaces on property. Include pavers, decks, buildings, concrete, pools, etc. The city will use



Impervious Surface Calculation

PERMIT #		PARCEL #	
OWNER NAME		ZONING	
ADDRESS		ACREAGE	
CALCULATED LOT SQ. FT. (multiplied acreage by 43,560)			-

NOTES:

HOUSE SQUARE FOOTAGE UNDER ROOF		
DRIVEWAY(S) (PAVED OR UNPAVED)		
WALKWAY(S) (CONCRETE, PAVERS, OR GRAVEL AREAS)		
PATIOS (INCLUDING WOOD SLATTED DECKS)		
OUTBUILDING 1 (SQURE FOOTAGE OF ROOF AND SLABS)		
OUTBUILDING 2 (SQURE FOOTAGE OF ROOF AND SLABS)		
OTHER IMPERVIOUS AREA		
OTHER IMPERVIOUS AREA		
OTHER IMPERVIOUS AREA		
OTHER IMPERVIOUS AREA		

TOTAL SQUARE FOOTAGE OF EXISTING IMPERVIOUS SURFACES -

TOTAL IMPERVIOUS % ON PARCEL (DIVIDE SF OF IMPERVIOUS SURACES BY SF OF PARCEL) #DIV/0!

PARCEL'S ALLOWABLE IMPERVIOUS SURACE PERCENTAGE 60%

*B-2 ZONING ALLOWS 65% IMPERVIOUS SURFACES PER SECTION 8.11 OF DUNNELLON CITY CODE
ALL OTHER ZONING ALLOWS 60% IMPERVIOUS SURFACES PER SECTION 8.10.2 OF DUNNELLON CITY CODE*

Impervious Surface Calculation

Sec. 99-12. - Neighborhood flooding.



- (a) [Chapter 98](#) of this Code requires stormwater management systems for new development. Development that is not subject to those requirements, such as single-family and two-family dwellings on existing lots, can also flood surrounding lots and streets, especially if the lot is raised higher than adjoining properties or if rainfall is concentrated by gutters and downspouts and discharged without an opportunity for infiltration.
- (b) To minimize neighborhood flooding from normal daily rainfall, a fill permit must be obtained from the city when fill material is to be placed on lots that would raise the elevation more than an average of six inches above adjoining lots. The fill permit application must show how normal rainfall will have an opportunity to infiltrate into the ground within the lot using one or more of the following methods or equivalent solution:
 - (1) Gutters and downspouts that collect rainwater must discharge into exfiltration trenches (French drains), or into a subsurface drainfield that meets the construction standards of F.A.C. 64E-6.014(5) (the percolation, depth, location, and setback standards for drainfields need not be met), or onto substantially flat and porous surfaces such as:
 - a. Sodded lawns.
 - b. Clean (washed) gravel or sand over a well-drained base.
 - c. Porous (pervious) paving.
 - (2) Roof areas not served by gutters and downspouts must not drain to impervious surfaces, and must not drain to pervious surfaces that are sloped in excess of five percent. Surfaces not meeting these requirements must be designed to detain or deflect rainfall, for instance through the use of earthen ridges, curbs, or retaining walls that prevent average rainfall from running onto adjoining lots or streets.
- (c) Additions to, renovations of, and replacements for single-family and two-family dwellings that include the installation of gutters and downspouts must also obtain a fill permit showing discharge from the downspouts being directed to the same standards as for filled lots.

([Ord. No. 2011-02, § 3, 4-11-2011](#))



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2020 Florida Statute – Chapter 489.103 (7c) and 489.503 OWNER- BUILDER DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

The Owner builder must be present at the time of application. To qualify under this subsection, the Owner builder must personally appear to sign the building permit application, the owner builder disclosure statement and associated documents to satisfy local permitting agency requirements, if any, proving that the owner has a complete understanding of the owner's obligations under the law as specified in this disclosure statement.

1. I understand that state law requires construction to be done by a licensed contractor and have applied for an owner-builder permit under an exemption from the law. The exemption specifies that I, as the owner of the property listed, may act as my own contractor with certain restrictions even though I do not have a license.
2. I understand that building permits are not required to be signed by a property owner unless he or she is responsible for the construction and is not hiring a licensed contractor to assume responsibility.
3. I understand that, as an owner-builder, I am the responsible party of record on a permit. I understand that I may protect myself from potential financial risk by hiring a licensed contractor and having the permit filed in his or her name instead of my own name. I also understand that a contractor is required by law to be licensed in Florida and to list his or her license numbers on permits and contracts.
4. I understand that I may build or improve a one-family or two-family residence or a farm outbuilding. I may also build or improve a commercial building if the costs do not exceed \$75,000. The building or residence must be for my own use or occupancy. It may not be built or substantially improved for sale or lease, unless I am completing the requirements of a building permit where the contractor listed on the permit substantially completed the project. If a building or residence that I have built or substantially improved myself is sold or leased within 1 year after the construction is complete, the law will presume that I built or substantially improved it for sale or lease, which violates the exemption.
5. I understand that, as the owner-builder, I must provide direct, onsite supervision of the construction.
6. I understand that I may not hire an unlicensed person to act as my contractor or to supervise persons working on my building or residence. It is my responsibility to ensure that the persons whom I employ have the licenses required by law and by county or municipal ordinance.
7. I understand that it is a frequent practice of unlicensed persons to have the property owner obtain an owner-builder permit that erroneously implies that the property owner is providing his or her own labor and materials. I, as an owner-builder, may be held liable and subjected to serious financial risk for any injuries sustained by an unlicensed person or his or her employees while working on my property. My homeowner's insurance may not provide coverage for those injuries. I am willfully acting as an owner-builder and am aware of the limits of my insurance coverage for injuries to workers on my property.
8. I understand that I may not delegate the responsibility for supervising work to a licensed contractor who is not licensed to perform the work being done. Any person working on my building who is not licensed must work under my direct supervision and must be employed by me, which means that I must comply with laws requiring the withholding of federal income tax and social security contributions under the Federal Insurance Contributions Act (FICA) and must provide workers' compensation for the employee. I understand that my failure to follow these laws may subject me to serious financial risk.
9. I agree that, as the party legally and financially responsible for this proposed construction activity, I will abide by all applicable laws and requirements that govern owner-builders as well as employers. I also understand that the construction must comply with all applicable laws, ordinances, building codes, and zoning regulations.

10. I understand that I may obtain more information regarding my obligations as an employer from the Internal Revenue Service, the United States Small Business Administration, the Florida Department of Financial Services, and the Florida Department of Revenue. I also understand that I may contact the Florida Construction Industry Licensing Board at [850-487-1395](tel:850-487-1395) or <http://www.myfloridalicense.com/DBPR/> for more information about licensed contractors.

11. I am aware of and consent to an owner-builder building permit applied for in my name and understand that I am the party legally and financially responsible for the proposed construction activity at the following Address (parcel # if address not yet assigned): _____

12. I agree to notify the City of Dunnellon Community Development Office immediately of any additions, deletions, or changes to any of the information that I have provided on this disclosure.

Licensed contractors are regulated by laws designed to protect the public. If you contract with a person who does not have a license, the Construction Industry Licensing Board and Department of Business and Professional Regulation may be unable to assist you with any financial loss that you sustain as a result of a complaint. Your only remedy against an unlicensed contractor may be in civil court. It is also important for you to understand that, if an unlicensed contractor or employee of an individual or firm is injured while working on your property, you may be held liable for damages. If you obtain an owner-builder permit and wish to hire a licensed contractor, you will be responsible for verifying whether the contractor is properly licensed and the status of the contractor's workers' compensation coverage.

Before a building permit can be issued, this disclosure statement must be completed and signed by the property owner and returned to the local permitting agency responsible for issuing the permit. A copy of the property owner's driver license, the notarized signature of the property owner, or the type of verification acceptable to the local permitting agency is required when the permit is issued.

Owner's Signature: _____

Print Name: _____

STATE OF FLORIDA, COUNTY OF _____

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me by means of

physical presence or **online notarization**, this _____ day of _____ 20_____

By _____

Personally known or Produced Identification _____

Notary Signature

Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public

Swimming Pool

- Check the pool system's shutoff valve, which works automatically, to see if it is malfunctioning and causing a continuous cycle of water to be pumped in and then drained out. If the water level stays higher than normal and it overflows when people are using it, call your plumber.
- Check for pool leaks by placing an empty bucket filled with enough water so that the level of water is equal to the level in the pool. Without using the pool, check the water levels in a few days. If the pool's water level is lower than the bucket's water level, your pool may have a leak. Remember, most uncovered pools in Florida will lose about $\frac{1}{8}$ " to $\frac{1}{4}$ " of water a day to evaporation depending on what type of water features, such as waterfalls or fountains, are present.



Service Connecting Line

- Check for soft, wet spots on your lawn or listen for the sound of running water outside your house, which may be an indication of a leak in the service line to your house.
- Close the main shutoff valve and if the sound of running water continues or you detect wet spots, contact your plumber or water utility.



Learn about different

Irrigation Methods



Micro-irrigation

For more efficient water application, consider using micro-irrigation, which targets the root zone of the plants and irrigates 50 percent or less area. In addition, micro-irrigation minimizes water lost to evaporation and slows weed growth.

Hoses and Sprinklers

- Place the sprinkler in the area that is driest.
- Allow the sprinkler to run the proper length of time to apply one-half to three-quarters of an inch of water.
- After one area has received enough water, move the sprinkler so that its water spray will overlap the area previously watered.
- Adjust the hose or sprinkler until it waters just the grass or shrubs, not paved areas.

Inground Irrigation

Inground irrigation systems can be automatic or manual, or a combination. The automatic system can provide an efficient method of irrigating lawns because controllers turn the system off after a predetermined amount of time, so a measured amount of water is applied. Make sure to learn how to operate your system and follow these tips:

- Check timing devices regularly to make sure they are operating properly.
- Check for broken or misdirected sprinklers monthly.
- Replace broken heads with the same type and make sure sprays and rotors are not used in the same zone.

Follow these tips when

Irrigating

- Make sure your rain sensor or soil moisture sensor is working if you have an automatic irrigation system. These devices override the system when enough rain has fallen or the soil is moist enough to skip an irrigation cycle.
- Irrigate only when your lawn and landscape need water and only on your watering day.
- Water your lawn when it shows signs of stress, including grass blades that are blue-gray color and folded in half lengthwise.
- Water your lawn during the cool, early morning hours to avoid water loss by evaporation and discourage disease.
- Avoid watering on windy days.
- Train your landscape to use less water by skipping a week of watering in the winter.
- Apply an average of one-half to three-quarters of an inch of water per application for most Florida soils. To determine how long to run your sprinkler, perform a catch-can test.



How to Perform a Catch-Can Test



- Place 5-6 cat food or tuna cans around one irrigation zone.
- Turn on the irrigation zone for 15 minutes.
- Use a ruler to measure how much water collected in each can.
- Add all of the measurements up and divide by the number of cans.
- This will give you the average amount of water collected in the zone.
- You can now use this amount of water to adjust your irrigation system to make sure you're irrigating for the recommended amount of time.

Try these tips while

Mowing

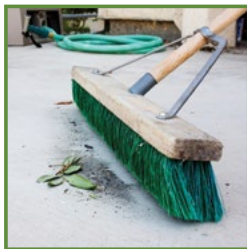
- Cut your grass at the highest recommended height for your turf species to encourage grass roots to grow deeper and grass blades to hold moisture.
- Keep your mower blades sharp since dull blades tear grass, opening it to disease and causing it to appear tan and ragged.
- Leave short grass clippings where they fall to reduce the lawn's need for water and fertilizer.
- Remove thick patches of clippings so that the clippings will not kill the grass underneath.



Here are more

Water-Saving Tips

- Use a rain barrel to collect rainwater. Rainwater is free and is better for your plants because it doesn't contain hard minerals.
- Do not leave sprinklers unattended. Use a kitchen timer to remind yourself to turn sprinklers off.
- Do not hose down your driveway or sidewalk. Use a broom to clean leaves and other debris from these areas.



- Use a shutoff nozzle on your hose that can be adjusted down to a fine spray so that water flows only as needed. When finished, turn it off at the spigot instead of at the nozzle to avoid leaks.
- Cover your spa or pool to reduce evaporation.
- Consider a new water-saving pool filter if you have a swimming pool.
- Avoid purchasing recreational water toys that require a constant stream of water.
- Consider using a commercial car wash that recycles water. If you wash your own car, park on the grass, use a bucket of soapy water and use a hose with a shutoff nozzle.
- Dig out water-loving weeds and cultivate soil often.
- Avoid the installation of ornamental water features, such as fountains, unless the water is recycled.
- Water slowly to reduce runoff and to allow deep penetration.



Southwest Florida Water Management District Offices

Brooksville Headquarters

2379 Broad Street

Brooksville, FL 34604-6899

(352) 796-7211 • 1-800-423-1476 (FL only)

Bartow Service Office

170 Century Boulevard

Bartow, FL 33830-7700

(863) 534-1448 • 1-800-492-7862 (FL only)

Sarasota Service Office

78 Sarasota Center Boulevard

Sarasota, FL 34240-9770

(941) 377-3722 • 1-800-320-3503 (FL only)

Tampa Service Office

7601 Highway 301 North

Tampa, FL 33637-6759

(813) 985-7481 • 1-800-836-0797 (FL only)

Southwest Florida
Water Management District

WaterMatters.org

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The Southwest Florida Water Management District (District) does not discriminate on the basis of disability. This nondiscrimination policy involves every aspect of the District's functions, including access to and participation in the District's programs, services and activities. Anyone requiring reasonable accommodation, or who would like information as to the existence and location of accessible services, activities, and facilities, as provided for in the Americans with Disabilities Act, should contact the Human Resources Office Chief, at 2379 Broad St., Brooksville, FL 34604-6899; telephone (352) 796-7211 or 1-800-423-1476 (FL only); or email ADACoordinator@WaterMatters.org. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the agency using the Florida Relay Service, 1-800-955-8771 (TDD) or 1-800-955-8770 (Voice). If requested, appropriate auxiliary aids and services will be provided at any public meeting, forum, or event of the District. In the event of a complaint, please follow the grievance procedure located at WaterMatters.org/ADA.