

**Swimming Pool Barriers:**

All residential swimming pools without an approved automatic cover require a swimming pool barrier to be installed. The barrier, which is usually a fence, is required to be 5ft in height and meet other opening/location requirements per the International Swimming Pool and Spa Code.

It is common that wire fencing is desired to be installed as a pool barrier. In order for it to be compliant the max. opening for chain link is 1.75" and maximum horizontal wire fencing width is 1.75". Customers commonly try to use the 2"x4" "no-climb" fencing but this is not a compliant swimming pool barrier. Reference your local jurisdictions pool barrier handouts for complete information.



**Deck Replacement:**

It is common that wood decks are replaced every 10-20 years. When replacing an existing wood deck with a new one the foundation piers are required to meet minimum footing requirements per the current building code.

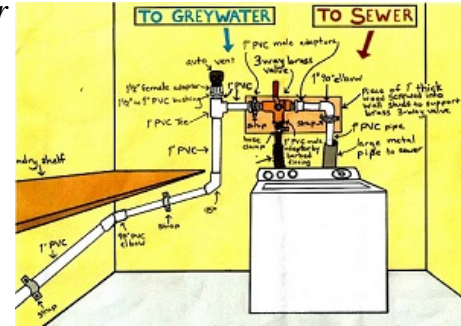
Many homeowners would like to use existing concrete piers when replacing a deck. It is very common that existing foundation piers don't meet minimum code requirements and require the installation of new concrete piers. Keep this in mind when replacing a deck and reference the local Building Departments deck construction guide for complete information.



**Gray Water Laundry System:**

Your clothes washer can be modified as a gray water system without the need for a plumbing permit if installed per CPC 1502.1.1. The gray water is used for non-potable purposes for irrigation or general disposal.

There are specific installation and labeling requirements for this alteration. Consult with a license plumbing contractor and your local Building Department for complete information.



**Siding Clearances:**

Wood siding and sheathing require a minimum clearance to the ground of 6" and 2" to concrete. (CRC R317.1)

Having proper clearance to ground from finished siding will help protect siding from pests and deterioration from the weather so it will last the life of the building and save long-term costs.



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**If you have any questions or would like more information regarding minimum California Building Code requirements please contact the applicable jurisdiction at the contact information shown on the front cover.**



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**Summer 2018 Edition**

**Common Building Code Requirements That May Not Be So Commonly Known**

County of Nevada Building Department  
(530) 265-1222

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Town of Truckee Building Department  
(530) 582-7821

[www.townoftruckee.com](http://www.townoftruckee.com)

City of Grass Valley Building Department  
(530) 273-4340

[www.cityofgrassvalley.com](http://www.cityofgrassvalley.com)



## Applicable Building Codes

The building codes currently adopted by the State, County of Nevada, City of Grass Valley and Town of Truckee are the 2016 California Building Standards Codes. The information shown throughout this brochure reflects the requirements from these standards.



### Address Signs:

New and existing buildings require address signs to be posted visible from the street or roadway. The signs shall be a minimum of 4 inches in height with a minimum 1/2" stroke width. The numbers shall have a contrasting background. (CFC 505)

*It is important to have clear address signs visible from the street so emergency personnel can easily find a building in an emergency event. If someone gets badly hurt on your property don't you want the ambulance to quickly find it?*



### Special Inspections:

Special inspections are required when advanced or unique construction techniques are employed during construction or grading projects. Special inspections are conducted by an approved third party agency specialized in that form of construction method/materials. Commonly required special inspections are for grading, welding, and steel bolting. To see if any special inspections are required for your project discuss with your project engineer and local Building Department.

### Siding Vapor Barriers:

One layer of 15lb felt or an equivalent vapor barrier is required under siding for houses. (CRC R703.2)

*Installing the correct siding vapor barrier will help protect the envelope of your building. This is required for new construction and for residing projects. There are several products available in addition to standard felt products.*

### Wet Area Tile Backing Board:

Backer boards used for direct application of tile shall be approved per ASTM C1396 when installed in shower, tub, and other wet areas. (CRC R702.3.7)

*This is a common mistake made by homeowners and contractors alike. The typical "purple" or "green" boards sold for wet locations in hardware stores are not approved for direct tile application in wet locations. Verify with the product manufacturer and your local Building Department prior to purchasing any tile backing board products.*



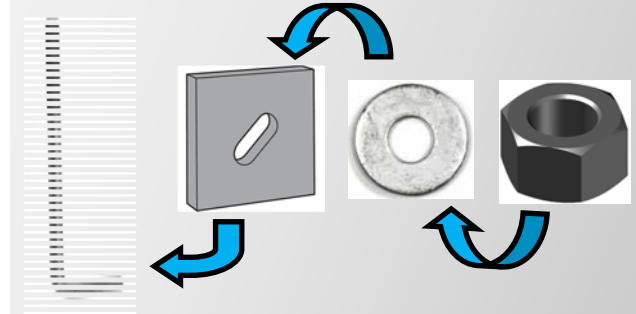
### Laundry Room Makeup Air:

The majority of laundry rooms and closets built in homes require installing a minimum of 100 square inches of makeup air. This is air obtained from an adjacent conditioned space in the house. (CMC 504.4.1)

*Makeup air is installed so a negative pressure isn't created in the laundry room/closet when a dryer is exhausting air. This is commonly achieved by louvers in doors to the room or an air duct connecting to an adjacent room. Some larger laundry rooms do not require makeup air to be installed based on the room volume.*

### Anchor Bolt Washers:

A majority of the areas in the Nevada County region are in a Seismic Design Category that requires the installation of 3"x3"x.229 anchor bolt washers on wall anchor bolts. It is common that slotted square 3" square washers are used for ease of installation on anchor bolts. When slotted washers are used, a standard round cut washer is required to be installed between the anchor bolt nut and square washer. (CRC R602.11)



### Deck Guardrails:

Guardrails are required on decks that have a drop down to grade level more than 30" vertically within 36" horizontally of the open side. Openings shall not be able to pass a 4" sphere. Guardrails shall be a minimum of 42" in height above the adjacent walking surface. (CRC R312)

*Guardrails help protect both adults and children from falling and injuring themselves off of deck surfaces. This is a vital component to ensuring safety for building occupants. There are many types of approved deck guardrail systems.*

*Check with your local Building Department prior to purchasing any guardrail products to ensure they meet minimum code requirements.*

