

BUCKINGHAM TOWNSHIP

P.O. Box 413, Buckingham, Pennsylvania 18912
Phone (215) 794-8834 • Fax (215) 794-8837

Website - www.buckinghampa.org



Basements Completed without a Permit Requirements

Please answer all the following questions and submit the answer page with your application. Permits will not be reviewed or issued without the following information:

1. Sleeping rooms must have an egress window or emergency escape opening.
2. If an egress door was installed, was it a basement egress Bilco door or walkout door to exterior grade?
3. If an egress window was installed, provide the size of the window installed, width and height, is it a double hung or casement window 5.7 square feet minimum?
4. Provide the measurement from the floor of the basement to the bottom of the egress window opening not exceeding 44" max to opening.
5. A layout plan is needed for the basement with all rooms and their uses shown. Indicate where the egress window and/or door is located or will be installed.
6. A basement wall detail is needed.

Example: Were wood or metal studs used for the basement walls?
 Stud wall spacing 16" or 24" on center?
 Is fire blocking installed vertical and horizontal?
 Insulation R- value?
 Drywall thickness?

7. Did your basement fit out include plumbing? If plumbing was installed, your ejector pump will need a check valve and ball valve installed on the discharge plumbing pipe above the ejector pump.
8. The vent for the basement plumbing ejector pump will need to vent to the roof or exterior of the building. Wet venting into the 3" or 4" main drain of the house is not permitted.
9. Fire blocking - All mechanical, storage, and unfinished areas will need fire blocking.

Example: Vertical fire blocking is needed on ends of the stud wall leading from the unfinished rooms, mechanical room, storage room, etc. Joist bays and HVAC ducts will need fire blocking installed in the unfinished rooms.

10. 1/2" drywall is needed under the steps.
11. If installed, fire sprinklers will need to be inspected by the Buckingham Township Fire Marshal.
12. A Final Electric Inspection by a third-party electrical underwriter will be required prior to final.
13. ALL BASEMENTS MUST BE HEATED. Indicate how your basement is heated. Note: Gas or wood fireplaces are not a primary source of heat.
14. A CARBON MONOXIDE ALARM is needed in the hallway outside the vicinity of the bedrooms on all floors where bedrooms are located.
15. High and Low air exchange grills / vents are needed for the mechanical room adjacent to new living space - 12" from the ceiling - 12" from the floor. 1" per 1000 BTU but no less than 100 sq. inches.
16. Basement and all sleeping rooms in basement shall have smoke alarms installed.
17. Handrails are needed for the basement steps.
18. All basement Bilco doors shall have a graspable handrail down one side of the steps.