

Any building structure over 100 square feet in total area that is permanently affixed to or in the ground requires a building permit.

Building permits can be found online at <http://forwardtwpbutlerco.us/> or at the township municipal building.

Building permit fees are based on the total square footage along with administrative fees. Building permit applications and payments are accepted at the township municipal building by *check only* payable to Forward Township.

Inspections are required in accordance with the Uniform Construction Code Act for any new residential or commercial building construction, additions to, or structural changes. Forward Township has chosen the Municipal Code Association (MCA) as its dedicated inspection agency.

Municipal Code Association (MCA)

1227 Sunset Drive

Butler, PA 16001

(724) 841-0141

Email: mcode@zoominternet.net

Exclusions & exemptions from inspections under the Uniform Construction Code Act

The following structures are exempt from needing building permits and code inspections if the structures have an area of less than 1,000 square feet and is an accessory to a detached 1 family dwelling.

- Carports
- Detached private garages
- Sheds
- Agricultural buildings

Building Setback Requirements

50 feet minimum from the edge of any adjoining public road right-of-way.

The edge of the pavement or gravel roadway is *NOT* the edge of the right away. Most public road right-of-way's in Forward Township are a minimum of 33 feet. Forward Township assumes that the center of the traveled section of the road is the center of the right-of-way unless proof can be shown by a registered surveyor.

- 15 Feet minimum from the side yard property line
- 20 Feet minimum from the rear yard property line

Stormwater Management

Forward Township adopted the PA Department of Environmental Protection Stormwater Management Ordinance in 2011.

The ordinance requires any new *impervious surface*, be it a building, pavement, gravel, or a combination of these over 2,500 square feet in area must be documented on a stormwater management form. When any new and/or future impervious surface area reaches 5,000 square feet in total a stormwater management plan is required to be submitted to the township for review by the township's designated engineer. The stormwater management plan must be approved before construction can begin.

Application Process

1. Complete and sign the permit application(s).
2. Permit Applications must be accompanied by the following:
 - Site drawing containing the distances from the property lines and from any public roadways
 - Drawing of the proposed new construction containing dimensions and floor heights.Drawings must have the owners name, site address, signature and date. Present the application(s) any drawings and required fee(s) to the Township.
3. The application and drawing(s) is then forwarded to Brian Miller our Code Enforcement Officer.
4. Once your lot/area is staked or marked Brian Miller will come out and check to make sure you meet the Forward Township Ordinance requirements.
5. At that time, Brian Miller will either issue the permit or if further inspection is required the application will be forwarded to MCA.

For any questions or concerns please contact:

Forward Townships Code Enforcement Officer.

Brian Miller
(724) 822-5172

Forward Township Municipal Office

(724) 538-9251