



## **County of Prince George, Virginia**

*“A welcoming community • Embracing its rural character • Focusing on its prosperous future”*

### **Carports**

The International Residential Code defines a *carport* as a structure open on at least two sides – regardless if it is attached to the house or not. The floor surface must be a non-combustible material: concrete, asphalt or gravel, and should slope towards the vehicle entrance. These types of structures are usually constructed of wood posts, beams and roof rafters or light gage metal structures assembled by the manufacturer or the homeowner from a kit.

The following requirements pertain:

1. A permit is required, including an additional electrical permit if applicable.
2. The construction documents should include:
  - A. One copy of the plat showing the location of the structure in relationship to the house and the property lines.
  - B. Three sets of the construction drawings providing the following information:
    1. Dimensioned floor plan, showing the exact location of all columns/ supports,
    2. For wood structures:
      - a. Detail (section view) of the structure showing the posts, beams and framing member - sizes and spacing,
      - b. The structure must be anchored to the ground. Provide details showing the size and depth of the footings.
    3. For metal structures:
      - a. Details of the structure showing framing member size/gauges and spacing.
      - b. The structure must be anchored to the ground. Provide details showing the anchoring system - typically auger type anchors over which the metal channel is fitted. Engineered details must accompany the manufacturer’s drawings and should provide the spacing and depth/length of auger anchors.
3. The following inspections will be required:
  - A. Final building inspection,
  - B. Electrical inspection, if applicable, may also be done at the same time.

If the structure is going to have more than two sides enclosed, it will be construed to be a *garage* and will have to comply with the requirements of a garage.

If you have any questions, please contact the office at (804) 722-8659.