

MORE INFORMATION

For more information on general building contractors or structural pest control operators, contact the California State License Board at 800-321-2752, or the California State Pest Control Board at 800-737-8188, Ext.4, to check if a company or individual is licensed, insured and in good standing.

You may also contact our Department at (415) 558-6088.



Department of Building Inspection
1660 Mission Street
San Francisco, CA 94103-2414



Want a DBI Pro to brief your community / organization on permits and inspection issues? Please contact us at 415-558-6089 or DBICommunityOutreach@sfgov.org and we will make it happen.

 Minimum 30% post consumer recycled

INSPECTION OF ALL EXTERIOR DECKS



What You Should Know About

The City Requires Inspection Of All Exterior Decks And Attachments Every 5 Years



Department of Building Inspection
1660 Mission Street
San Francisco, CA 94103

General Information 415-558-6088
Code Questions 415-558-6084
Fax 415-558-6401
www.sfgov.org/dbi

June 2006



THE NEED FOR INCREASED PUBLIC AWARENESS IN THE MAINTENANCE OF BUILDING ATTACHMENTS

Decks have provided enjoyment for thousands of property owners throughout San Francisco, many of whom have given little thought to an inspection to assure the continued safety of these decks for use by their friends and family.

Past collapses of exterior decks which have resulted in injury and the tragic loss of life, have highlighted the need for increased public awareness in the maintenance of building attachments. Exterior decks, stairs, balconies, porches or other attachments to buildings should be routinely inspected by licensed professionals to assure their safety.

WOOD DECAY

Wood decay is a major cause of damage in exterior wood decks and attachments. It occurs at lumber joints that retain moisture from rain, fog and dew and at wood-to-ground contacts. As decay progresses, the strength and safety of the deck are reduced.

Even redwood, which has a natural resistance to decay, may be damaged over time from wood decay.

Often, wood decay is undetectable by sight inspection and is only discoverable under thorough inspection by trained professionals. Inspection and maintenance of wood decks and attachments will minimize the risks resulting from wood decay.

HAVE A LICENSED PROFESSIONAL INSPECT YOUR DECK, PORCH, STAIRS, BALCONY OR OTHER ATTACHMENTS EVERY 5 YEARS

The Department of Building Inspection requires all owners of properties with exterior decks and attachments to have a licensed structural pest control operator, licensed general contractor, architect or engineer inspect your deck, porch, stairs, balcony or other attachments, every 5 years to assure their continued stability and safety.

Please call Housing Inspection Services at (415) 558-6220 for further information regarding the inspection affidavit requirements by Housing Code Section 604 – Structural Maintenance.