



This guideline is provided to assist the public and staff in determining when a building permit is required for a trellis or gazebo.

Definitions

Trellis: An open frame structure that acts as a screen or as a support for climbing plants.

Gazebo: A free standing roofed structure open on all sides.

Treated Wood: Wood members treated in compliance with CAN/C.S.A.-080-M, “Wood Preservation”.

Exemption

This guide does not apply to a building site used exclusively for a single or two-family dwelling.

General

Trellises and gazebos are not to be:

- Built over a “fire access route”, or main egress route from a building; and
- Occupied on a continual basis.

When a trellis or gazebo meets the following conditions, it may be considered as part of the site/building landscaping.

Trellis built:

- Independent of any building;
- Of heavy timber or treated *wood* construction; and
- With a minimum one metre (1 m) below windows located above the second floor.

Gazebos that are:

- Less than 10 m² in building area, except when there are one or more accessory buildings on the property;
- Minimum 3 m clear of property lines or other buildings;
- Built of treated wood (including the roof), non-combustible heavy timber construction or a combination thereof; and
- Finished roofing material complying with the BC Building Code.

In addition:

- Open flames of any type not permitted within the structure; and
- Signage required to indicate that open flames are not permitted.

Note: Gazebos larger than 10 m² or if there are one or more additional accessory buildings on the property, require plans and permits and must comply with all applicable City Bylaws and the BC Building Code.

If there are comments, suggestions or questions regarding this guideline, please contact Supervisor, Permits and Plan Review.