



PERMITTING, ZONING & CODE ENFORCEMENT

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

PERMITTING

Q: What is a permit and when do I need one?

A permit is official approval to begin certain types of work. You typically need one before construction, renovation, demolition, electrical, plumbing, mechanical work, fencing, or accessory structures. When in doubt, ask before you build!

Q: Why are permits required?

Permits ensure work is safe, legal, and meets building codes, protecting property owners, neighbors, and the community.

Q: How do I apply, and how long does approval take?

Submit applications online with a completed form, project plans, contractor info (if applicable), and fees. Simple permits are approved quickly; larger projects take longer.

ZONING

Q: What is a Zoning Ordinance?

A local law that divides land into districts (residential, commercial, industrial) to regulate how property is used, developed, and maintained.

Q: Where can I find Galena's Zoning Ordinance?

Visit www.townofgalena.com → Quick Links → Town of Galena Charter. Use the search bar at the top to find specific terms.

Q: What if my project doesn't meet zoning requirements?

You may need a variance, special exception, or site plan approval. Town Staff can guide you through the process.

CODE ENFORCEMENT

Q: What is Code Enforcement?

It ensures properties comply with local laws on safety, health, and maintenance, covering buildings, yards, signage, and vacant properties.

Q: What happens if there is a violation?

A notice is issued explaining the issue with a deadline to correct it. The goal is compliance, not punishment.

Q: Can I report a concern?

Yes, concerns can be reported confidentially to help maintain safe, well-kept neighborhoods.

Questions? Contact Town Hall • Phone: (410) 648.5151 • info@townofgalena.com

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Town Charter

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Resident Feedback

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