



The Borough of Phoenixville

Chester County, Pennsylvania

Borough Hall, 140 Church Street, Phoenixville, PA 19460

Phone: (610) 933-8801 Fax: (610) 983-0480

CHECKLIST FOR USE AND OCCUPANCY CERTIFICATE

A Borough Official will inspect every property, on change of use or occupancy no sooner than thirty (30) days prior to change of ownership or occupancy in accordance with Borough Ordinances. The inspection will be in compliance with, **but not limited to**, the following list of items, however additional items to be corrected may be identified and noted at the time of the inspection:

Rubbish and Recycling Toters

1. Borough-Issued Rubbish and Recycling Toters shall be present, in good condition as determined at the discretion of the Code Enforcement Officer, and are to be transferred with the property to the new owner. The Code Enforcement officer, as per Ordinance 2012-2197, Solid Waste, has the authority to mandate the seller purchase a replacement Toter for the new owner. Additionally, he or she will document the serial numbers of the Toters at the time of inspection.

Zoning/Uses

2. Property use shall be only in accordance with the Borough of Phoenixville Zoning Ordinance or a properly documented existing non-conforming use and/or structure.

Exterior: Finishes, Utilities and Other Systems

3. All curbs, sidewalks, walkways, driveways and similar areas shall be in good condition. No missing or displaced portions or tripping hazards as determined by official's discretion, shall be present.
4. The property street number address must be posted and visible from the street with four (4) inch numbers, contrasting to the background. If the rear of the property faces an accessible right of way the same numbering is also strongly recommended.
5. The exterior of the structure shall be weather tightened and have no visible openings, signs of significant deterioration or defacement/graffiti. This includes all accessory structures.
6. Guardrails on all balconies and/or decks, which are greater than twenty-one (21) inches above grade or floor level. Handrails and/or guardrails must be present at all stairways (including interior stairwells), which rise more than two (2) steps. Owners should consult with a code official previous to initiating any work to verify applicability or available modifications.
7. If present, sump pumps must discharge to the exterior of the building or into the Borough storm water system where available. Pits must be covered. There shall be no connection of roof, floor, or sump pump drains to the Borough's Sanitary Sewer System.
8. Any and all roof drainage, sump pump, air conditioning or dehumidifiers shall not be discharged so as to create a safety hazard or public nuisance, e.g., downspouts that discharge across a publicly-accessed sidewalk. Proper connections to the storm sewers, where applicable, is highly recommended. Please consult the code official previous to initiating work, as remedies to these conditions may require permits.

Interior: Fixtures, Finishes, Utilities and Other Systems

9. Openings from a private garage directly into a room used for sleeping purposes shall not be permitted. Other openings between the garage and the residence shall be equipped with solid wood doors not less than 1 3/8 inches (35mm) in thickness, solid or honeycomb core steel doors not less than 1 3/8 inches (35 mm) thick, or 60 minute fire-rated doors.
10. Working vent fans shall be present in all bathrooms and/or toilet rooms, which are not provided with an operable window.
11. No double cylinder dead bolts are permitted on entrance/exit doors. All dead bolts must have a thumb latch.
12. Every toilet room floor shall be maintained to be smooth, hard, nonabsorbent surface to permit such floor to be easily kept in a clean and sanitary condition.
13. All interior surfaces, including windows and doors, shall be maintained in good, clean and sanitary condition. Peeling, chipping, flaking or abraded paint shall be repaired, removed or covered. Cracked or loose plaster, decayed wood and other defective surface conditions shall be corrected.
14. Operable windows located in whole or in part within 6 feet above ground level or a walking surface below, shall be equipped with a window sash locking device.
15. If present, garbage disposal units must be in working condition or properly disconnected and capped. All plumbing fixtures (sinks, toilets, etc.) must be in working condition. There shall be no leaks and no dripping faucets or fixtures.
16. Bathroom and bedroom doors shall be equipped with privacy locks. Please consult with a code official in order to determine if a historic structure/architectural exemption can be granted before initiating changes.
17. All gas appliances require a shutoff valve within 5' of the appliances.
18. Basement floors shall be substantially weather tight, watertight and rodent proof.
19. Borough of Phoenixville water meters shall be accessible for maintenance and repair. Water meters and all of its components shall not be tampered with in any manner.
20. Water heaters or boilers require pressure release blow-off tube that extends to within six (6) inches of the floor.

Electrical

21. There shall be no (interior or exterior) unfilled openings within the electric circuit breaker or fuse box.
22. There shall be no exposed electric wires, uncovered outlet, or switch boxes. Any spliced wiring connections shall be enclosed in an ANSI-approved junction box including a cover plate.



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23. Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter (GFCI) outlets shall be installed at all exterior locations, and all interior locations that are within six (6) feet of a water source.
24. Each electrical service circuit breaker or fuse box must display a 3rd Party Electrical Underwriter Inspection Agency's "Final Inspection" approval sticker. If you do not have a source of your own, the Codes Department can provide a list of agencies that are registered in the Borough to conduct these inspections.

Fire Prevention/Notification Systems

25. All systems, devices and equipment to detect fire or smoke, actuate an alarm or suppress a fire, shall be properly functioning.
26. There shall be a properly functioning smoke detector present on each level, including basements but *not* including crawlspaces and uninhabitable attics, and one in each room designated as a bedroom.
27. In all locations in primary or accessory structures, all incandescent light bulbs shall have coverings (shades, globes, cages) or be replaced with compact fluorescent bulbs.
28. A fire resistance-rated assembly must be maintained between levels of uninhabitable and habitable space. (basement and first floor) In other words: Where applicable, the *underside* of the stairwell leading from the first habitable floor to the second, must have fire-resistance materials covering it. Acceptable materials include original plaster/lath finishes or two layers of 5/8" gypsum wallboard (drywall) with a Level 1 finish. Please consult a code official for further clarification of this requirement.

Commercial/Rental Properties

29. Commercial/Industrial properties are required to supply Labor and Industry Use and Occupancy permit, and any other applicable regulatory agency, or department permits.
30. Rental properties require a minimum five (5) pound ABC type fire extinguisher, and shall be mounted in each kitchen area.
31. Rental properties with two (2) or more habitable rooms on the third floor and above are required to have a second means of egress (fire escape/emergency ladder).

The validity of the Use and Occupancy Certificate is contingent upon compliance with the Ordinances of the Borough of Phoenixville. The property owner is responsible for this compliance, unless otherwise specifically provided pursuant to the Ordinance. Use and Occupancy of a property without a valid Use and Occupancy Certificate issued by the Borough of Phoenixville constitutes a violation of Borough Ordinance No. 1576 and may result in the Borough pursuing the legal remedies as set forth in said Ordinance.