

Ridgefield Historic District Commission

Capsule Guide to Activities Requiring a Certificate of Appropriateness

I. Work Generally Not Requiring Approval

1. Interior alterations;
2. Painting and choice of paint color;
3. Repair/maintenance exempt unless it changes the appearance or design of the exterior features as determined by the Commission;
4. Changes not visible from any public street or way as determined by the Commission;
5. Masonry repair and re-pointing that matches the appearance and uses the same materials as the existing;
6. Roofing repairs or re-shingling that matches the appearance and uses the same materials as the existing;
7. Landscape planting;
8. Street address signs and numbers;
9. Standard mailboxes and newspaper tubes;
10. Temporary signs such as real estate signs, tag sale signs, political signs, and event banners; and
11. Temporary fixtures and structures such as tents for special events, construction waste containers, trailers, portable playsets, portable sculptures, and portable outdoor furniture.

II. Examples of Activities Requiring a Certificate of Appropriateness

- 1. Exterior changes to any structure.**
- 2. Accessory buildings and structures including but not limited to:**
 - a. garages;
 - b. sheds;
 - c. barns; and
 - d. greenhouses.
- 3. Architectural elements including but not limited to:**
 - a. substantial removal or replacement of siding, especially any proposed aluminum, vinyl or similar siding;
 - b. exterior trim and ornament;
 - c. window frames, sash and muntins;
 - d. shutters;
 - e. storm doors and storm windows;
 - f. window boxes and planters;
 - g. chimneys;
 - h. substantial removal or replacement of roof covering;
 - i. doors and entranceways;
 - j. porches and decks;
 - k. exposed foundations;
 - l. dormers;
 - m. skylights and solar panels;
 - n. plumbing vents, fan or exhaust vents;
 - o. awnings;
 - p. exterior of light fixtures;
 - q. satellite dish, television or radio antenna;
 - r. gutters, leaders and downspouts; and
 - s. any other rooftop appurtenances.
- 4. Site fixtures and structures including but not limited to:**
 - a. fences and walls;
 - b. patios and terraces;
 - c. rock gardens;
 - d. outdoor fireplaces and cooking structures;
 - e. water fountains or features;
 - f. swimming pools;
 - g. driveways and walkways;
 - h. driveway gates;
 - i. pergolas, trellises, and arbors;
 - j. gazebos;
 - k. well houses;
 - l. flag poles; and
 - m. landscape light fixtures.
- 5. Parking areas for industrial, commercial, business, home industry, or occupational uses.**
- 6. Signs other than temporary signs.**
- 7. Miscellaneous fixtures and structures including but not limited to:**
 - a. storage tanks, oil and propane tanks;
 - b. air conditioning equipment;
 - c. utility equipment; and
 - d. garbage enclosures.

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