

## TOTAL DEMOLITION - Overview

Use this guide for (1) complete removal of an existing structure or (2) removal of 40% or more of the exterior wall area of an existing structure. Demolition of a structure less than 200 square feet **and** under 8 feet in height does not require permits or inspections, unless the structure is a landmark or located in a historic district. This guide is for informational purposes only and does not replace code requirements.

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Standards that Apply	Approvals & Permits that may be Required	Step in Guide
Contact State of Colorado	State of Colorado Approval	1
Contact agency for any standards that may apply	Office of the City Forester Approval	1
Landmark Ordinance, DRMC Chapter 30, Section 30-6	Landmark Approval	1
Contact each agency for any standards that may apply	Wastewater Management Approval Denver Water Approval Public Works - Construction Engineering Approval	2
Denver Building Code Building Permit Policy #IBC 3303	Building Demolition Permit (If utilizing explosives for demolition operation, demolition approval must be obtained by the Building Official)	3

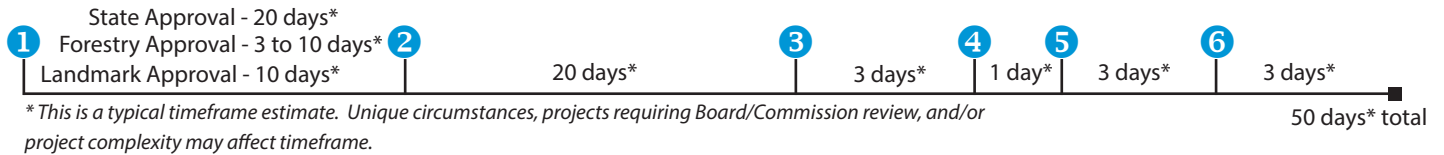
Please note: Properties formerly classified as residential whose structures have been fully demolished on January 1 are reclassified as vacant land and taxed at 29% of value as non-residential property regardless of prior use, zoning or future intended use(s). For more information on tax assessment, visit [www.denvergov.org/assessor](http://www.denvergov.org/assessor).

[www.denvergov.org/developmentservices](http://www.denvergov.org/developmentservices)

## TOTAL DEMOLITION - Process

This provides an overview of a typical demolition process and timeframe.

### Timeframe



### Process Steps

#### 1 Obtain State of Colorado, Forestry and Landmark approvals.

##### State Approval:

- CDPHE oversees asbestos control and abatement and ensures demolition projects comply with air pollution laws regulating asbestos and materials containing it. The state requires notification for all demolitions of all facilities and all asbestos abatement projects that exceed trigger levels, whichever is the lesser quality.
- You must submit the applicable form from CDPHE to obtain demolition permit.

##### Forestry Approval:

- Forestry review ensures protection for all trees in the public right-of-way and zoning required primary and side setback areas. For properties in residential zone districts, any established tree not otherwise diseased or decayed within the primary and side street setback areas of the zone lot must be preserved, unless it meets the established criteria for removal, which must be authorized by the Office of the City Forester.
- Submit the items on Submittal Checklist (page 4 of this guide) for Forestry via email.
- Forestry staff will conduct a pre-inspection to determine what trees require protection and ensure that tree protection is in place for trees in public right-of-way and setbacks. Protection must remain throughout the demolition, construction and landscaping process.

##### Landmark Preservation Approval:

**Landmark staff reviews all total demolitions citywide to determine if the structures have the potential to be Denver landmarks.**

- Submit the Total Demolition Application, color photographs of all sides of the structure(s), and a copy of Assessor's Record of the subject property to [landmark@denvergov.org](mailto:landmark@denvergov.org). See Submittal Checklist for Landmark Preservation for additional guidance. Landmark staff will review the structure within 10 business days to determine if it has the potential to be a Denver landmark.
- If the structure is found to have potential to be a Denver landmark, Landmark staff will post a demolition notice for 21 days. If a designation application is submitted, the designation process will begin. If a designation application is not submitted during the 21 day posting period, Landmark staff will issue a Landmark demolition approval number on the following business day.
- Demolition of an accessory structure smaller than 1.5 stories does not require Landmark review unless it is associated with an individual Denver landmark or is within a Denver landmark historic district.
- For primary or accessory structures that are associated with individual Denver landmarks or within Denver landmark historic districts, total demolition requires review by the Landmark Preservation Commission. Contact [landmark@denvergov.org](mailto:landmark@denvergov.org) for more information.
- Visit [denvergov.org/landmark](http://denvergov.org/landmark) for a full description of the demolition notice, posting and Landmark designation process.

### Contact info

Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE)  
Air Pollution Division  
[www.colorado.gov/cdphe/asbestos](http://www.colorado.gov/cdphe/asbestos)  
[asbestos@state.co.us](mailto:asbestos@state.co.us)  
303.692.3100  
4300 Cherry Creek Drive South,  
Denver, CO 80246

Office of the City Forester  
[www.denvergov.org/forestry](http://www.denvergov.org/forestry)  
[forestry@denvergov.org](mailto:forestry@denvergov.org)  
720.913.0651  
201 W Colfax Ave, 6th Floor  
Denver, CO 80202

Landmark Preservation  
[www.denvergov.org/landmark](http://www.denvergov.org/landmark)  
[landmark@denvergov.org](mailto:landmark@denvergov.org)  
720.865.2709  
201 W Colfax Ave, 2nd Floor  
Denver, CO 80202

[www.denvergov.org/developmentservices](http://www.denvergov.org/developmentservices)

## TOTAL DEMOLITION - Process

This provides an overview of a typical demolition process.

### 2 Obtain approvals from other agencies and provide notification

#### Denver Water Approval

#### Wastewater Approval

- Each agency must confirm that all utilities and service lines have been shut off, cut off, capped or otherwise controlled, and bills have been paid prior to pre-inspection. See Submittal Checklist for Wastewater and PW.

#### Public Works Approval (if applicable):

- Construction engineering approval is required if the structure is at the zero lot line and/or the demolition will impact the public right-of-way with equipment, construction/demolition materials. See Submittal Checklist for Wastewater and PW.

#### Adjacent Property Owner Notification:

- You must notify all adjacent property owners (sides and rear) using the Notification Form (page 6 of this guide) at least 10 business days before a demolition permit may be issued per Denver Building Code amendments (DCBA) Section 3307.1.1. Property owner information is available at [denvergov.org/assessor](http://denvergov.org/assessor).
- Mail notification: Mail the form with return receipt requested.
- In-person notification: Obtain signatures from listed property owners in person.
- Return receipts (one per property) OR personally signed Notification Forms (one per property) must be submitted to the city before demolition permit may be issued.

#### Denver Water

[www.denverwater.org](http://www.denverwater.org)

303.893.2444

[watersales@denverwater.org](mailto:watersales@denverwater.org)

1600 W 12th Ave

Denver, CO 80204-3412

#### Wastewater Management

303.446.3759

[dotpermitoperations@denvergov.org](mailto:dotpermitoperations@denvergov.org)

2000 W 3rd Ave

Denver, CO 80223

#### Public Works - Construction Engineering

303.446.3469

2000 W 3rd Ave, 3rd Floor

Denver, CO 80223

### 3 Affidavit and CPD Building Inspections pre-inspection

- Complete the Affidavit Form (page 7 of this guide) and submit in person to staff, or in dropbox at the Inspections counter. This will initiate/schedule the pre-inspection.
- At the pre-inspection, the inspector confirms that all service lines have been shut off, cut off, capped or otherwise controlled. Call or email Inspections to check the status of your inspection.
- The inspector signs the Affidavit Form and submits it to permitting staff.

#### Building Inspections

[building.inspection@denvergov.org](mailto:building.inspection@denvergov.org)

720.865.2505, option 6

201 W Colfax Ave, 3rd Floor

Denver, CO 80202

### 4 Obtain Building Permit

- Once the pre-inspection is done, email [residentialpermits@denvergov.org](mailto:residentialpermits@denvergov.org) with items on the Submittal Checklist for Building Permit to obtain your permit and pay the appropriate fees.
- Please note that the permit will not be issued until 10 business days after adjacent property owner notification (see step 2) was completed.

#### Permitting Staff

[residentialpermits@denvergov.org](mailto:residentialpermits@denvergov.org)

720.865.2710

201 W Colfax Ave, 2nd Floor

Denver, CO 80202

### 5 Demolish the building

### 6 Schedule and complete final inspection

- After demolition is complete, schedule your final inspection online at [denvergov.org/epermits](http://denvergov.org/epermits). On-site, the inspector will conduct the final inspection. Once inspection is complete, the inspector will finalize the permit. If applicable, you will be required to submit a separate recycling and reuse compliance form verifying the actual results of recycling efforts based on your plan to your inspector in order to receive approval. Once the inspection is complete, the inspector will finalize the permit and you can download your permit directly from e-permits.

#### Building Inspections

Automated inspection request system

720.865.2505

[www.denvergov.org/developmentservices](http://www.denvergov.org/developmentservices)

## TOTAL DEMOLITION - Submittal Checklist

### City Forester Approval:

- Tree Protection/Demolition Contact Information Form**
- Site Plan**  
Show entire site with property lines, location of all structures and extent of all demolition.

### Landmark Preservation Approval:

- Total Demolition Application (page 5 of this guide)**  
Application must include the demolition applicant's contact information **and** the property owner's name and contact information.
- Color Photographs**  
Color photographs showing all sides (typically 4) of all primary structures and of all accessory structures larger than 1.5 stories proposed for demolition. This may include accessory structures such as barns, carriage houses, etc. Photographs must be at least 300 dpi, at least 4" x 6", and attached as a jpg or pdf. Photographs that are thumbnails, embedded, or linked will not be accepted. If the site is complicated, label photographs and provide a site plan.
- Copy of the Real Property Record from the Assessor's Office for Subject Property**  
To verify property ownership and legal description. Property owner information is available at [denvergov.org/assessor](https://denvergov.org/assessor).

### Wastewater Management and Public Works Construction Engineering Permit/Approval:

- Total Demolition Application**
- Site Plan**  
Show entire site with property lines, location of all structures and extent of all demolition.

### Building Permit:

- Total Demolition Application**
- State Approval Form**  
Provide proof of state approval.
- Total Demolition Notification Form - Proof**  
Provide proof of adjacent property owner notification through either certified mail with a return receipt or signed copies of the form (page 6 of this guide).
- Proof of Liability Insurance**  
The minimum amount of insurance coverage for demolition of a single-family or duplex structure is as follows: \$500,000 for Building Class A and Demolition Class A contractors; \$300,000 for Building Class B, Building Class C, Demolition Class B, and Moving contractors; \$300,000 for homeowners. The minimum insurance coverages for demolition of a commercial property are listed in building code policy ADMIN 126.4 available for download at [denvergov.org/buildingcode](https://denvergov.org/buildingcode). The Certificate of Insurance must state "for demolition operation," and the amount of insurance coverage must cover explosion, collapse, and underground.
- Proof of Denver Water Approval**
- Waste No More Recycling & Reuse Plan**  
View submittal requirements [online here](#).

[www.denvergov.org/developmentservices](https://www.denvergov.org/developmentservices)

**TOTAL DEMOLITION - Application**

SUBJECT PROPERTY INFORMATION	
Property Address	Street:
Locally designated historic district or has an individual historic structure designation?	
Total Area of Entire Site	
Property Owner	Name:
	Phone:
	Email:
Property Owner Mailing Address	Street:
	City:
	ZIP code:
CONTRACTOR INFORMATION	
Contractor	Name:
	Phone:
License Information	License #:
	License Type:
	License Expiration Date:
Contractor Insurance	Expiration Date:
	Coverage Amount:
Contractor Mailing Address	Street:
	City:
	ZIP code:
Engineering Report	Report by:
	License #:
Electrical Subcontractor	Name:
	License #:
Mechanical Subcontractor	Name:
	License #:
Plumbing Subcontractor	Name:
	License #:
Fire Protection	Name:
	License #:
SUBJECT BUILDING INFORMATION	
Number of Dwelling Units	
Square Footage Area at Grade	
Number of Stories	
Height from grade	
Valuation	\$
PROOF OF AGENCY APPROVALS - PLEASE PRINT	
Landmark	Approval number will be emailed to customer
Wastewater Management	
Denver Water	
Office of City Forester	Approval will be emailed to permitting staff
Public Works	

[www.denvergov.org/developmentservices](http://www.denvergov.org/developmentservices)

## TOTAL DEMOLITION - Notification Form

Written notification to owners of adjacent properties is required.

SUBJECT PROPERTY INFORMATION	
Property Address	Street:
Contractor/Owner <i>(person making demolition)</i>	Name:
	Phone:
	E-mail:
Contractor/Owner Mailing Address	Street:
	City:
	ZIP code:
Name of Contact	

**Adjacent owners:** Please read the following Denver Building Code Sections which specify the protection to be provided by the contractor and his obligation to notify of the pending demolition. For any questions please call Permitting Staff at 720.865.2710.

**DCBA IBC Section 3307.1 Protection Required.** Adjacent public and private property shall be protected from damage during construction; excavation, remodeling, demolition and building relocation work. Protection is the responsibility of the person performing the construction, excavation, remodeling, demolition, or building relocation work. Protection shall be provided for footings, foundations, party walls, chimneys, skylights, roofs, fences and landscaping. Provisions shall be made to control water runoff and erosion during construction, excavation, remodeling, demolition or building relocation activities.

**DCBA IBC Section 3307.1.1 Notification.** The person making or causing an excavation, demolition or relocation to be made shall provide written notice to the owners of adjacent properties, by certified mail with a return receipt, by personal notification or other means calculated to ensure the adjacent owners have actual notice, advising them that the excavation, demolition or relocation is to be made. Providing contact information for the person doing the excavation, demolition or relocation and that the person doing the excavation, demolition or relocation shall protect adjacent properties as required by Section 3307.1. Written evidence of notification of adjacent owners or a written, signed statement as to why actual notice could not be given, must be given to the building official ten (10) working days before an excavation, demolition or relocation permit is issued.

ADJACENT OWNER INFORMATION AND NOTIFICATION CONFIRMATION	
Adjacent Owner	
Adjacent Owner Address and Contact Information	Street:
	City and ZIP Code:
	Phone Number: <span style="float: right;">Email:</span>
Date	
Approximate Date of Demolition	
Signature	

## TOTAL DEMOLITION - Affidavit Form

Affidavit by demolition contractor or owner for safety watchman for building demolition, Section 3306.1.1 (2016 DBCA) and for verification of utility termination. Please e-mail to CPD Building Inspections at [Building.InspectionService@denvergov.org](mailto:Building.InspectionService@denvergov.org)

SUBJECT PROPERTY INFORMATION	
Property Address	Street:
Property Owner	Name:
	Email:
Contractor/Owner <i>(person making demolition)</i>	Name:
	Phone:
	Email:
Contractor/Owner Mailing Address	Street:
	City:
	ZIP code:
Name of Watchman	

SUBJECT BUILDING INFORMATION	
Number of Dwelling Units	
Square Footage Area at Grade	
Number of Stories	
Height in feet, from grade	
Type of Construction	
Use of Building	
Other	

The contractor/owner agrees to maintain a watchman, on a 24-hour basis, until the hazard created by the demolition of the building is abated, as determined by the department. Contractor/owner also agrees to defend, indemnify, reimburse and hold harmless City, its appointed and elected officials, agents and employees for, from and against all liabilities, claims, judgments, suits or demands for damages to persons or property arising out of, resulting from, or relating to the actions associated with granted permit ("Claims"), unless such Claims have been specifically determined by the trier of fact to be the sole negligence or willful misconduct of the City. This indemnity shall be interpreted in the broadest possible manner to indemnify City for any acts or omissions of the applicant, its contractors or subcontractors either passive or active, irrespective of fault, including City's concurrent negligence whether active or passive, except for the sole negligence or willful misconduct of City. I hereby depose and say that all of the above statements, and the statements in any needed attached papers submitted herewith, are true.

**Circle one: Contractor      Authorized Representative      Owner**

Sworn to before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day  
of \_\_\_\_\_, 20 \_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print name of contractor or authorized representative and/or owner.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of contractor or authorized representative and/or owner.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

\_\_\_\_\_  
My Commission Expires

Failure to comply with the requirements of this affidavit may result in license and/or certificate revocation.

### TABLE BELOW FOR PERMIT AND INSPECTION SERVICES USE ONLY

Approved for watchman only, in lieu of fence	Registered design professionals report required for buildings with common walls (Section 3303.1.1 2016 DBCA)
Both fence and watchman required	Registered design professionals report required for buildings four stories or greater (Section 3303.1.1 2016 DBCA)
Electric service terminated	Detailed report required for buildings less than five feet to the property line (separate shoring may be required).
Gas service terminated	

Other:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Approved by:  
\_\_\_\_\_

[www.denvergov.org/developmentservices](http://www.denvergov.org/developmentservices)