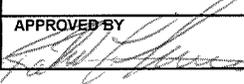


# TECHNICAL BULLETIN

 <b>CITY OF RALEIGH, N.C.</b>	<b>INSPECTIONS DEPARTMENT</b>		
<small>SUBJECT</small> <b>Guard Rails at Walking Surfaces</b>	<small>SECTION</small> <b>R312</b>	<small>PAGE</small> <b>46</b>	<small>EFFECTIVE DATE</small> <b>09-01-2015</b>
<small>PREPARED BY</small> <b>Bryan Robinson</b>		<small>APPROVED BY</small> 	

**Where Required**

The 2012 NCIRC Section R312 and 2012 NCIBC Section 1013.1 require a guard along walking surfaces that are 30 inches or higher above grade or floor within 36 inches measured horizontally from the open side.

**Problem**

Does this walking surface include commercial parking lots, sidewalks, grassy areas or a residential yard?

**Response**

Yes, these surfaces are walking surfaces intended for children and adults to walk, run and play. Also, the simple addition of signage that says no walking on grass is not an acceptable alternate method for a guard here. A landscaping area such as bushes and trees with mulch of three feet minimum measured horizontally from the edge of the retaining wall is acceptable per this Code section unless, the height is excessive and still considered a life safety risk to the building official.

**Action**

This condition is considered a general health and life safety violation and will be failed upon inspection. A Certificate of Occupancy, either temporary or permanent, will not be issued prior to this condition being corrected as required by NCIRC 2012 Sections 312.2, 312.3 and 312.4 or NCIBC 2012 Sections 1013.1.1, 1013.2, and 1013.3.

**CITY OF RALEIGH, N.C.**

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