



Town of West Yellowstone General Building Design Criteria

Version: June 2026

The following guidelines are intended to assist designer professionals, builders, and/or developers performing work in the Town of West Yellowstone. Due to changing code requirements and updates, it is the ultimate responsibility of the design professional, builder, and/or developer of the project to verify current code requirements are being met for all applicable codes.

Minimum Standards

- Montana Public Works Standard Specifications
- International Building Code (IBC)
- International Residential Code (IRC)
- International Fire Code (IFC)
- Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC)
- American Waterworks Association Standards (AWWA)
- Montana Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) (includes all DEQ Circulars)

International Residential Code (IRC)

The IRC applies to single-family, two-family, and townhouse dwellings. The current year adopted is 2021 IRC.

IRC Design Criteria		
Description	Applicable Value	Comment
Live Load	Table R305.1	
Allowable Deflection	Table R305.7	
Ground Snow Load	140.0 psf	Or per ASCE Hazards tool, whichever is higher.
Wind Speed	106 mph	Or per ASCE Hazards tool, whichever is higher.
Ice Barrier	R905.1.2	Required.
Weathering	Table R301.2(1)	Use severe category.
Seismic Category	R301.2.2.1	Use D ₂ unless professional engineering analysis dictates otherwise.
Frost Depth	48-inches	Minimum depth to bottom of footing.
Allowable Bearing	1,500 psf	Subgrade confirmation by Town Building Inspector required.

International Building Code (IBC)

The IBC applies to all structures not covered by the IRC. The current year adopted is 2021 IBC.

IBC Design Criteria		
Description	Applicable Value	Comment
Live Load	Table 1607.1	
Allowable Deflection	Table 1604.3	
Ground Snow Load	140.0 psf	Or per ASCE Hazards tool, whichever is higher.
Wind Speed	106 mph	Or per ASCE Hazards tool, whichever is higher.
Ice Barrier	1507.1.2	Required.
Seismic Category	Site Specific	Geotechnical analysis is required.
Frost Depth	48-inches	Minimum depth to bottom of footing
Allowable Bearing	Site Specific	Geotechnical analysis is required.