



Complete Load Path and Wall Bracing Form

An inspection of the complete load path and wall bracing requirements must be performed prior to the building framing inspection. The complete load path is a series of wall and roof connections installed on a building that reduce up lift during a high wind event. The sill plate, band board, engineered trusses or rafters, and all components of the exterior walls are to be secured to the foundation utilizing prefabricated metal components approved for this purpose. These metal components must be spaced as close as technically possible to the intervals for the required foundation anchors. All metal components must be installed utilizing the prescribed nails and/or screws per the manufacturer specifications. Another means to meet complete the load path requirements of the adopted building code is through the use of staggered structural sheathing. This method allows the wood sheathing installed on the exterior side of the exterior walls to overlap and be secured to the bottom plate and at minimum 18" above the total wall construction.

Wall bracing consists of three components:

- 1. Braced wall line: a straight line through the building plan that represents the location of the lateral resistance provided by the wall bracing.
2. Continuously sheathed braced wall line: a braced wall line with structural sheathing applied to all sheathable surfaces including the areas above and below openings.
3. Braced wall panel: a full-height section of wall constructed to resist in-plane shear loads through interaction of framing members, sheathing material, and anchors. The panel's length meets the requirements of its particular bracing method and contributes toward the total amount of bracing required along its braced wall line in accordance with Section R602.10.1 of the adopted International Residential Code (IRC).

Please select one of the following options. An option must be selected for a complete permit submission.

- checkbox A certified design of the complete load path and wall bracing requirements have been prepared by an architect or structural engineer, signed and sealed, and will be presented at the time of inspection.
checkbox I agree that I am solely responsible for complying with the 2021 Charles County Building Code for complete load path and wall bracing requirements. This form will be completed and presented to the inspector at the time of the inspection.
checkbox Staggered structural sheathing installed covering the band board and sill plate with a minimum of 18" above the rim board on the second story.

A separate inspection and additional inspection fee will be required for the complete load path and provided wall bracing systems. Schedule this inspection prior to installation of the required moisture barrier on the exterior walls.

Owner/Builder Signature _____ Date _____

Owner/Builder Printed Name _____

Architect/Engineer Signature _____ Date _____

Architect/Engineer Printed Name _____



Residential Project Complete Load Path and Wall Bracing Compliance Form

Provide this completed form to the inspector during the requested load path and wall bracing inspection.

Building Permit Number: _____

Load Path Placement	Method of Load Path Compliance	Nail/Screw Sizes and # Installed
Foundation Anchor		
Band Board to Sill Plate		
Band Board to Bottom Wall Plate		
Header Connection		
Wall Plates to Stud		
Floor to Floor Anchors		
Truss/Rafter to Top Wall Plate		
Joist Hangers for Decks		
Ledger Attachment for Decks		

Indicate which wall bracing methods are applicable. See below for method definitions.

Let-In-Bracing	Continuous Sheathed	Gypsum Board	Continuous Sheathing-Wood Structural Panel	Other

Wall Bracing Method Definitions

Let-In-Bracing: a diagonal brace inserted or let-into a stud.

Continuous Sheathed: a wall bracing method that has structural sheathing applied to all sheathable surfaces including the areas above and below an opening.

Gypsum Board: a panel whose gypsum core is paper faced on each side and is used to cover walls and ceilings while providing a smooth surface that is easy to finish. Used as a substitute for plaster.

Continuous Sheathing Wood Structural Panel: see definition for continuous sheathed. This method has width and wall height limits, reference table R602.10.5.