

# RESIDENTIAL RAILINGS

One & Two Family Dwellings



## Railings come in 2 different forms in the eyes of the Code.

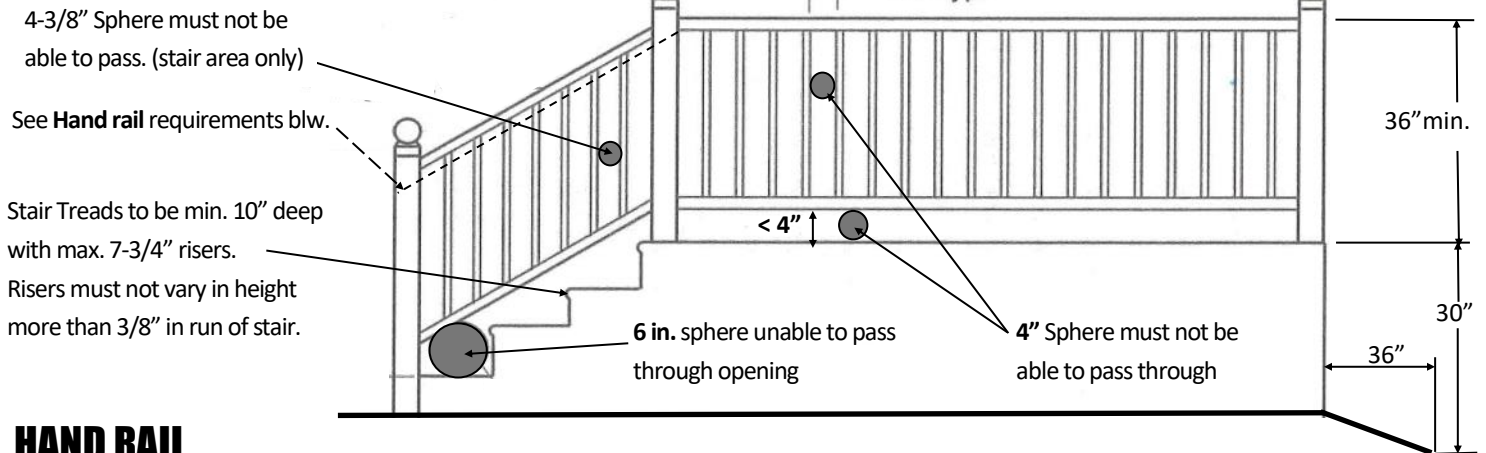
**GUARD RAILS** guard a person from falling over an edge whereas **HAND RAILS** give a person something to grab in case of stumbling to help in stabilizing oneself while navigating a stairway or ramp.

**GUARD RAILS** shall be located along open-sided walking surfaces, including stairs, ramps and landings, that are located more than 30 inches measured vertically from the floor to grade below at any point within 36 inches horizontally around perimeter of raised area. ● Guards shall be not less than 36 inches in height as measured vertically above the adjacent walking surface. ● A Guard at the side of an open stair may be 34" minimum in height. ● Guard rails are not required for surfaces that are less than 30 inches above the adjacent surface. ● A Guard Rail can serve as the required Hand Rail as well in certain situations.

**HANDRAILS** shall be installed on at least one side on all stairs of 4 or more risers, even if within 30" height above grade. ● Handrails shall not project more than 4-1/2" into walkway on either side of the stairway. ● Hand Rails must be installed within 34" & 38" above stair as measured from the front corner of the tread nosing vertically to top of Hand Rail. ● Graspable portion of Hand Rail to extend from directly above the bottom tread nosing to directly above the top tread nosing minimum. ● Hand Rail must have returns to the wall surface to ensure clothing is not hooked. ● A Hand Rail can be incorporated into the Guard Rail design as long as it meets height and grasp-ability requirements.

- Ramps greater than 1 unit vertical to 12 horizontal (1/12) slope must have a Handrail.

## GUARD RAIL



## HAND RAIL

