



## **Building Codes for Building Decks, a Four-Part Series. Earn your Master Deck Builder Certification Level 1 with NADRA in 2012**

**Description:** This is a 4-part series, which includes four core building code courses and provides a comprehensive explanation of how the 2009 and 2012 International Residential Code regulates deck construction, from initial design to project completion. These courses support the North American Deck and Railing Association's Master Deck Builder Certification program and are intended to prepare the audience for the four exams, respective to each course, that are required for NADRA member's to earn their MDB Certification. NADRA is launching the first two courses in March, April and May of 2012.

### **NADRA 2012 Education Tour Dates: First two classes of the Series:**

**April 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> – Milford, PA**

**May 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> – Tucker, GA**

### **About Glenn Mathewson, Instructor and NADRA's Technical Advisor**

Glenn began his construction career in the trenches, starting as a laborer and carpenter's apprentice, to framing homes as a subcontractor and later operating his own remodeling and deck-construction company. Glenn then spent five years working for the City of Westminster, CO as a building, plumbing and mechanical inspector, and earned a Master Code Professional certification from the International Code Council. He continues to work for the City as a part-time plans analyst and allots the remainder of his professional time to freelance work.

Drawing on his experience as a tradesman, contractor, consultant and building inspector, he is able to review, discuss and teach the standards of construction with a true understanding of the realities involved with applying them in the field.

Glenn has authored dozens of technical articles in the "Professional Deck Builder" and the "Journal of Light Construction", as well as the International Code Council's new book, Deck Construction Based on the 2009 International Residential Code. In 2011 he took the role as Technical Advisor to the North American Deck and Railing Association (NADRA), where he assists the association with code related initiatives and the development of the Master Deck Builder Certification program and exams. Glenn also works as a construction and code educator, with audiences ranging from contractors to building officials.

## **So, who can take the courses?**

NADRA Members & Professionals in the deck and railing industry should take this course. In order to earn your MDB Certification you must be a NADRA member. However, non-members may take the class without taking the tests. Non-members will receive a certificate of completion, but will not earn their MDB Certification without membership in NADRA.

## **What are the costs involved?**

Each class costs \$99.00 for NADRA Members, \$199.00 for non-members. You will need the Book for the class; cost is \$40.00 (it's the same book for all 4 classes, "Deck Construction Based on the IRC" ) NADRA Members are eligible to take the test after the class. You need to pass all four tests in order to obtain your MDB (Master Deck Builder Certification) There is an additional fee for the test of \$50.00. *The test is not available to non-members.*

## **How do I Register?**

Online registration will be open by the end of February. All you need to do is periodically check back at [www.NADRA.org](http://www.NADRA.org). NADRA will announce online registration in our weekly Industry Brief. If you are not already signed up to receive this weekly update, you can sign up here:

<http://multibriefs.com/optin.php?nadra>

## **I do not see my city listed as a tour stop. How can we be added?**

If you are in an existing chapter or If you are interested in starting a NADRA chapter in your area, call NADRA HQ today: 215.679.4884 or email: [Info@NADRA.org](mailto:Info@NADRA.org) with "Start a Chapter" as the subject line.

## **Will there be opportunities for sponsors?**

Yes. Your support is very much needed and important to us. The 2012 Education Sponsorship form can be found at [www.NADRA.org](http://www.NADRA.org)

## **What classes will be available for the education tour?**

The first two classes will be available. Understanding the Existing Structure & Structural Design I Complete course descriptions can be found below.

### **Understanding the Existing Structure**

**Description:** This course is related to how a new deck will interact with an existing site and building. Building, plumbing, mechanical, electrical, and fuel-gas systems and codes must all be considered when designing a deck to effectively work with a home. Guidance, requirements and limitations for integrating a deck with a home are provided.

Length: 4 hours.

**Objectives:** Upon completion of this course, attendees will...

1. Be able to identify building systems and components located on the exterior of a typical home and how they may affect deck design.
2. Learn how to safely design a deck that will work with emergency escape and rescue windows and to mitigate the hazards associated with window glass.

3. Understand the various ways an improperly designed deck can negatively and hazardously affect building systems of the existing structure.

## Structural Design I

**Description:** This course discusses the basics of structural design criteria for decks, such as loading, design methods and lumber properties, providing the foundational knowledge necessary for comprehension of the remainder of the course and the content in the Structural Design II course. The course continues with an in-depth review of ledger attachments, including how to handle various exterior cladding, flashing methods, and structural considerations. Lateral load resistance is also dissected in detail to provide a better understanding of what is required and how to provide it.

Length: 4 hours.

**Objectives:** Upon completion of this course, attendees will...

1. Learn the various loading conditions that must be accommodated for in deck design.
2. Realize the wide variations in proper ledger attachment and what must be considered.
3. Have a better understanding of lateral loads on decks and options for resisting them.

## When will the 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Classes launch?

The 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> class will be available later on in 2012. Course descriptions for the final two classes are listed below:

## Structural Design II

**Description:** This course compliments the Structural Design I class by completing the discussion of designing a deck structure. It provides code requirements and guidance for designing the load path, from the decking where we stand to the earth below that supports it all. Decking, joists, beams, posts, foundations and even properties of the earth will be discussed so that a complete understanding of the entire structural system can be achieved. It is recommended for attendees to complete the Structural Design I class as a prerequisite.

Length: 4 hours.

**Objectives:** Upon completion of this course, attendees will...

Understand the basics of proper deck foundation design and construction.

Comprehend the concept of a load path and how forces are transferred through a structure.

Learn of various standards and sources for validating a deck's structural system, but without an engineer.

## Non-Structural Codes

**Description:** An in-depth explanation of non-structural building code regulations related to stairs, ramps, landings, guards, and handrails will be provided. Structural considerations for stairs and guards are also discussed. Design considerations for common amenities and features that often accompany deck construction, such as lighting, hot-tubs, gas-fired equipment and piping, and new doors are reviewed.

Length: 4 hours.

**Objectives:** Upon completion of this course, attendees will...

Understand the differences and similarities of guards and handrails.

Learn the strict geometric requirements of various stairways, including straight, winder and spiral, and the uniformity required of their components.

Understand real-world loading conditions of guards and the dynamics of their entire load path.

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