



ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA
INSPECTION SERVICES DIVISION
2100 Clarendon Boulevard, Suite 1000, Arlington, VA 22201

CODE INTERPRETATION/POLICY

Code/Year	Section of Code	Title of Code Section/Subsection/Policy
VCC 2018	3307.1	Protection Required
<p>Statement/Background of Issue</p> <p>The VCC requires that when an excavation is made, adjoining property shall be protected from damage in accordance with the following:</p> <p>Adjoining public and private property shall be protected from damage during construction, remodeling and demolition work. Protection shall be provided for footings, foundations, party walls, chimneys, skylights and roofs. Provisions shall be made to control water runoff and erosion during construction or demolition activities. The person making or causing an excavation to be made shall provide written notice to the owners of adjoining buildings advising them that the excavation is to be made and that the adjoining buildings should be protected. Said notification shall be delivered not less than 10 days prior to the scheduled starting date of the excavation.</p>		
<p>Division Interpretation/Policy</p> <p>It is therefore the Division policy that when an excavation is made, adjoining lots and buildings be protected from potential damage. The protection shall be provided so that the surface of the lot and the foundation of any adjoining buildings or structures is not compromised within a 45-degree influence line from the adjoining lot surface or the bottom of the adjoining building foundation. This protection is the responsibility of the permit holder/contractor conducting the excavation.</p> <p>Additionally, when there is a potential for damage or when the excavation depth will exceed 3 feet or more below the 45-degree influence-line limit, Inspection Services will require that a Licensed Geotechnical Engineer perform an analysis and design to ensure the stability of the excavation. Such engineering analysis and design must be submitted as part of the Building Permit application, approved, and implemented.</p> <p>Documentation may be required during permit plan review to show the proposed slope and depth of the excavation profile used to determine the requirement for the above geotechnical analysis and design.</p> <p>This policy does not supersede VOSH requirements for personnel protection during the excavation</p>		
Interpretation/Policy No.	Date	Division Chief/Building Official
P21-01	5/11/2021	Shahriar Amiri