

## **INFORMAL CODE INTERPRETATION**

**NC Department of Insurance  
Office of the State Fire Marshal - Engineering Division  
1202 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1202  
919-661-5880**

### **Ungraded Lumber**

**Code:** 2012 Residential Code

**Date:** July 3, 2012

**Section:** R602.1

**Question:**

Can ungraded lumber be used if the lumber is cut from the homeowner's site?

**Answer:**

Yes, as an alternate material and method according to Section 105 of the 2012 Administrative Code. Ungraded, unstamped lumber may be used for the construction of a house or accessory building on the owner's land if:

1. The timber is cut from the owner's land.
2. The structure shall be occupied by the owner or a member of his immediate family for a period of at least one year after the Certificate of Occupancy is issued.
3. The lumber shall meet the 19 percent moisture content requirement at the time of construction. The lumber must be air dried for 90 days or kiln dried.
4. The homeowner contacts the local building inspection department before the timber is cut to verify the source and use of the timber.