



Building & Development Services

BUILDING INSPECTIONS

Virtual Inspections Guide:

Gaston County Building Permits & Inspections will soon be using VuSpex, a virtual inspection program, to conduct a limited list of inspection types. This guide describes the virtual inspections process from requesting the inspection through its completion.

What you need to know:

A smartphone (Apple iOS or Android – both having the most recent update installed) is required for virtual inspections. The interactive inspection session is browser-based and requires no application install to your device.

Inspection requests will still be made online using the [Gaston County NC Dashboard](#). For the inspection types listed below there will be the option to choose 'Virtual Inspection' when making your request:

- Mechanical/Electrical finals
 - o HVAC & Water Heater Changeouts ONLY
- Plumbing Final – Water Heater
- Plumbing Final – ST
 - o Single trade plumbing permits ONLY
- Plumbing Rough-in – ST
 - o Single trade plumbing permits ONLY
- Plumbing Water Tap
- Plumbing Sewer Tap
- Electrical Underground
- Plumbing Underground

If requesting a virtual inspection you will be required to provide a site contact name & phone number. This will be who the Inspector will contact via text when starting the virtual inspection on the assigned schedule date.*

*If your virtual inspection request cannot be accommodated the Inspector will contact you or the site contact directly. Contact will be made the business day **prior** to the requested inspection date.

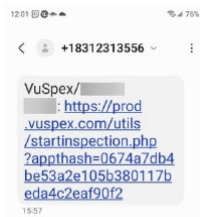


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Participating in a virtual inspection:

When ready to participate in the virtual inspection the site contact identified during the scheduling process will be sent a text message. The site contact will select the link contained within the text. An example of the text is shown below:



Allow access to your location, camera & microphone when prompted. *If access is not allowed the inspection cannot be performed and will result in a failure.*

During the session, your camera view will be shared with the Inspector. You will be given verbal instructions by the Inspector of the items that they are needing to see within the project work area. For job sites that are particularly noisy there will be chat feature that can be used to communicate if needed. **Any communication exchanged in the chat section will be made part of the inspection record.**

Once the Inspector is satisfied with viewing the project area the site contact will be made aware if the inspection was approved or if additional work needs to be completed and a re-inspection performed. It will be at time the Inspector will terminate the virtual session and result the inspection accordingly.

Inspection Results:

The inspection will be resulted within the permitting system as would an on-site inspection. All results can be located online using the following link: [Gaston County NC Dashboard](#). All photos taken during the virtual inspection and any communication exchanged via the chat feature will be made part of the inspection record.