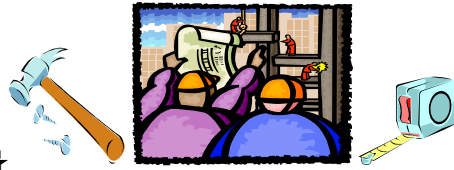


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MARION COUNTY

BUILDING



DEPARTMENT

May 2003

CONTRACTOR'S NEWSLETTER

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE:

Will you be ready for the next disaster?

The Marion County construction industry is familiar with building structures that are disaster resistant. When built according to existing codes, most "completed" structures will easily resist the forces of wind and rain expected in this area during a hurricane. But what will happen to the projects under construction? Does your business have a plan that will protect your investments, your employees and the community? If not, now is the time to sit down and write a plan for your survival. Here are some thoughts that you should consider when creating or reviewing your business plan for disasters:

- Write down your plan in simple checklist form
- Identify who is responsible for implementing each part of the plan
- Confirm commitments from sub-contractors and other support companies
- Identify when each action should be started and completed
- Allow plenty of time for your employees to protect their own property and families
- Make sure the appropriate insurance coverage is in place
- Prepare jobsites for wind and rain by completing wind resistance strapping
- Enclose buildings using sheathing when it is possible to completely enclose the structure
- Partially enclosed structures should be left with some openings on all sides to keep the internal pressure from building up
- Trash and construction debris should be removed from the site to limit windborne debris
- Construction materials should be removed from the site or stored inside a structure to limit windborne debris
- Visit all job sites to assess the damage after the storm passes

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Additional information can be found at www.floridadisaster.org .

John O'Connor

LICENSING:

BUSINESS LICENSES:

IS YOUR CONSTRUCTION COMPANY PROPERLY LICENSED?

Did you know that if you are a licensed contractor in the State of Florida and you are operating as a business organization, including a partnership, corporation or other legal entity, you must apply for a qualified business license or certificate of authority with the Construction Industry Licensing Board? This requirement is contained in Section 489.119(2), Florida Statutes. Failure to obtain this license means you are technically operating illegally. You could be subject to possible disciplinary action including a fine of \$500 to \$1000, along with possible suspension or revocation of your license for a repeat violation.

Did you also know that your failure to meet this requirement could prevent you from being paid for your work? If you fail to obtain a qualified business license, your company could be considered unlicensed, making your contracts unenforceable pursuant to Section 489.128, Florida Statutes. This could enable your customers to avoid paying you for the work you performed.



Information, including applications to apply for a qualified business license, can be found on the Internet at www.myflorida.com >Search >Qualified Business License.

The construction industry can also now apply, renew and update personal account information with DBPR online, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. This is just another way that DBPR is making State government more accessible to you. If you have any questions, please contact DBPR's Customer Contact Center at 850-487-1395.

Proposed Changes to Licensing Ordinance:

An evaluation is in progress of the Contractor Licensing Division functions of the Marion County Building Department. The information learned through this evaluation may result in changes to the types of contractor licenses sponsored by Marion County. The objective of this evaluation is to determine the most effective and efficient way to accomplish our responsibility to regulate the construction industry in Marion County. Specific issues being considered for action include:

- Grandfather current license holders when a proposed change would possibly eliminate a local license category
- Eliminate the duplication of services provided by other agencies including DBPR
- Eliminate licensing requirements for contractors who do not have or need permitting privileges, including the journeyman programs
- Extend permitting privileges to all contractors who are required to maintain a contractor's license
- Study fee structure to determine source of funds to operate Licensing Division

Additional information can be found at the "Hot News" section of the Marion County Building Department website.

Your comments during this evaluation are appreciated. Please contact the Building Director with any comments or questions.

CONTINUING EDUCATION UPDATE:

By MS. LEE-EN CHUNG, P.E., CHAIRPERSON,
CONTRACTOR INDUSTRY LICENSING BOARD (CILB) CONTINUING EDUCATION

The department monitors continuing education based upon course completion reports filed by continuing education providers. When contractors enroll in the required 14 continuing education hours for every two-year cycle, please remember the following:

1) A course must be assigned a number provided by the CILB for an approved course sponsor. If not, the contractor will not receive the earned class hours.



2) Of the required 14 hours, licensees must take one hour of workers compensation, one hour of workplace safety and one hour of business practice.

3) Of the 14 hours, up to 4 hours may be earned by attending a CILB meeting during the disciplinary hearings. ****

**** You must notify the Board at least 7 days before the meeting and check in with the Board clerk before the disciplinary proceedings.

(Credit hours are not granted when the licensee attends a disciplinary case session as a party to a disciplinary action).

We encourage contractors to maintain proof of completion of the courses for three years. Please keep in mind that falsifying courses or failing to provide proof of completion may result in penalties up to and including revocation of the contractor's certificate or registration.

PERMITTING:

NEW

Marion County Building Department

Now Offers: Notice of Commencement Services

- Assistance with completion of Notice of Commencement
 - Notary Public Service
- Sending Notice of Commencement to the Clerk's Office for Recording
 - Acceptance of Payment by "Check Only"

We will be glad to check your "Notice of Commencement" before you record it to reduce the possibility of errors.

PLAN REVIEW:

Our two plan examiner stations in the permitting service area have met with favorable comments from our customers. We are able to provide customers with the walk-up service they need and still meet our plan review goals. Please let us know how we are doing.

Make sure that you provide the correct contact person and phone number on the permit application for our plan examiners to call when they have questions about your plans.

Thank you for your continued support of our efforts to expedite your plan review. We have seen an increase in the quality of your plans, which helps the turnaround time.

Just a reminder:

You can find the Florida Building Code and related links online at www.floridabuilding.org.



INSPECTIONS:

Pool Inspections: With each new code edition, the number of residential pool inspections has increased. Effective immediately, the structural inspectors will make multiple inspections at the first and last trip to the jobsite. They will be making the Rough Plumbing inspection, and any necessary Pool Shell Steel and light nitch Bonding inspections when they make the Pool Shell inspection. They will also be making the Final Plumbing inspection and the Pool Barrier inspection, along with the Final Structural pool inspection.

The # 243 and # 121 inspections will now be combined into a single # 121 Pool Shell inspection, and the # 241, # 135, and # 108 inspections will be combined into a single # 108 Final Structural inspection. Please ensure that all items for these inspections are complete before scheduling them.

1.	121	Pool Shell and Rough Plumbing	Structural Inspector
2.	244	Second Rough Plumbing	Plumbing Inspector
3.	210	Rough Electrical Underground	Electrical Inspector
4.	125	Conventional Slab (Deck)	Structural Inspector
5.	208	Rough Electric	Electrical Inspector
6.	201	Final Electric	Electrical Inspector
7.	108	Final Pool w/barrier and Final Plumbing	Structural Inspector

Re-Inspection Fees: Marion County Resolution 99-280

Re-inspection fees are charged for each additional trip where the previous inspection was rejected or when the previous inspection was ordered for informational purposes only. All assessed re-inspection fees (\$20.00 each) must be paid prior to issuance of Certificate of Occupancy or Certificate of Completion

The Marion County Building Permit Fee Schedule was created based on assumptions of the average number of inspections that would be required for each permit type. The objective is to fairly charge each customer for the services provided.

- Each standard inspection that is rejected and will generate an extra trip must be assessed a fee of \$20.00 (result code 82)
- Each standard inspection that is rejected and can be resolved by the submittal of paperwork does not require a fee to be assessed (result code 81).
- Inspections that are not passed and only provide a consultation, must be assessed a fee of \$20.00 (result code 82)
- When a rejected inspection is subsequently passed at re-inspection in conjunction with another standard inspection within the same division, the assessed fee of \$20.00 will be credited to the permit holder, in essence removing the fee. (result code 93)

<u>COMMUNICATION:</u>	<u>FLORIDA BUILDING CODE UPDATE:</u>
Please include, on every permit application, an e-mail address for the owner, contractor and contact person. This information will allow us to improve communication with interested parties, as well as giving us a means by which we can economically send timely information. Thanks for helping us to be more efficient and effective.	Building permits applied for on or after June 30, 2003 will be subject to "glitch" code amendments. These amendments can be found on the Florida Building Code website, listed as "2002 Florida Code Inserts". We recommend that you purchase the insert pages for your 2002 Florida Building Code books. Some of the more significant amendments are mentioned in this newsletter.

NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION:

The Contractor's Newsletter is now available online at our website www.marioncountyfl.org. To save postage and printing costs we have stopped the mass mailing to all contractors. We are instead creating an e-mail distribution list. If you want to receive each copy of the newsletter via e-mail when it is posted, and receive other notifications as necessary, please sign up at the Building Department Permitting Center or e-mail us your request at building@marioncountyfl.org.

MECHANICAL

Revisions to the F.B.C. MECHANICAL effective on permits pulled on or after June 30, 2003

301.13 WIND RESISTANCE: Mechanical equipment, appliances and supports that are exposed to wind shall be designed and installed per this section.

304.2 PUBLIC GARAGES/PARKING STRUCTURES: Appliances installed per manufacturer's instructions and NFPA 88 B

304.7 CLEARANCES FROM GRADE: Revised requirement for grade level support pads for equipment.

306.3 APPLIANCES IN ATTIC: Cannot be more than 6 feet from the attic access opening.

402.3.1 MECHANICAL VENTILATION: An exception has been added for residential bathrooms with windows that open at least 3 sq. ft. These bathrooms do not require mechanical ventilation.

504.3 DRYER EXHAUST DUCT VERTICAL RISERS: Each vertical riser of a dryer exhaust duct requires a cleanout.

505.3 DOMESTIC OPEN-TOP BROILER UNITS: Require an exhaust hood or an integral exhaust system.

601.4 BALANCING RETURN AIR: An exception has been added for sizing transfer ducts, transfer grills and areas where return air is not required.

606.1 SMOKE DETECTORS IN AIR DISTRIBUTION SYSTEMS: An exception has been added for R-3 occupancy.

925.1 ELECTRIC BASEBOARD CONVECTOR: Requirements have been added to the Code.

926.1 RESIDENTIAL RADIANT HEATING SYSTEM: Requirements have been added to the Code.

927.1 RESIDENTIAL ELECTRIC DUCT HEATER: Requirements have been added to the Code.

928.1 VENTED RESIDENTIAL FLOOR FURNACE: Requirements have been added to the Code.

929.1 VENTED RESIDENTIAL WALL FURNACE: Requirements have been added to the Code.

930.1 VENTED RESIDENTIAL ROOM HEATER: Requirements have been added to the Code.



Revision to the F.B.C. FUEL GAS effective on permits pulled on or after June 30, 2003

623.6.1 WATER HEATER RELIEF OUTLET: Discharge requirements have changed.

Website News
www.marioncountyfl.org/departments/building/index.htm

The Marion County Building Department Website is becoming an ever-increasing part of our daily operations. Customers can now find out many things about permitting in general and project status in particular, by accessing the site. We have made significant improvements in the site that truly makes it an interactive place to conduct business. Consider the following features of our website:

- Customers may read and download the requirements for applying for a permit
- Customers may download forms needed to prepare a permit application
- Customers may track the progress of their permit application
- Customers may read and download comments made by staff about their permit application
- Customers may review inspection requirements for their project
- Customers may schedule inspections on their project
- Customers may review and download inspection results
- Customers may read and download CONTRACTOR NEWSLETTERS and "HOT NEWS".

<u>CONTACT LIST</u>		
MAIN LINE:		620-7422
BUILDING OFFICIAL:	JOHN	620-7431
PERMITTING SUPERVISOR	MICHAEL	620-3848
PLUMBING CHIEF:	JIM	620-7435
STRUCTURAL CHIEF:	JOHN	840-5607
PLAN REVIEW CHIEF:	NESTOR	369-2500
MECHANICAL/ELECTRICAL CHIEF:	ED	620-3838
LICENSING SUPERVISOR:	DON	620-7427

**MARION COUNTY BUILDING DEPARTMENT
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
2631 SE 3RD STREET
OCALA, FL 34471-9101**