



Metro Codes

E - News for Professionals

Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County

ON-LINE SERVICES SPOTLIGHT: E-PERMITS!

The Department of Codes & Building Safety is pleased to announce that it has expanded its 'On-Line Services' to include 'E-PERMITS'.

Contractors may register with the department for internet access and authorization to apply for electrical, plumbing and gas/mechanical permits on-line. Not only may customers apply for permits, but they may also pay for the permits with a credit card and issue the permits to themselves. Metro Codes Director, Terry Cobb said; ***"More than 300 of our smartest customers have already registered for 'on-line services' and transact routine business with the Codes Department without ever setting foot in a Metro office."***

Registered customers may also use their credit card to pay 're-inspection fees' on-line, schedule inspections and check inspection results - from their of-

fice, home, or anywhere they have internet access.

Codes Director, Terry Cobb added; ***"With this latest enhancement of 'On-Line Services' the Codes Department is now open to transact routine business 24 hours per day, 7 days per week."***

To register, simply send an email to :

KivaCitizenLogin@Nashville.gov

Include your company name, address, phone numbers, and an email address. Any one of our Permit Issuance Representatives will be happy to assist you on-line. You may also register by calling our Customer Service Supervisor, Carla Langley-Smith at (615) 862-6248.

Once this is done, we will establish your registration and notify you by email of your on-line user name and password.

Here's what some of our customers are saying about Codes On-Line and E-PERMITS:

- Terri Jarrett, with Wheeler, Inc., uses Codes On-Line Services and E-PERMITS regularly for gas/mechanical permits. Terri's said; ***"It's absolutely wonderful, it's a big time saver."***
- Bertha Furkins, with Precision Plumbing, says; ***"I love it. I like being able to obtain my permits when I want. It's right there when I need it."***
- Sandra Self of S & A Electrical said she has issued over 100 permits using E-PERMITS and loves it. Sandra said; ***"I love it. It saves us time and money for parking and gas. I don't have to fill out paperwork twice and I'm able to use it to issue permits anytime of day or night. I've also used it to resolve questions from general contractors."***
- Roger Tippet of Centex Homes says; ***"E-PERMITIS has streamlined the way we conduct our business with Metro. I especially like the ease of requesting inspections and we are able to verify inspection approvals not only with Codes, but also with other government agencies. It saves time for all parties involved."***

E-Permits On-Line Services

Apply for a permit.
Request Inspections.
Check Inspection Results
Pay permit fees or re-inspection fees.

MAYOR DEAN IMPLEMENTS MINORITY BUSINESS INITIATIVES

Begins work to make Nashville ‘a model of minority participation in public contracts’

Mayor Karl Dean announced on October 9th, 2007, that there are three immediate actions he is taking in the Mayor’s Office to help small and minority-owned businesses in Nashville receive a fair share of Metro Government contracts.

“Nashville needs to be a model of minority participation in public contracts,” Dean said. “I am addressing this issue directly from the Mayor’s Office and will work closely with Council members to get an ordinance passed that will affect real change in the way our procurement process is handled. It’s just the right thing to do.”



The initiatives immediately being implemented are:

- ◆ Griffin & Strong, the Atlanta-based law firm which completed Metro’s Disparity Study, have been retained to assist the Law Department in writing an ordinance that will enact changes to the Metropolitan Code that are consistent with their recommendations in the study.
- ◆ Michelle Lane will serve as special assistant to the mayor for small and minority business development. Lane is currently the program director for Metro’s Disadvantaged, Minority and Small Business Assistance in the Finance Department. Her position in the Mayor’s Office will raise the profile of Metro’s small and minority-owned business development efforts and increase communication between DMSBA, the mayor and the community at large.
- ◆ Pam Martin has been named head of the Mayor’s Minority Business Advisory Council. Martin is a Nashville businesswoman, currently working as president of Cushion Employer Services. She also serves as a member of the mayor’s transition team. The advisory council will develop further initiatives to assist the development of small- and minority-owned businesses in Nashville. Other appointments to the council are forthcoming.
- ◆ Justice A.A. Birch, chair of the mayor’s transition team, said: “This is a major step and I applaud it, and I look forward to the progress I am sure will be made.”



“TECHNICALLY SPEAKING”

By Jim Daly
Mechanical Inspection Chief

Improperly installed clothes dryers are known to be a significant fire hazard. Fire statistics and research list clothes dryers as a leading cause of structure fires. Average annual losses for the years 2000 thru 2004 were **8900 fires, 10 deaths and nearly 300 injuries an 89 million dollars in direct property damage.**

It is the intent of the current model codes to reduce or eliminate this hazard by means of the following requirements from the 2006 International Mechanical Code:

- ◆ *504.6 Domestic clothes dryer ducts. - Exhaust ducts for domestic clothes dryers shall be constructed of metal and shall have a smooth interior finish. The exhaust duct shall be a minimum nominal size of 4 inches (102mm) in diameter. The entire exhaust system shall be supported and secured in place. The male end of the duct at overlapped duct joints shall extend in the direction of airflow. Clothes dryer transition ducts used to connect the appliance to the exhaust duct system shall be limited to single lengths not to exceed 8 feet (2438 mm) and shall be listed and labeled for the application. Transition ducts shall not be concealed within construction.*
- ◆ *504.6.1 Maximum length - The maximum length of a clothes dryer exhaust duct shall not exceed 25 feet (7620 mm) from the dryer location to the outlet terminal. The maximum length of the duct shall be reduced 2 1/2 feet (762 mm) for each 45 degree (0.79 rad) bend and 5 feet (1524 mm) for each 90 degree (1.6 rad) bend. The maximum length of the exhaust duct does not include the transition duct.*
- ◆ *Exception - Where the make and model of the clothes dryer to be installed is known and the manufacturer's installation instructions for such dryer are provided to the code official, the maximum length of the exhaust duct, including any transition duct, shall be permitted to be in accordance with the dryer manufacturer's installation instructions.*

The duct length, the number of elbows, the smoothness of the duct interior wall and the type of exhaust outlet terminal all contribute to the overall friction loss of a clothes dryer exhaust system. Excessive friction losses will also result in reduced air flow velocities which means that the exhaust ducts would be much more likely to collect debris. An improperly designed exhaust system will result in poor dryer performance, poor energy efficiency and can cause the appliance to cycle on its limit control which can be hazardous.

The maximum length of 25 feet and the restrictions for elbows can be very restrictive and make it necessary, in most cases, to locate the dryer close to an exterior wall. Locating the dryer in the middle of a house or apartment creates a design problem for the architect or contractor, but **exceeding length requirements will contribute to excessive pressure loss, poor dryer performance and potential fire hazards.**



EMPLOYEE HIGHLIGHTS



John Dawkins is a Plans Examiner and is under the direct supervision of the Plans Examination Chief, Wade Hill. He is a degreed Mechanical Engineer and is an SBCCI (ICC) and State Certified Building Inspector.

Prior to joining the Metro Department of Codes and Building Safety, John served 11 years as the Building Official and Lead Inspector for the City of Crossville, Tennessee. There he also served as the City's Local Planner and Regional Planning Commission liaison as well as Safety Coordinator. Previously he was employed for 17 years with the Tennessee Valley Authority in the Division of Engineering and Construction at the Watts Bar Nuclear Plant near Spring City.

John is a native of Darlington, South Carolina and has been a Tennessee resident since 1973. John earned his engineering degree at Tennessee Technological University. He has been active with the Middle Tennessee Code Officials Association since he joined the codes community and served two terms as president. He was honored as the 2006 Code Official of the Year by the Middle Tennessee Code Officials Association. John and his wife of 35 years, Millie (a native of Murfreesboro) have a son, two daughters and one grandson.

Department of Codes and Building Safety



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Director - Terry Cobb
Assistant Director - Bill Penn

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For information regarding accessibility, please contact Manley Biggers at (615) 862-6521 or fax (615) 862-6499. He can also be reached at manley.biggers@nashville.gov

Assistant Director Receives Assoc. Of Government Accountants Certification



Roy L. Jones, Codes Assistant Director is responsible for supervising the day-to-day administrative functions of the department - personnel, budgets, purchasing, property management - and supervises contractor licensing on behalf of various affiliated boards.

Roy is a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) with over thirty years experience in accounting and construction related fields. He is also a Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE) and holds the Senior Professional in Human Resources (SPHR) certificate. Just this past year, Roy earned the Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM) designation. This professional designation recognizes the unique skills and special knowledge required of professionals who specialize in government financial management.

Roy attended Tennessee Technological University, graduating with a B.S. degree in Accounting and Business Management. After passing the CPA examination, he worked in the public accounting field for ten years and then worked in the private accounting for additional ten years. During that time, Roy attended the Nashville School of Law, earning a Doctor of Jurisprudence (J.D.) degree in 1986.

In 1996 he joined Metro Government as an Administrative Services Manager and was promoted to Assistant Director of the Codes Department in 2002. During that time he earned his masters degree in Public Administration from Cumberland University. After receiving his degree from Cumberland, Roy has been teaching a graduate-level law class in that master's program.

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Terry Cobb and **Wade Hill** welcome your feedback on our e-newsletter. Please send your comments to [Wade Hill](mailto:Wade.Hill@nashville.gov), Plans Examination Chief, 862-6520