



Flagler County

Board of County Commissioners

Building Department



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September 2010 HBA Newsletter

I am going to take the time to remind and emphasize some requirements related to the construction industry.

Pool Contractors: There are subcontractor licenses required for trades related to pool construction. They include: layout, structural, excavation, trim, decking, piping and finishing. Each of the trades is required to be registered with Flagler County. These sub trade categories must work only for licensed contractors and cannot contract directly with homeowners representing themselves as licensed to do so. It is the intention of Flagler County Building and Code Enforcement Departments to emphasize the enforcement of these requirements within our jurisdictional boundaries. Pool contractors utilizing the services of sub contractors not having the swimming pool specialty licenses as required may be subjected to disciplinary action as well. We are requesting the assistance of the licensed pool contractors to assist us in this area. Contact Ramona Zavacky, Flagler County Licensing Manager for any questions related to these requirements at (386) 313-4085 or rzavacky@flaglercounty.org.

Contractors/Electrical Contractors: Footing steel is required to be grounded in accordance to the National Electrical Code 2008 Edition Article 250.52(A) (3). This would include new foundations when installed. We will be looking for compliance with this code section at the time of the foundation inspection. If there are any questions related to this requirement within the Flagler County jurisdictional areas contact Electrical Inspector Robert Snowden at (386) 313-4024 or by e-mail rsnowden@flaglercounty.org.

Mechanical Contractors: The master files for the wind speed tie downs have expired and are required to be renewed. The options currently in place are for the contractors to submit the applicable copies of the Flagler County approved master file-stamped by Flagler County or provide site specific engineering or provide the approval numbers by an approved agency (Such as the Florida Product Approval numbers) showing the proposed tie downs are approved for the proposed area of the installation. In order to Master File engineering for the tie downs-two copies of the engineering with original seals form the designer must be provided to Flagler County for review and approval with documentation from the engineer of record that the drawings and details are intended for master filing. The need for the original seals is promulgated by the fact that there have been some engineers that have rescinded their engineering due to faulty calculations. Once the Flagler County approval stamp is affixed to the updated engineering, **copies** of that engineering can be submitted with the applicable number of copies (2 in Flagler County and 3 in Flagler Beach) for permitting. This eliminates the need for raised seal engineering for every permit. Manufacturers may master file products for all to use if they choose to do so. For questions related to this process please contact Central Permitting at (386) 313-4003. **Strict Enforcement of the new master file requirement will begin November 1, 2010 and continue until further notice.** We are currently accepting the current master files until that date. It is my understanding that the new 2010 version of the Florida Building Code will provide for a prescriptive methodology much like the previous code had however I have not been able to verify that is going to happen and until it is printed there are no guarantees.

October 1, 2010 is the starting date mandated by the State of Florida for changes in the surcharges that must be collected by the local jurisdictions and sent to the state. These are not new charges but have been changed as to how we must assess the charges.

Gary Hiatt, CBO
Flagler County