

Memorandum

To: All Building Officials and Interested Parties

From: Stephen P. Hernick, State Building Official

Subject: Disaster Assistance Volunteers

As we approach another severe weather season it's important to be prepared for the possibility of a weather-related event anywhere in our state. With this goal in mind, the Construction Codes and Licensing Division is again asking all interested code professionals and qualified assistants to consider participating as a Disaster Assistance Volunteer.

The list of Disaster Assistance Volunteers is used to link code officials and qualified assistants with state and county Emergency Management Officials and affected regional code officials. As a Disaster Assistance Volunteer, you will be asked to provide assistance with building evaluations and life safety habitability for structures affected by a disaster.

Others who have participated as a volunteer or received assistance from this program have found the experience to be very rewarding, both personally and professionally. As a volunteer, you will gain the very valuable, firsthand experience in what it takes to participate in an event as well as be a valued participant in assisting with the overwhelming needs following a disaster.

The Construction Codes and Licensing Division, Department of Labor and Industry continues to work cooperatively with the Association of Minnesota Building Officials to develop and improve the "Disaster Preparedness Manual for Building Officials." The Association of Minnesota Building Officials Disaster Mitigation Committee and building code representatives from CCLD meet regularly to review and evaluate the manual and strive to provide current guidance information for your disaster preparation. To view the manual, visit www.dli.mn.gov/CCLD/Disaster.asp

We are requesting code officials, inspectors and permit technicians to consider providing volunteer assistance to Minnesota communities affected by a disaster. There is a need for volunteers to participate in all regions of the state.

Please visit the Department of Labor and Industry's disaster preparedness Web site at www.dli.mn.gov/CCLD/Disaster.asp to obtain a "Disaster Assistance Volunteer Form."

In the case of a disaster, a list of regional code officials, inspectors and permit technicians will be made available to the municipality requesting assistance. To view other disaster preparedness documents, visit www.dli.mn.gov/CCLD/Disaster.asp

If you have any questions, need additional information or need assistance with an event, contact:

- Doug Nord, Supervisor, Regional Services, (651) 284-5838, doug.nord@state.mn.us
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