



## New laws affect home builders, remodelers



### ■ The changes will take effect Aug. 1, 2009

Lawmakers passed several bills in 2009 that change how residential building contractors and remodelers do business, particularly with respect to the warranties contractors are required to provide to their customers.



Gov. Tim Pawlenty vetoed several of the bills citing concerns about the impact of these proposed changes to an industry already experiencing the effects of a nationwide economic downturn. Yet, he did sign two bills that will have an impact on residential building contractors and remodelers when they take effect Aug. 1, 2009.



The first bill, [HF 420](#), amends the state's new home and home improvement warranty law. It requires home builders and remodelers to reduce the required warranties to writing and include the written warranties as a part of their contract with a customer.

This change in the warranty law provides for enforcement action by CCLD if a licensed contractor fails to provide the written warranties in their contract and the warranties apply even if the contractor fails to provide them to the customer as required. View Minnesota's warranty law: [Minnesota Statutes §327A](#).



The second bill, [HF 1056](#), amends the existing "prompt payment" law, Minn. Stat. § 337.10, subd. 3, to remove an exclusion that applied to residential building contractors.

### Download the full bills:



[House File 420: New home and home improvement warranty laws](#)



[House File 1056: Amending the existing "prompt payment" law.](#)

Questions regarding residential building contractor laws and rules can be directed to CCLD Enforcement Services staff at:

Phone: (651) 284-5069

E-mail: [DLI.contractor@state.mn.us](mailto:DLI.contractor@state.mn.us)

The effect of this change will be to require home builders and remodelers to "promptly pay" their subcontractors and suppliers for undisputed services provided. Prompt payment means that payments must be made within 10 days of the general contractor's receipt of payment from their customer.

The law also provides for interest and penalties for late payments and provides a civil cause of action for subcontractors and suppliers. Further, it allows subcontractors and suppliers to recover their attorney fees and other costs if they prevail in a civil action.

As always, a contractor who fails to satisfy or appeal a judgment entered against them for failure to make payments to employees, subcontractors, or suppliers, is subject to enforcement action.

# Sprinkler, mechanical permits issued by DLI

Since June 1, 2009, DLI has issued separate mechanical and fire suppression (sprinkler) permits and assessed permit fees for projects under its jurisdiction.

See [Minnesota Statutes §326B.103, Subd.11 and 13](#) for the full details.

These projects include public buildings, including public school construction projects that exceed \$100,000 and all buildings owned by the state of Minnesota, such as the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, the Minnesota Department of Transportation, Army National Guard, and the Capitol complex.

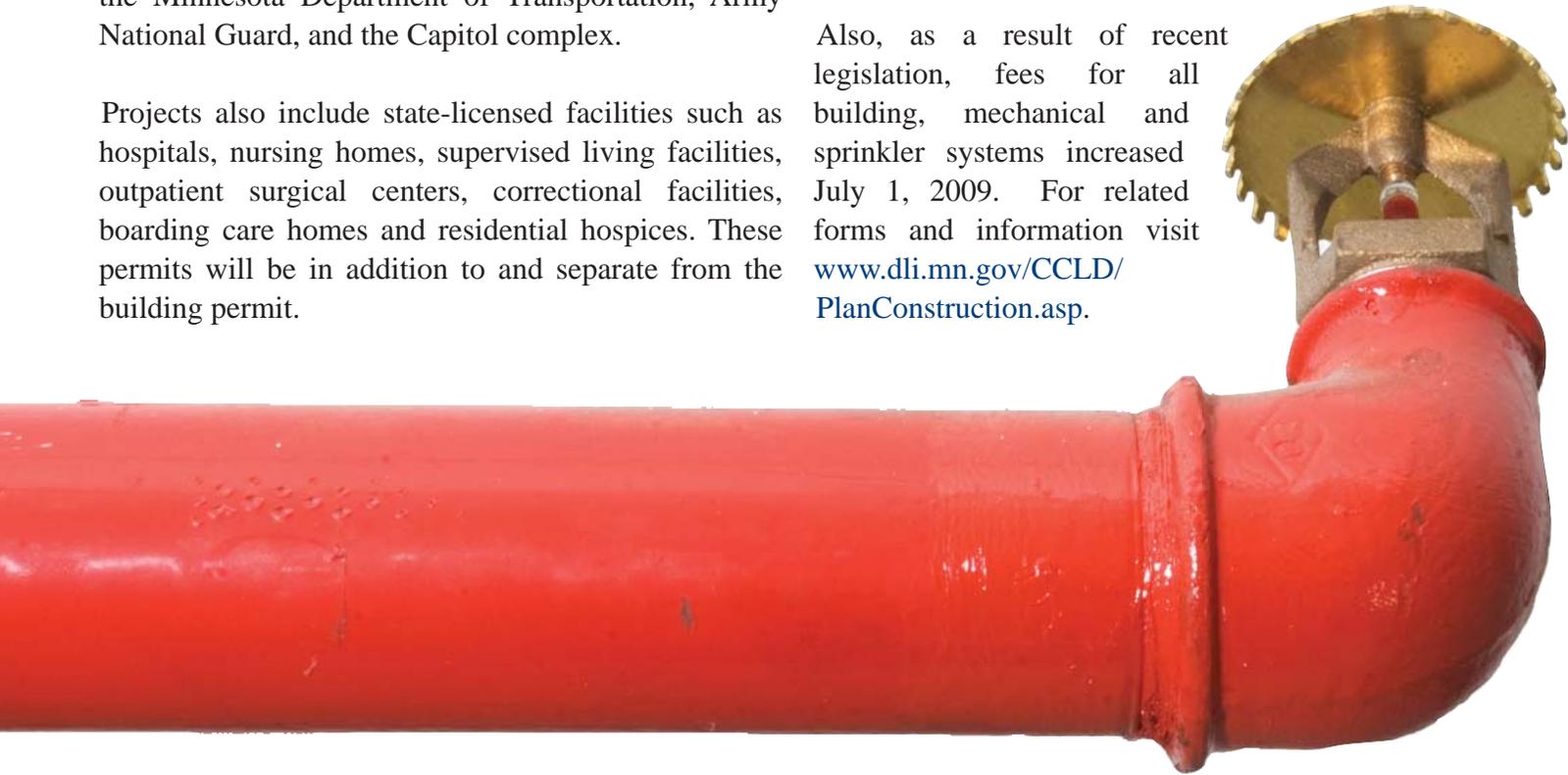
Projects also include state-licensed facilities such as hospitals, nursing homes, supervised living facilities, outpatient surgical centers, correctional facilities, boarding care homes and residential hospices. These permits will be in addition to and separate from the building permit.

The fee for these permits will be based on the projected construction cost of the mechanical or sprinkler system, including material and labor. The same fee calculator used to determine the building permit fee can also be used to determine the mechanical or sprinkler permit fee. The calculator is online at:

[www.dli.mn.gov/CCLD/PlanConstructionCalc.asp](http://www.dli.mn.gov/CCLD/PlanConstructionCalc.asp)

For help with questions regarding the fee or its effect on a project, call Jerry Norman, building plan review supervisor, at (651) 284-5872.

Also, as a result of recent legislation, fees for all building, mechanical and sprinkler systems increased July 1, 2009. For related forms and information visit [www.dli.mn.gov/CCLD/PlanConstruction.asp](http://www.dli.mn.gov/CCLD/PlanConstruction.asp).



## Code adoption

# IMC and IFGC set for adoption in 2010, or sooner

The 2006 International Mechanical Code and 2006 International Fuel Gas Code will be adopted later this year or early in 2010.

DLI received nearly 50 comments from several individuals and groups requesting changes to these codes.

Department staff reviewed

each proposal and met with the individuals and groups to resolve the code change requests. These codes are now in the final legal stage of the adoption process.

## Planning for seminars underway

The Construction Codes and Licensing Division will provide a pair of seminars in fall 2009.

The first, a building code seminar, will be based on the amendments to the 2006 International Mechanical and International Fuel Gas codes, which are slated to be adopted later this year or in early 2010.

The second seminar will focus on electrical code and titled “Top 10 violations, illegal and hazardous – but avoidable.”

The fee for each of these seminars is \$85.

More information as the events near, including registration materials, will be available at [www.dli.mn.gov/CCLD/education.asp](http://www.dli.mn.gov/CCLD/education.asp).

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[www.dli.mn.gov/CCLD/icec.asp](http://www.dli.mn.gov/CCLD/icec.asp)

## Energy code

### Efficiency requirements causing confusion

On June 1, 2009, the 2009 Residential and Commercial Energy Codes took effect. The requirements were in Chapter 7678, which was repealed June 1, 2009.

DLI has received several questions about the efficiency requirements for residential and commercial heating and cooling equipment. The efficiency requirements are in the [Federal Department of Energy rules](#). For more information, visit DLI's [energy conservation page](#).

### **Sign up to receive rulemaking updates**

DLI rulemaking information for CCLD is online at [www.dli.mn.gov/rulemaking.asp](http://www.dli.mn.gov/rulemaking.asp).

To receive notices of agency rule proceedings visit the link to download the Word document from the Web site, complete it and e-mail, fax or mail it to DLI.

### **Not sure who to call at CCLD?**

Visit the contact page at: [www.dli.mn.gov/CCLD/cclcdContactus.asp](http://www.dli.mn.gov/CCLD/cclcdContactus.asp). The CCLD phone and e-mail address list includes contacts for specific issues.

# New e-Licensing fee surcharges are now in place

The 2009 Minnesota Legislature assessed a surcharge on licenses to cover the costs to create and implement a statewide electronic licensing system (e-Licensing Project).

The surcharge amount is 10 percent of the initial license fee or renewal fee with a minimum of \$5 and maximum of \$150. The surcharge will be collected from July 1, 2009, through June 30, 2015. (Minnesota Session Laws 2009, Chapter 101, Article 2, Section 59). For licenses administered by DLI, the surcharge was implemented on July 1, 2009.

License renewal notices mailed on and after July 1, 2009, through June 30, 2015, will reflect license fees with the surcharge included. A transition period of two months (July 1, 2009, to Aug. 30, 2009,) is planned where DLI may accept license fees without the surcharge

under some circumstances. The most obvious example is renewal fees paid to renew a license expiring before Sept. 1, 2009, where the license renewal notice clearly shows the old license fee.

Effective Sept. 1, 2009, however, all license fees paid to DLI must include the e-licensing system surcharge.

The purpose of the statewide electronic licensing system is to create a central system that helps licensing entities, such as DLI, administer its licensing responsibilities and to provide individuals the ability to apply for or renew licenses online.

The goal of the project is for all state licenses to become part of this system. More information on the e-Licensing Project is available online at [Minnesota's Drive to Excellence Web portal](#).

*This table includes the new and old fee amounts for licenses and bonds administered by DLI*

<b>Boiler Engineer Licenses</b>	<b>Old Fee</b>	<b>Surcharge</b>	<b>New Fee</b>
Certificate Of Competency	\$35	\$5	\$40
1st Class A, B, C Engineer	\$20	\$5	\$25
2nd Class A, B, C Engineer	\$20	\$5	\$25
Chief A, B, C Engineer	\$20	\$5	\$25
Master	\$20	\$5	\$25
Master/coast Guard	\$20	\$5	\$25
Special Engineer	\$20	\$5	\$25

<b>Electrical Licenses</b>	<b>Old Fee</b>	<b>Surcharge</b>	<b>New Fee</b>
Journeyman A Electrician	\$30	\$5	\$35
Master A Electrician	\$80	\$8	\$88
Journeyman B Electrician	\$30	\$5	\$35
Master B Electrician	\$50	\$5	\$55
Journeyman Elevator Constr	\$30	\$5	\$35
Master Elevator Constructor	\$80	\$8	\$88
Installer A & B, Lineman	\$30	\$5	\$35
Maintenance Electrician	\$30	\$5	\$35
Power Limited Technician	\$30	\$5	\$35
Class A Electrical Contractor	\$200	\$20	\$220
Class B Electrical Contractor	\$200	\$20	\$220
Elevator Contractor	\$200	\$20	\$220
Technology Systems Cont.	\$200	\$20	\$220

<b>High Pressure Piping</b>	<b>Old Fee</b>	<b>Surcharge</b>	<b>New Fee</b>
HPP Journeyman Pipefitter	\$80	\$8	\$88
HPP Contracting Pipefitter	\$240	\$24	\$264
Business	\$450	\$45	\$495

<b>Building Official Certif.</b>	<b>Old Fee</b>	<b>Surcharge</b>	<b>New Fee</b>
Building Official (Initial)	\$70	\$5	\$75
Building Official (Renewal)	\$20	\$5	\$25
Building Official Limited (Initial)	\$70	\$5	\$75
Building Official Limited (Renewal)	\$20	\$5	\$25
Accessibility Specialist (Initial)	\$70	\$5	\$75
Accessibility Specialist (Renewal)	\$20	\$5	\$25

<b>Mechanical Bond</b>	<b>Old Fee</b>	<b>Surcharge</b>	<b>New</b>
Mechanical Contractor Bond	\$15	\$0	\$15

<b>Plumbing License Bonds</b>	<b>Old Fee</b>	<b>Surcharge</b>	<b>New</b>
Restricted Journeyman	\$55	\$5.50	\$60.50
Restricted Master Plumber	\$120	\$12	\$132
Plumber Apprentice	\$25	\$5	\$30
Journeyman Plumber	\$55	\$5.50	\$60.50
Master Plumber	\$120	\$12	\$132
Water Conditioning Cont.	\$70	\$7	\$77
Water Conditioning Installer	\$35	\$5	\$40
Water Conditioning, Plumber Bond	\$40	\$0	\$40

<b>Registered Individuals</b>	<b>Old Fee</b>	<b>Surcharge</b>	<b>New</b>
Reg Unl Hpp Pipefitter	\$50	\$5	\$55
Reg Unl Elevator Const.	\$15	\$5	\$20
Reg Unl Electrician	\$15	\$5	\$20
Reg Unl Maint Electrician	\$15	\$5	\$20
Reg Unl Power Limited Tech	\$15	\$5	\$20

<b>Residential Contractor Lic.</b>	<b>Old Fee</b>	<b>Surcharge</b>	<b>New</b>
Manu. Home Installer	\$300	\$30	\$330
Residential Roofer	\$100	\$10	\$110
Residential Remodeler	\$100	\$10	\$110
Residential Building Contr	\$100	\$10	\$110
Independent Contractor	\$150	\$15	\$165

<b>Manu. Structure Licenses</b>	<b>Old Fee</b>	<b>Surcharge</b>	<b>New</b>
Manu. Home Manufacturer (Initial)	\$200	\$20	\$220
Manu. Home Manufacturer (Renewal)	\$400	\$40	\$440
Manu. Home Dealer (Initial)	\$200	\$20	\$220
Manu. Home Dealer (Renewal)	\$400	\$40	\$440
Manu. Home Dealer Sub. (Initial)	\$40	\$5	\$45
Manu. Home Dealer Sub. (Renewal)	\$80	\$8	\$88
Manu. Home Limited Dealer	\$100	\$10	\$110

# License period will extend to two years

By June 30, 2011, the license period for all boiler licenses, plumbing licenses and residential contractor licenses will be extended from one year to two years.

The 2009 Minnesota Legislature doubled the length of these licenses to reduce the frequency that each licensee must renew their license.

Another objective was improved customer service from DLI by spreading the agency's license renewal workload

during two years.

Implementation of the two year licenses will occur from July 1, 2009, through June 30, 2011. License holders will pay the license fees for the two-year period when obtaining or renewing a license.

The schedule of when to change each license from one-year to two-year licenses is currently being determined and will be posted on DLI's Web site by Oct. 1, 2009.

## Some of the most common licenses issued by DLI will be affected by this change:

**Boiler Engineer Licenses:** All boiler licenses expire on the anniversary month the license holder originally passed the license examination. The anniversary month will not change. However, the expiration year will be extended to two years starting with licenses that expire later this year. Once the two-year-license period is implemented, the license renewal fee and special engineer license exam fee will increase from \$25 to \$45; the fee to upgrade licenses to Second Class, First Class, and Chief Class engineers will increase from \$55 to \$75.

**Plumber Licenses:** All plumber licenses expire on Dec. 31, which will not change. The expiration year, however, will get extended two years once this two-year license change is put into effect. The specific licenses expiring Dec. 31, 2009, that are affected by this change will be known by Oct. 1, 2009, and will be identified on DLI's Web site. Once the two year license period is implemented, the license fee for renewals will be \$264 for master plumbers and restricted master plumbers and \$121 for journeyman plumbers and restricted journeyman plumbers. Plumbing contractor code compliance bonds, filed with the department, will also cover the same two year period of the master plumber's license, rather than the current one-year period. The result is a filing fee of \$80 versus the current \$40 annual filing fee.

**Water Conditioning Licenses:** All water conditioning licenses expire on Dec. 31, which will not change. The expiration year, however, will get extended two years once this two-year license change is put into effect. The specific licenses expiring Dec. 31, 2009, that are affected by this change will be known by Oct. 1, 2009, and will be identified on DLI's Web site. Once the two-year-license period is implemented, the license fee for renewals will be \$154 for water conditioning contractors and \$77 for water conditioning installers. Water conditioning contractor code compliance bonds filed with the department will, as a result of this change, cover the two-year period of the water conditioning contractor's license, rather than the current one-year bond. The result is a filing fee of \$80 for the two-year period.

LICENSE continues on Page 6

# Window fall prevention rules are in effect

At the direction of the 2007 Minnesota Legislature, DLI adopted rules for window fall prevention devices as part of the Minnesota State Building Code (MSBC). Those rules became effective July 1, 2009.

The provision states, in part, that in new buildings, window fall prevention methods and devices must be provided in apartment houses and condominiums, hotels and motels.

The windows that are required to comply with the provision must be equipped with window fall prevention screens, guards or other devices that comply with ASTM F 2006 or ASTM F 2090.

View the law, including exceptions to the requirements at [www.dli.mn.gov/CCLD/PDF/sbc\\_1303.pdf](http://www.dli.mn.gov/CCLD/PDF/sbc_1303.pdf).

The directive from the legislature impacts MSBC

section R613.2 – Window sills of the 2006 International Residential Code (IRC) and section 1405.12.2 – Window sills of the 2006 International Building Code (IBC).

Section R613.2 of the 2006 IRC was deleted in its entirety and noted in the text of Minnesota Rule Chapter 1309 of the 2007 Minnesota State Building Code.

During the Minnesota Rule 1309 adoption process, it was understood that several other states had deleted these portions of the model code documents due to enforcement and uniformity concerns.

DLI’s Construction Codes and Licensing Division’s staff believed it was best to delete the model code text from the 2006 IRC rather than have potential conflicting requirements for window fall prevention between the model code language and the pending legislative outcome requirements.

» *View the provisions online at:*  
[www.dli.mn.gov/CCLD/PDF/sbc\\_1303.pdf](http://www.dli.mn.gov/CCLD/PDF/sbc_1303.pdf)

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## LICENSE, continued from Page 5

### Some of the most common licenses issued by DLI will be affected by this change:

**Residential Contractor Licenses.** All residential building contractor, residential remodeler and residential roofer licenses expire on March 31, which will not change. The expiration year, however, will get extended two years once the two-year license is put into effect. Approximately half of the residential contractor licenses (e.g., builder, remodeler, roofer) will be renewed in 2010 and issued licenses that expire March 31, 2012. The remaining licensees will be renewed and issued licenses that expire on March 31, 2011. The methodology for splitting the 15,000 licenses in half has not yet been determined. Updates will be posted on DLI’s Web site. Once implemented, the fees to renew a residential building contractor and residential remodeler license will be \$540 for businesses with annual gross receipts below \$1 million, \$640 for businesses with annual gross receipts between \$1 million and \$5 million, and \$740 for business with annual gross receipts more than \$5 million. Licensed residential roofers will pay a \$220 fee for the two-year period regardless of annual gross receipts. Additionally, the continuing education hours required for renewal of a license in 2012 will increase from seven hours to 14 hours.

# Amendments will take effect Oct. 26, 2009

Amendments to the Minnesota Plumbing Code, Minnesota Rules Chapter 4715, were recently adopted and will become effective Oct. 26, 2009, with the exception of the plumbing licensing and registration provisions of the code, which became effective June 22, 2009.

The licensing and registration provisions were moved to Chapter 4716. The Notice of Adoption was

published in the June 15, 2009, *State Register*.

The adopted amendments to the code and the new Chapter 4716 are [available online](#).

The table below highlights some of the technical amendments to the code and is not intended to be a comprehensive list of the adopted amendments.



Multiple amendments to the Minnesota Plumbing Code will take effect Oct. 26.

## Highlights of the technical amendments to the Minnesota Plumbing Code include:

### Material:

Additional new pipe materials and fittings for water, chemical waste and sewer have been added to 4715.0420.

### Cleanout:

The amendment to 4715.1000 provides clarification about cleanout location requirements for concealed floor-set fixture drains (e.g. floor drains, trench drains, floor sinks, and similar fixtures). Previously, 4715.1000 required that each horizontal branch drain be provided with a cleanout at its upper terminal, which included all concealed floor-set fixture drains. The amendment now provides an exception to the cleanout requirement when the floor drain or fixture drain line is less than 5 feet from a main branch.

### Floor drain:

The amendment to 4715.1300, subp. 4, provides clarification requiring individual vents in accordance with 4715.2620, subp. 4, for floor drains receiving substantial amounts of liquid wastes large enough to siphon the trap seal; and for trench drains and floor sinks used as receptors.

### Water distribution system:

To ensure protection to the potable water system, amendments to 4715.1800 requiring freeze resistant sanitary yard hydrants must meet ASSE standard 1057. Amendments to 4715.2280 emphasize that water meters must be installed inside the building whenever possible and address approved locations for water meters. The rule specifically requires the meter to be protected from contamination by shielding when installed next to a plumbing fixture.

### Venting:

The amendment to 4715.2520 clarifies that a full size 3-inch vent stack or stack vent is required for each sanitary building sewer, if the building is provided with multiple sanitary sewer services.

### Prohibited fittings and connections:

An amendment to 4715.2420, subp. 1, prohibits the use of manholes to join drainage piping inside a building.

## Some plumbing plans must be submitted to DLI, MDH

### ■ Hospitals, nursing homes, surgical centers, others subject to provision

Plumbing plans for state licensed health care facilities must be submitted to both the Minnesota Department of Health and the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry.

The health care facilities to which this applies include: hospitals, nursing homes, supervised living

facilities, outpatient surgical centers, boarding care homes, and residential hospice facilities.

MDH reviews plans to ensure licensing requirements are being met, while DLI reviews plans to check for compliance with the Minnesota Plumbing Code.

For more information, [visit DLI's plumbing plan review Web page.](#)

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## Discharge from AC must be drained properly

Condensate drainage from air-conditioning units (HVAC) must be sized and designed as indirect waste piping.

The Minnesota Plumbing Code, Minnesota Rules, part 4715.1510, requires that indirect waste piping be trapped and be at least ¾ inches in diameter, but not less than the diameter of the outlet connection on the air-conditioning unit.

Indirect waste piping must be constructed of materials approved for waste and vent. A common design and installation issue

### Questions?

Contact the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency:

Phone: 1-800-646-6247

Web: [www.pca.state.mn.us](http://www.pca.state.mn.us)

relating to condensate drainage is defining an approved discharge location. Condensate piping from air-conditioning equipment located inside a building must generally discharge to the building sanitary sewer through an approved receptor.

Proper treatment of the waste must occur in accordance with Minnesota Rules, part 4715.0200, W, except when specific approval is obtained from the pollution [Minnesota Pollution Control Agency \(MPCA\)](#) and local authorities. The MPCA regulates discharges (surface water and ground water) to waters of the state, and in large installations a permit may be required from the MPCA prior to discharging condensate onto grade.

For more information about discharge permits, contact MPCA at 1-800-646-6247.

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## Building officials, help us keep your contact information current

The state municipal building official list is online at [www.dli.mn.gov/CCLD/PDF/bc\\_bo\\_list.pdf](http://www.dli.mn.gov/CCLD/PDF/bc_bo_list.pdf)

If a change is needed, please contact Peggi White at [peggi.white@state.mn.us](mailto:peggi.white@state.mn.us).

Official notices are sent to building officials via e-mail. Municipalities should also report Building Official

designation changes to [Peggi White](#) at CCLD. More information and the applicable forms are online at [www.dli.mn.gov/CCLD/Official.asp](http://www.dli.mn.gov/CCLD/Official.asp)

Visit the [Contact](#) page to find phone numbers and e-mail addresses for DLI staff.

# Pair of new laws impact elevators in Minnesota

## Platform wheelchair lifts, elevators in churches receive exemption

[Minnesota Session Laws, 2009, Chapter 76](#), which impacts wheelchair lifts and elevators located in churches, was passed during this year's legislative session.

This new law became effective May 13, 2009, and unless there is legislative action during the next legislative session, the provisions will expire July 1, 2010.

The effect of the law is to exempt platform wheelchair lifts and elevators located or installed in churches from Minnesota Statutes, Sections 326B.163 through 326b.191 and Minnesota Rules Chapter 1307 until July 1, 2010. This exemption does not apply to wheelchair lifts and elevators located in other buildings that are owned by churches.

The original intent of this exemption was to exempt wheelchair lifts and elevators from the annual maintenance inspections and the \$100 operating fee. However this language exempts wheelchair lifts and elevators from the elevator code new installation requirements, but it does not exempt them from the electrical code requirements where applicable. [Visit the DLI Elevator inspection and installation Web page](#) for more information about this new provision.



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## Manlifts in grain elevators receive exemption

Also impacted by the 2009 Minnesota Legislature are manlifts that are restricted to use by employees and authorized persons who are trained in their use and are located or installed in grain elevators and feed mills from Minnesota Statutes, Sections 326B.163 through 326b.191 and Minnesota Rules Chapter 1307.

This exemption does not apply to elevators located in other buildings, such as office buildings, owned by the mills.

The original intent of this exemption was to exempt manlifts in grain elevators and feed mills from the annual maintenance inspections and the \$100 operating fee. However this language exempts manlifts in grain elevators and feed mills from the elevator code new installation requirements, but it did not exempt them from the electrical code requirements where applicable.

During the effective period of this law, electrical permits for the installation of manlifts and related equipment (see definitions in 5205.0570) located in grain elevators and feed mills are required. Permits can be obtained through DLI's [Electrical Inspection Section](#). Inspections will be for the electrical work performed only and do not include any inspections that may be required by ASME A17.1. Forms and other information can be accessed at [www.dli.mn.gov/CCLD/ElectricalContractorForms.asp](http://www.dli.mn.gov/CCLD/ElectricalContractorForms.asp).

For more information about this provision, visit the [DLI elevator inspection and installation Web page](#).

## Bulletins outline law changes, clarifications

A new bulletin outlining policies and procedures for the manufactured home installation plan review-approval and on-site inspection of installation of new and used manufactured homes was published June 12, 2009. The changes outlined in the bulleting are effective Aug. 1, 2009.

The information, available at [www.dli.mn.gov/CCLD/ManufacturedBulletins.asp](http://www.dli.mn.gov/CCLD/ManufacturedBulletins.asp), details documentation required to be submitted to CCLD prior to licensed installers or homeowners installing a manufactured home in areas of Minnesota that are under the direct inspection jurisdiction of CCLD. The building official for a municipality that has adopted and enforces the Minnesota State Building Code may also adopt policies and procedures in their respective jurisdictions.

Federal mandates in Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 3285 and 3286 require that states wishing to have approved installation programs must adopt rules and regulations for the inspection of manufactured home installations. Minnesota State Building Code, Chapter 1350, proposed rules which were published and open for comment until June 17, 2009, and included requiring inspection of all manufactured home installations.

» [View the full bulletin](#)



This photo of a non-complying blocking of a manufactured home illustrates why inspections are necessary.

**A second notice published by CCLD** on June 1, 2009, serves as a clarification issued to industrialized modular builders who construct modular buildings in accordance with the MSBC, Chapters 1361 and 1360.

The bulletin outlines the effective dates for the MSBC, Chapters 1322 and 1323 for residential and commercial energy codes, and compliance by modular builders for units being shipped into Minnesota.

» [View the full bulletin](#)

## Safety first

## Building Safety Week recognized with proclamation



DLI staff members and Minnesota code officials pose for a photo with a proclamation announcing Building Safety Week, May 4 through 8. Left to right, front: Steve Sviggum, DLI commissioner; Tom Joachim, DLI assistant commissioner; and Jerry Rosendahl, state fire marshal; back row: Steve Hernick, state building official; Roger Axel, Association of Minnesota Building Officials; and Dale Schoeppner, 10,000 Lakes chapter of building officials.

» [Read the full proclamation online: www.dli.mn.gov/CCLD/PDF/BSW09.pdf](http://www.dli.mn.gov/CCLD/PDF/BSW09.pdf)

In partnership with the International Code Council, Building Safety Week was recognized as May 3-9, 2009, in Minnesota with a proclamation signed by Gov. Tim Pawlenty.

The theme of the week — marked to raise awareness of the importance of a safe environment and critical role of building and fire codes and code officials — was “Building Safety Week: Where you Live, Work and Play.”

2009 was the 29th year Building Safety Week was recognized.

# Carnival, festival inspections are underway

The Electrical Inspection Section of CCLD conducts electrical inspections for portable and temporary electrical power distribution systems. Examples of these applications include carnivals, circuses, fairs, festivals, road construction projects and other transient projects.

CCLD is responsible for inspection of all electrical wiring and equipment for transient events, like carnivals and fairs.

Portable generators and distribution are required to be inspected at each setup. When equipment is in compliance, an inspection sticker is placed on the equipment with the date of inspection and the inspection number. The owner's copy of the special transient inspection form is another record of compliance, which should be kept with the equipment for the remainder of the season.

The requirements set forth in Minnesota Statutes 184B, which provide for annual mechanical inspections of amusement rides, are a



DLI representatives will inspect electrical apparatus at more than 300 carnivals and festivals in Minnesota this year.

recent addition to the purview of the Electrical Inspections Section.

Amusement ride operators are required to submit to DLI an [Affidavit of Ride Inspection Report](#) for each amusement ride operated in Minnesota. The ride must be inspected by a certified amusement ride inspector. The inspection

## By the numbers:

Since April 28, 2009, DLI's electrical area representatives and contract electrical inspectors have conducted initial inspections of 17 carnival operations resulting in the inspection of more than 200 amusement rides, 26 generators, 77 concession trailers and 117 games.

Before the 2009 season is complete, DLI's representatives and inspectors will have inspected thousands of rides, games, generators, concessions, distribution boxes, attractions and other units at hundreds of carnivals and festivals throughout Minnesota.

report verifying that the mechanical inspection was completed and passed is required to be submitted to DLI within the same calendar year and prior to July 1, or the first operation in Minnesota, whichever is later.

DLI maintains a database of all amusement rides operated in Minnesota and the inspection history of each ride. In 2008, DLI received more than 370 Affidavit of Ride Inspection Reports from carnivals and fairs throughout Minnesota.

## Be prepared

# DLI looking for disaster assistance volunteers

DLI helps recruit code professionals and qualified assistants as disaster assistance volunteers who offer their expertise when disaster strikes.

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.

Each disaster assistance volunteer would be asked to provide assistance with building evaluations and life

safety habitability for structures affected by a disaster.

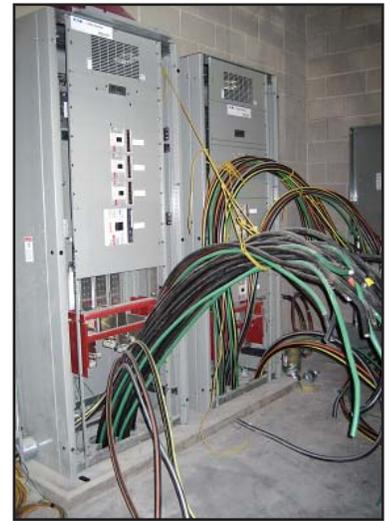
Others who have participated as a volunteer or received assistance from this program have found the experience to be very rewarding, both personally and professionally.

For more information about becoming a disaster assistance volunteer and to obtain a *Disaster Assistance Volunteer Form*, visit [www.dli.mn.gov/CCLD/Disaster.asp](http://www.dli.mn.gov/CCLD/Disaster.asp)



DLI's Electrical Area Representatives (left) recently toured Target Field, the 2010 home of the Minnesota Twins, and were able to view the miles of conduit and wire snaking throughout the new ball field. John Peterson, general foreman with Gephart Electric Company, Inc., served as the group's guide.

Work began on the site during the summer of 2007 and the \$412 million park is expected to require 36 months to complete.



## Electrical education

# IAEI 2009 annual meeting coming to Minnesota

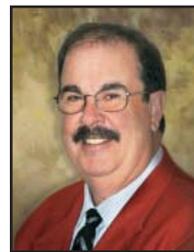
For the first time in more than two decades, the Minnesota Chapter of the International Association of Electrical Inspectors (IAEI) will be hosting the annual IAEI Western Section Meeting.

Electrical experts from throughout the Midwest are expected to take part in the 2009 meeting, scheduled for Sept. 20-23 in Bloomington. The 105th Western Section Meeting includes a trade show, educational programs, presentations, opportunities to network with industry leaders and code panel discussions.

Steve Sviggum, commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry, will provide the welcome remarks to open the meeting.

The Minnesota Chapter IAEI has not hosted the event since 1985, when Clarence Joriman was the executive

director of the Board of Electricity and an active member of the Minnesota IAEI.



Richard Owen

Richard Owen, St. Paul's chief electrical inspector, inspector member of the Board of Electricity and Minnesota Chapter IAEI secretary for more than 17 years, is the 2009 IAEI International President.

The Western Section consists of industry members including manufacturers, testing laboratories and inspectors and contractors from 17 Midwestern states from Ohio to Wyoming.

The meeting will provide 16 hours of approved electrical continuing education. More information and registration details are available at [www.iaei-western.org](http://www.iaei-western.org).

## 'Save the date' for Annual Institute for Building Officials

The electrical section of the Annual Institute for Building Officials will be Jan. 6-7, 2010.

At this time, the program has not been finalized, however participants can be assured that the planning

committee will provide an excellent conference.

Be sure to mark the date on your calendar now, so you don't miss this reasonably priced, outstanding training opportunity.

# Question & Answer *Electrical* Edition

The following questions and answers are from the  
Minnesota IAEI Spring Meeting, April 15, 2009

## Re-locating a temporary service panel

**Q:**

When a new outlet (i.e. point on the wiring system at which current is taken to supply equipment) for a receptacle, smoke detector or gas fireplace is extended from an existing branch circuit in a dwelling, is arc-fault circuit-interrupter (AFCI) protection required for the entire branch circuit, per NEC 210.12? What if an AFCI device was not available for the existing electrical panel?

**A:**

**No. The National Electrical Code (NEC) applies to NEW installations.** Existing electrical installations that do not comply with the provisions of the current code shall be permitted to be continued in use unless the authority having jurisdiction (AHJ) determines that the lack of conformity presents an imminent danger. See Annex H (Administration and Enforcement) in the NEC for more information about existing installations and additions, alterations, and repairs. Annex H is not part of the requirements of the NEC. Annex H is a model set of rules that could be adopted by a jurisdiction for the administration of an electrical inspection program. It's meant to be informational only.

- The 2010 National Electrical Code Committee Report on Proposals (ROP) is available online. »

The 2010 ROP contains the proposed amendments for the 2011 National Electrical Code. Several proposals for the 2011 NEC dealt with AFCI protection and existing branch circuits. Code-Making Panel No. 2, in its panel statements, have consistently stated that “The decision on applying the new construction AFCI requirements to a circuit modification is that of the authority having jurisdiction.”

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the IAEI Spring Meeting »**