

# *Wood County Building Inspection*

## *Contractor's Corner*

Fall/Winter 2013

Number 22

### *Message From The Chief*

#### **Winter Already!**

Where did the summer/fall go! They were here and gone too fast, but I would have to say, it was great summer in Northwest Ohio. Now that it feels like winter has already arrived let's hope for a mild season which will help construction to keep moving forward in a positive direction.

Let's talk permit activity for this year. Permit revenue to date has exceeded last year's at this time. 2013 revenue to date \$1,077,692 compared to 2012 revenue of \$1,018,156. Single family housing is up from last year with 179 new starts to date compared to last year at this time with 146 and commercial projects are comparable to last year with a limited increase. We have also made a few staffing adjustments again this year. The position of Administrative Secretary was reclassified and changed to a Clerical Specialist and we hired another part-time Building Inspector. Depending on the construction season we have been able to provide inspections within 24 hrs of scheduling and footing/foundations are always a priority. As a reminder, inspections need to be called in before 3 pm to be on the schedule for the next day and the inspectors set their schedules/times for the inspection. Inspectors are available between 8 – 8:30 am to receive phone calls and schedule times for inspections.

#### **Code News**

All Residential Building permits issued as of January 1, 2014 will be required to comply with the testing requirements for heating system ductwork and insulation inspection verification. The testing of ductwork was delayed for 1 year since the adoption date of the 2013 Ohio Residential Code which was on January 1, 2013. All insulation package/paths will also need to be inspected/tested by an independent 3<sup>rd</sup> party. You cannot self inspect/test your own installation or project. Any ductwork installed outside of the conditioned space will need to be tested; examples, ducts in exterior wall cavities, attics, unconditioned crawl spaces, garage areas, etc...

#### **Changes For 2014**

Our IT staff is working on a new website which should be up and running by January 1<sup>st</sup>. It will have a new look and updated information. Once this is completed and all the bugs worked out I will be able to move forward with the next step with the online permitting process. Contractors will be able to apply and pay for permits online. This should help us to streamline office task and improve on customer service. I am also working with our permit software providers in order to offer contractors the option to schedule their inspection. We have updated our Administrative Code for the department which sets all our operating procedures and permit fees. Permit fees did not increase but we did establish some new fees and limits for number of inspections. The changes have been approved by the Commissioners and will be effective starting on January 1, 2014. The new fees and Administrative Code will be posted on the new website come January 1, 2014.

## **Reminders for this Year**

Contractor registrations expire on December 31, 2013, if you renew your registration by January 31, 2014 it will cost \$25.00 but after this deadline date it will be \$50.00. We have enclosed the contractor registration renewal application for your convenience. Please fill out all current information on your company and include a current up to date email address. We email all inspection results the next day after the inspections have been completed. You can fax, mail, or stop in the office to complete your registration and don't forget to take advantage of the credit card transaction for an easy payment method.

**Note:** The Building Inspection Department is set up as an enterprise fund and we solely operate on revenue generated from permits in Wood, Hancock and Henry Counties.

***Have a great winter.***

***General phone number: 419-354-9190***

***Fax number: 419-373-6786***

***Location: One Courthouse Square, Third floor  
Bowling Green, Ohio 43402***

***Website: <http://wcbinspect.co.wood.oh.us>***

***Email: [buildinginspection@co.wood.oh.us](mailto:buildinginspection@co.wood.oh.us)***



**Michael J. Rudey  
Chief Building Official**

***This office operates under the Wood County Board of Commissioners,  
James F. Carter - Doris I Herringshaw - Joel M. Kuhlman***