

# *Wood County Building Inspection*

## *Contractor's Corner*

*Fall 2008*

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### *Message From The Chief*

Believe it or not it has been five months since I was appointed as the Chief Building Official for Wood County and it is great to be back in building code enforcement full time. I remain excited and enthusiastic about my position with the County and I am looking forward to future months/years in developing and improving ways to provide customer service for the residents and contractors we serve.

Wood County Building Inspection will be returning to our fall and winter hours beginning September 29, 2008. Our new office hours will be from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. I hope everyone had the opportunity to utilize our summer hours. We had positive feedback from contractors with the office being open 9 hours Monday through Friday. We will be revisiting summer work hours for the department in the spring of 2009. You can still call the office and leave a voice mail message anytime before or after our operating hours. Remember, to schedule an inspection you will need to call between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. and all inspections need to be scheduled with our clerical staff, not with the inspectors.

#### **Up and Coming Proposed Changes:**

Wood County is in the process of replacing the phone system. We are going from a typical analog land line to a digital system. This system will provide consumers with easy voice messaging and voice prompt directory. You will be able to call the office during non-business hours and leave a message with anyone on the directory. The system will also have automated answering which can be used by various departments. I have decided not to activate that service. Our department will be answering all phone calls in person.

We will be posting changes to our administrative code in the next newsletter. Some of those changes will be requirements for contractor registration, re-inspection fees, number of inspections per permit; these are just to name a few. We are not increasing our permit fees, but adding new fees for various services.

The credit card process is making good progress and should be initiated very soon enabling permits to be processed and make payments online.

We are in the process of purchasing and installing new building permit software which will be web based enabling us to email your inspection results and schedule inspections via email.

## Wood County Building Inspection

One Courthouse Square  
Bowling Green, OH 43402

Mailing Label

As a reminder, the 2006 Energy Code and the 2008 National Electrical Code are scheduled to be adopted by the Ohio Board of Building Standards January 1, 2009. All certified building departments throughout the State will be required to start enforcement of these codes as of January 1, 2009. There is some talk about amending the electrical code for residential, I will keep you posted.

One of our last changes proposed for this year is to provide a walk through service for issuing permits for residential and commercial projects and submit plans electronically.

These proposed changes are just a few of many to come in order to better serve the residents/contractors of Wood County. These changes are scheduled and proposed to be adopted by January 1, 2009.

I would like to thank my staff for their support and cooperation during my first few months at the helm and look forward in building a cohesive team, providing consumers with uniform, consistent enforcement and service.

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**Michael J. Rudey**  
**Chief Building Official**

*This office operates under the Wood County Board of Commissioners,  
James F. Carter - Tim W. Brown - Alvin L. Perkins*