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## What's New?

### New Supported Scaffold Law - Local Law 52



On November 19th, [Local Law 52 of 2005](#) went into effect requiring a permit for any supported scaffold that is 40 feet or more in height. In addition to permit requirements, workers must take Department of Buildings reviewed training courses. A certificate of training can be obtained from Occupational Safety Hazardous Administration (OSHA), an OSHA-trained or certified provider, or a provider of a training program regarding scaffold safety that has been reviewed by the Buildings Department. This new law

will help promote the safety of workers at sites. Read the [fact sheet](#) (38 kb-pdf) for more information.

If you would like your training course to be reviewed by the Buildings Department please send a copy of the curriculum to:

Department of Buildings  
Attn: Office of Operations  
280 Broadway, 7th floor  
New York, NY 10007

### Buildings News Online

To continue making it easier to do business with us, we have archived all of our [Newsletters](#), including [Buildings News](#), on our website. Whether you are seeking specific information, or simply want to learn more about new initiatives at the Department of Buildings, these informative newsletters will help you navigate topics that may affect you.

### Schedule Your Plan Examination Appointment with PENS

Have you used PENS to schedule a plan exam appointment? [PENS](#), our Plan Examination Notification System, is an automated system that allows you to easily schedule a plan examination appointment up to 30 days in advance, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Call 3-1-1 to schedule your next plan exam appointment

## **eFiling: The Quickest Most Efficient Filing Process**

[eFiling](#) is the easiest way for licensed electricians to submit electrical applications and for licensed master plumbers, fire suppression piping contractors, oil burner installers and sign hangers to file select no-change permit renewals online. Since its inception, over 1,400 licensed electricians have registered to use eFiling. If you are interested in registering but don't want to do it on your own, bring your seal when you visit us to renew your electrical license and a Buildings Department representative will walk you through the process. Review the online [eFiling User Guide](#) for more information.

## **Easier House Connection Sign-offs**

All successful house connection jobs that are inspected by the Buildings Department House Connection Unit, in the Bronx, Brooklyn and Queens, will be signed-off directly in [BISWeb](#) by the House Connection Unit. This service enhancement eliminates the need to provide a hard copy of the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) sign-off card to the Plumbing Unit. If the inspection is conducted by a Unit or Agency other than the House Connection Unit, a DEP sign-off card is still required. View the [service announcement](#) (24 kb-pdf) for more information.

## ***Buildings Around Town***

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### **Distinguished Achievement Award**

On November 8th, Fatma Amer, PE, Buildings Department Deputy Commissioner for Technical Affairs and Chief Code Engineer, was awarded the Distinguished Service Award from the New York Society of Architects. The annual award program honors outstanding achievements in the industry.

On behalf of Mayor Michael Bloomberg, Buildings Commissioner Patricia Lancaster also accepted the Distinguished Achievement Award.

The New York Society of Architects is an organization comprised of licensed architects and other affiliated construction professionals who are intricately involved in the design and construction world of New York City. View the [photos](#) from the event.

## ***Reminder***

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### **Upcoming Holidays**



The Department of Buildings will be closed on Thursday, November 23rd for Thanksgiving. Have a Happy Thanksgiving. Visit us online for a complete listing of the Department's [holiday schedule](#).

## ***Did You Know?***

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Did you know that the Occupational Safety and Health Administration will be conducting a Spanish Construction Safety course in Spanish on December 7th and 8th? This two-day course will cover safety topics on scaffolds, excavation, personal protective equipment and much more. We're dedicated to your safety, so be sure to make your reservation today. View the flyer in [English](#) (75 kb-pdf) or [Spanish](#) (79 kb-pdf) for more information.

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