



NYC.gov NEWS

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## What's New

### Renewal of "No Penalty" Retaining Wall Inspection Program



On June 7, 2007, Buildings Commissioner Patricia J. Lancaster, FAIA, announced the renewal of the Department's "No-Penalty" Retaining Wall Safety Inspection Program, which allows owners of private retaining walls throughout the five boroughs to request inspections without the issuance of violations. This program is available for a period of 90 days, beginning June 7th. View the [press release](#) to learn more about the program. To make an appointment, call 311. For more information about [retaining wall maintenance](#) (483 kb-pdf) visit the Department's

website at [www.nyc.gov/buildings](http://www.nyc.gov/buildings).

### Construction Superintendent Registration

**We're Dedicated to Safety**

On July 5, 2007, registration to become a Construction Superintendent will begin! Individuals who would like to become a Construction Superintendent must submit the [LIC-3](#) application, the [LIC-4](#) work history form and relevant documentation to the Buildings Department in order to register. To learn more about how to register, duties of the Construction Superintendent and qualifications needed, please view the [fact sheet](#) (45 kb-pdf) and the [press release](#).

### B-SCAN Launches in Bronx

**We're Making it Easier**



On June 25, 2007, the Bronx Borough Office is launching the Buildings Scan and Capture Application Network ([B-SCAN](#))

document management system. B-SCAN will scan virtually all contents of job folders (with the exception of plans) to enable electronic processing, storage and online retrieval of documents associated with New Building and Alteration job filing applications. Over the next several months, B-SCAN will be implemented in the other boroughs. Visit our [website](#) for more information.

## Lightweight Structural Material

### We're Dedicated to Safety

To protect the safety of the public, the Department of Buildings is launching an informational campaign on the use of Lightweight Structural Material. Lightweight Structural Material is commonly used in construction, but it requires professional inspections to ensure safeguards are taken to prevent failure. View the [service announcement](#) (41 kb-pdf) for more information on this informational campaign.

## Safe Swimming Pool Installation

### Information You Need To Know



As temperatures rise, swimming pools are a great way to beat the heat. To ensure a safe summer, the Buildings Department reminds homeowners considering installing a pool to make sure it is done correctly. Although some swimming pool installations do not require a permit from the Department, NYC

Building Code standards must always be followed. For more information, view the Building Knowledge [brochure](#) (438 kb-pdf) on Installing Swimming Pools, Decks and Porches and the [service announcement](#) (53 kb-pdf).

## Buildings Around Town

### NYSA Technical Forum



On June 4, 2007, Buildings Department staff gave a presentation on the new [NYC Construction Codes](#) at the 26th Professional Technical Forum held by the New York Society of Architects. At the forum, the discussion focused on the general differences between the current NYC Building Code and the proposed amendments. View the [presentation](#) (6,796 kb-pdf) from the event. Email the [Construction Codes team](#) with any questions about the proposed Codes.

## Did You Know?

Did you know that the escalator began as an amusement ride in Coney Island in 1895? Currently, there are approximately 3,000 escalators throughout New York City that fall under the jurisdiction of the Department of Buildings. Escalators are inspected twice a year by the Department's [Elevator Division](#). Stay safe while riding escalators by following these [safety tips](#).

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