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What's New

"No Penalty" Retaining Wall Inspections Available



Take advantage of our "No Penalty" Retaining Wall Safety Inspection Program before it's too late! For the duration of this inspection program, which ends September 3, 2007, homeowners may call 3-1-1 and request a visual examination of their private retaining wall by a Buildings Department inspector. Under the "No Penalty" program, the Buildings Department will not issue any violations relating to the condition of the retaining wall. View the [press release](#) for more information about the program. To learn more about

[retaining walls](#) (709 kb-pdf) visit our website at www.nyc.gov/buildings.

Mayor and Commissioner Announce New Enforcement Plan

Information You Need To Know

On July 3, 2007, Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg and Buildings Commissioner Patricia J. Lancaster announced a comprehensive enforcement plan to raise the bar for construction standards in New York City and hold repeat offenders accountable. This plan, which will be implemented in three phases, allocates \$6 million and over 60 additional staff lines to the Buildings Department for the first phase. With these new resources, Buildings will crack down on those who repeatedly skirt the Zoning Resolution and Building Code, will institute proactive excavation inspections, and will tighten control over the professional certification program. View the [press release](#) for more information on the plan.

Notification Now Required to Use Suspended Scaffolds

Dedicated to Safety

To ensure the safety of workers who use suspended scaffolds and the public around them, the Buildings Department now requires notification 24 to 48 hours before the installation and use of c-hook and outrigger beam suspended scaffolds. As of July 16, 2007, licensed riggers must now inform the Buildings Department of the date and location of the suspended scaffold to be used. To learn more about this requirement, view the [service announcement](#) (54 kb-pdf).

Use of Lightweight Structural Materials

Dedicated to Safety

To ensure the safe and compliant use of Lightweight Structural Materials, we'd like to remind you that certain steps must be taken if these materials are to be used. The use and identification of Lightweight Structural Materials must be properly noted on applications and plans and controlled inspections are required to ensure proper installation. View the [service announcement](#) (41 kb-pdf) for information about Lightweight Structural Materials.

New Requirements and Form for On-Site Riggers

Information You Need To Know

Starting July 23, 2007, the Buildings Department will require a licensed Master Rigger or Tower Rigger to be onsite to supervise the erection, jumping or dismantling of cranes or tower cranes and to ensure the work is done safely and in accordance with the Building Code and other applicable regulations. The [revised CD-7 form](#) must also be submitted to the Buildings Department two business days prior to beginning these jobs. View the [service announcement](#) (23 kb-pdf) for more information.

Reminders

Construction Superintendent Registration Has Begun

Dedicated to Safety

Registration to become a Construction Superintendent began on July 5, 2007. Effective January 1, 2008, all new building and demolition projects 14 stories and below (excluding 1-3 family homes) will need to be supervised by a registered Construction Superintendent. To learn more about registration or the necessary requirements, view the [fact sheet](#) (47 kb-pdf).

Did You Know?

Did you know that in June over 77% of electrical applications were filed using the Department's [e-Filing](#) system? Launched in March 2006, [e-Filing](#) for electrical applications allows licensed electricians who have registered with the Buildings Department to apply for electrical permits online. For more information, view the [press release](#).

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