


NYC.gov NEWS

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What's New

New Protocol Changes for Tower Cranes



Photo Credit: Andreanna Seymore

On Tuesday, March 25, Buildings Commissioner Lancaster announced changes to the Department's protocol regarding the erection and dismantling (including jumping) of tower cranes. A Buildings inspector is now required to be present on a construction site whenever a tower crane is being raised or lowered, until further notice. This interim change and other protocol changes come as the Department continues its inspection sweep of cranes installed throughout New York City. To learn more, view the [press release](#) and [regulatory notice](#) (41 kb-pdf).

System Enhanced with "Copy and Send" Feature

Making It Easier

Since its launch on February 19, we've already implemented the first enhancement to this expanded [eFiling](#) system. eFiling has been upgraded to include a "copy and send" function that allows you to duplicate an existing application and send a copy of the prepared application to other registered eFiling users. View the [flyer](#) (229 kb-pdf) for more information.

Plan Exam Notification System Enhancement

Making It Easier

To make it easier to do business with us, on April 1 we're enhancing our [Plan Examination Notification System](#) (PENS) to make scheduling plan exam appointments more efficient. As of April 1, you will be able to request a plan exam appointment by selecting and using a unique identification and PIN number. For more information, view the Enhanced PENS System [fact sheet](#) (28 kb-pdf).

New Schedule C Heating and Combustion Form

Making It Easier

To make it easier for you to do business with us, we have simplified the requirements to request a [Boiler appointment](#) and have released a newly-revised Schedule C Heating and Combustion (PW1-C) Form. Beginning April 21, only the new version of the form will be accepted. For more information, view the New Schedule C Heating and Combustion Form [fact sheet](#) (34 kb-pdf).

New NYC Construction Codes

Information You Need To Know



One way that the [New NYC Construction Codes](#) are more user-friendly than the [1968 Building Code](#) is in the assignment of short-hand designation letters for "use and occupancy" classifications. Whereas the 1968 Building Code sequentially assigned letters for each use and occupancy, the New Codes adopt a more logical approach. For more information, view the Use and Occupancy Classifications [fact sheet](#) (293 kb-pdf).

Buildings Around Town

NY Society of Architects 29th Technical Forum

On April 17, the [New York Society of Architects](#) will hold its 29th Professional Technical Forum to discuss New York City's current Building Code and the [New NYC Construction Codes](#). At the forum, Buildings Department Deputy Commissioner [Fatma Amer](#), PE, and Chief Code Engineer and Senior Architect Keith Wen, RA, will deliver a presentation on the Means of Egress and Accessibility requirements in the New Codes. Seating is limited and registration is required. View the [flyer](#) (25 kb-pdf) for more information.

New NYC Construction Codes Training



On March 20, Buildings Code experts led a training session on the [New NYC Construction Codes](#) designed especially for City agencies. Sponsored by the [Department of Design and Construction](#), approximately 250 City staffers from DDC, the School Construction Authority, Department of Health and Fire Department attended the event.

Reminder

Registration for General Contractors

Dedicated to Safety

To protect the public and ensure construction work is performed by insured general contractors, all contractors who build one-, two-, and three-family homes will be required to register with the Buildings Department to obtain New Building permits. Registration begins April 1, 2008 and will be mandatory November 1, 2008. In August 2007, Mayor Bloomberg signed [legislation](#) requiring contractors building one-, two- and three-family homes to register with the Buildings Department. For more information, view the General Contractor Registration [fact sheet](#) (33 kb-pdf) and Insurance Requirements [fact sheet](#) (33 kb-pdf).

Excavation Notification Requirement

Dedicated to Safety

To ensure excavation work is performed in a safe and compliant manner, [Rule 52](#) (38 kb-pdf) requires all contractors with permits for earthwork to notify the Buildings Department of the date and time of the earthwork 24 to 48 hours before commencing work by calling the Buildings Department Call Center at (212) 393-2550. Failure to notify the Buildings Department will result in penalties such as violations or Stop Work Orders. For more information, view the Earthwork Notification [fact sheet](#) (33kb-pdf).

Licensing Unit Changes: Updating Insurance

Information You Need To Know

The Licensing Unit will now handle all insurance renewals. These renewals now must be submitted to the Licensing Unit at 280 Broadway in Manhattan, instead of a borough office. For more information, please view the [Licensee Guidelines for Updating Insurance](#) (358 kb-pdf).

Checks and Money Orders

Information You Need To Know

To make it faster for you and fellow customers, when paying fees at our service windows, please make sure all checks and money orders are payable to the New York City Department of Buildings prior to coming to the window.

Did You Know?

Did you know that since its launch of February 19, over 5,700 applications prepared with eFiling have been submitted to the Buildings Department using [eFiling](#)? Don't miss out! To learn more about [eFiling](#), view our [eFiling FAQs](#) (161 kb-pdf).

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