



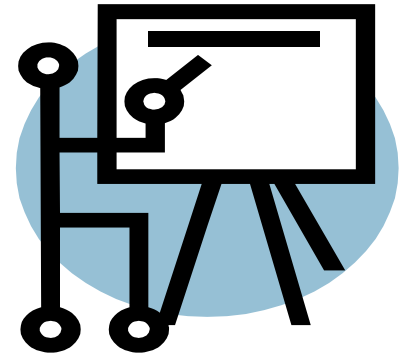
FIRE CODE NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 7
NOVEMBER 2010

Office of the Fire Code Official, Collier County, Florida

Special Points of Interest:

- *Rehabilitation Work on Existing Buildings*
- *Permitting Procedures for Air Conditioning Change Outs*
- *East Naples Food Drive Launched*
- *Fire Code Officials' Administrative Building Update*



REHABILITATION WORK ON EXISTING BUILDINGS

Whenever an applicant for a building permit specifies or conveys that the scope of the work being proposed involves rehabilitation work on an existing building, then such work is required by Florida Fire Prevention Code (FFPC) 101: section 4.6.7.1 to be classified as one of the following work categories as defined in FFPC 101: Categories of Rehabilitation Work, section 43.2.2.1: (1) Repair, (2) Renovation, (3) Modification, (4) Reconstruction, (5) Change of use or occupancy classification, or (6) Addition. Rehabilitation work on existing buildings is also required to comply with other provisions of FFPC 101: Chapter 43 relative to the rehabilitation work category classification. The appropriate sections of Chapter 43 will then dictate whether the rehabilitation work must comply with the requirements of other sections of FFPC 101 applicable to either New or Existing construction for a particular type of occupancy.

Depending on the classification of the Occupancy Type for the building area in which the rehabilitation is taking place, additional sub-classifications may need to be included on the plans as well. These sub-classifications are typically based on the hazard of contents (i.e. for Storage Occupancies) or on use conditions (i.e. for New Detention and Correctional Occupancies) or on small versus large facilities (i.e. for New Residential Board and Care Occupancies) or on the type of New Mercantile Occupancies and the type of Industrial Occupancies. Each sub-classification compels both the designer and the reviewer to apply different code sections that can impact, for example, travel distances, dead-end corridor distances, common path of travel distances and number of means of egress required.

Now, even though this can be an extremely daunting exercise at first blush, knowing what elements will be required by the Fire Code Office (FCO) at the time of plan review will help facilitate a smoother, more expeditious permitting process. At the time of permit submittal, the plan reviewer will look to ensure the designer has identified on the plan drawings the classification of the rehabilitation work and has further specified the sections of Chapter 43 the scope of this particular rehabilitation work will adhere to, as well as which "New" or "Existing" occupancy chapter will apply. These classifications, code progressions and code sections are typically delineated by the designer under the Building Data section or Fire Code section on the Cover Sheet of the plan drawings. If the aforementioned information is not provided with the detail as outlined, you can expect it to be called out as a deficiency comment.

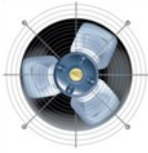
First things first...get the correct Code book: the Florida Fire Prevention Code, 2007 edition... then read, read, read. Happy designing and don't forget we're only a phone call away.

Submitted by Ricco Longo
Deputy Fire Code Official

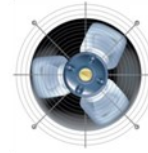
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Permitting Procedures for Air Conditioning Change Outs
aka
 “How to Keep Your Cool While Obtaining an AC Change Out Permit”



Are you losing your cool while trying to obtain an AC change out permit? Well, the following article will help you get through the process in a timely and uncomplicated manner.

Any AC system change out installed in a commercial application, i.e. mercantile occupancy, business occupancy, storage occupancy, etc., and any AC system greater than 2000 cfm per the manufacturer maximum capacity rating of the equipment in a multi-family residential dwelling unit, requires a fire plan review and fire inspection. The requirement for AC permits has been law for many years and is supported by §553.73(1)(a), Florida Statutes (2009), §553.79(1), Florida Statutes (2009) and Section 101.4.1, Florida Building Code, Building Volume (2007 as amended 10/1/09).

In the past, some of these permits were processed as a “walk-through”, never reaching the Fire Code Office (FCO) for review. During non-related field inspections however, local fire districts discovered improper protection of penetrations as well as the installation of inappropriate wire in plenum areas relative to air conditioning work. In an effort to properly enforce code requirements and promote life safety and property protection, all AC change out permits in commercial and multi-family (3 unit or more) shall be subject to a review by the FCO and inspection by the local fire district.

For an AC change out in a multi-family residential dwelling unit greater than 2000 cfm., (not a common area) contractors are required to submit 3 sets of plans to the Building Department. The checklist on page 3 of this newsletter is designed to help facilitate a fast and accurate review to the minimum codes established in Florida. Permit applications with proper documentation received into the FCO by 2 p.m. will be reviewed and approved via a stipulation letter by the end of that business day.

Commercial applications on the other hand, will not be processed as a “walk-thru”. Contractors are required to submit 3 sets of plans to the Building Department. Documentation required to conduct a proper review include but are not limited to; a floor plan showing location of AC equipment, manufacturer specifications showing the maximum capacity cfm, automatic shut down and smoke detector location for systems greater than 2000 cfm, plenum rated materials, penetrations, and all other applicable codes in accordance with NFPA 90A and/or 90B, 2002 edition. Compliance with the items listed above will be subject to a final inspection and acceptance by the local fire district.

Cont'd on Page 3

On the lighter side...



**AC Change Out
Continued from page 2**

The following checklist is designed to help facilitate a fast and accurate review to the minimum codes established in Florida:

Applicant Intake

- a. Email address, fax number, phone number. _____
 - b. The approximate date of construction of building. _____
 - c. The number of floors of building. _____
 - d. Which floor is this unit located on? _____
 - e. The square footage of the unit. _____
 - f. The average height of the ceiling. _____
 - g. Will a new line set be installed? Yes No
 - h. What type of protection system will be used to achieve the proper fire rating?
Floor/ceiling Fire rated wall
 - i. Details provided of the penetration protection. Yes No
 - j. Provide the rated CFM of the equipment as per manufacture specification sheets as well as tonnages. Provided Not Provided
 - k. Is the location of the A/C unit in a plenum rated closet? Yes No
 - l. The standard information supplied already by contractor. Provided Not Provided
- Submit three (3) sets of plans. Provided Not Provided

This checklist is included with the Mechanical Permit Application that can be found at www.colliergov.net. Following the checklist and providing the aforementioned documentation should help to facilitate and expedite your permit, while keeping with the 3 c's; cool, calm, and collected.

For further information regarding fire plan review and fire inspection for AC change out permits, contact this Office at 239-252-3473.

*Submitted by Linda Rutkoski
Executive Administrative Assistant*

Did you know....

Maggie Jani, Deputy Fire Code Official has received her Nicet Level II Fire Alarm Certification.

Jackie de la Osa, Deputy Fire Code Official has completed 10 years of service at the Fire Code Office.

Congratulations to all !



EAST NAPLES FOOD DRIVE PROGRAM LAUNCHED

The East Naples Fire Control & Rescue District (ENFD) has implemented a Food Drive Program in support of the local food pantries.

Many of our neighbors and community residents are facing financial challenges. Due to lack of work and other circumstances, many are finding it difficult to feed their families and are turning to some of the local charities to assist in getting through each day. St. Mathews and The Salvation Army are two of the organizations that the ENFD will be helping.

A bin has been placed at the Fire Code Office, 2800 N. Horseshoe Dr. , Naples for anyone wishing to donate canned or non perishable foods that will be picked up weekly and delivered to either St Mathew's kitchen or the Salvation Army pantry.

If half of us add a can of soup or vegetables to our weekly shopping list , ENFD could deliver 40 or so cans a week to our local food pantries.

Thanks for your support.



FIRE CODE OFFICIAL'S ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING UPDATE



Permits have been picked up for the new Collier County Fire Code Official's Administrative Building and work is underway. Digging for the foundation is complete and the stem wall is going up. The underground electric and plumbing work should be in place in a week or two. We expect the exterior walls to be completed in three weeks time with trusses up in four weeks. Stayed tuned for an update in the next newsletter.

*Submitted by Ed Riley
Fire Code Official*





COLLIER COUNTY , FLORIDA

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We're on the Web
Colliercountyfiremarshals.com

Your Comments or Suggestions are Welcome

Please email to
Firecode@colliergov.net

MISSION STATEMENT

The Office of the Fire Code Official of Collier County, Florida is dedicated to the protection of life and property within the Fire Control and Rescue Districts of Collier County through preemptive and proactive prevention services including the following:

Countywide Uniform Interpretation and Application of Fire and Life Safety Codes, Standards and Ordinances

Maintenance of Contemporary Fire and Life Safety Codes, Standards and Ordinances

Liaison between County Government and Fire Districts

Fire and Life Safety Information, Education and Consultation

Project Plan Review and Permitting for New Construction

Databasing, Recordkeeping and Fee Accounting

Field visits for Project Troubleshooting

Statistical Analysis and Fire Problem Intelligence Gathering

UPCOMING EVENTS

**Collier County
Fire Marshals Association
2010 Meeting Schedule**

JANUARY 28

MARCH 25

MAY 27

JULY 29

SEPTEMBER 30

NOVEMBER 18

Meeting starts at 9 am
Terracina Grand
6825 Davis Blvd.
Naples, FL 34104



*The Fire Code Office
would like to wish everyone
a safe and happy holiday season!*

Happy Holidays

