

## ATTENTION APPLICANT

# MINNESOTA CONSTRUCTION CODE CHANGES

Recent changes in Minnesota State Law require that various construction activities shall now require the services of licensed professionals. The changes are briefly summarized below, though the summary is not all inclusive. Applicants are responsible to independently verify what, if any, standards or requirements apply to their specific project(s) with the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry:

### Plumbing :

**Residential** - Any plumbing work shall be required to be complete by an appropriately licensed plumbing contractor. The licensed plumber shall be responsible for filing with the MN Dept of Labor & Industry the requisite plumbing plans. The only exception to this requirement is for the homeowner (occupant) to do basic plumbing work within the structure they are currently occupying (remodeling only – not construction of their new home, garage or outbuilding).

**Non-residential** - Any plumbing work shall be required to be completed by an appropriately licensed plumbing contractor. The licensed plumber shall be responsible for filing for the plumbing plan approval from, and noticing for required inspections, the MN Dept of Labor & Industry. With few exceptions, any non-residential structure shall fall within this category.

\*All floor drains and oil tank separators within a structure needs to be plumbed to a separate outlet than the structures septic outlet as this waste is not considered seepage and needs to be treated as a separate waste. This waste needs to be plumbed into a holding tank and cannot be tied into the septic drainfield. This holding tank for the waste generated by floor drains and oil tank separators is classified as a Class V injection well and is subject to approval by the appropriate authority (Department of Labor and Industry, EPA etc.).

### Electrical:

Homeowners are able to install their own electrical systems, however they are still required to comply with the electrical code, and arrange for a State Electrical Inspector to inspect the work.

### Building:

**Residential** - Homeowners are able to do their own construction on any new or existing residential building, but are required to comply with State Building Code.

**Non-residential** – Applicant shall contact MN Dept of Labor & Industry to determine what requirements apply to their specific project.

### Septic Systems:

A licensed septic designer is required to design any septic system. Either the homeowner or a licensed septic installer must install the septic system to the exact specifications of the approved design. All septic systems must be inspected by Polk County Zoning before they may be covered.

Polk County has **NOT** adopted the State Building Code, including Electrical and Plumbing Codes, therefore Polk County staff does not conduct the inspections of that work. This is a **STATEWIDE** mandate upon the **APPLICANT and/or LICENSED CONTRACTOR** to comply with and obtain plan review and/or inspection. Contact information for each classification is listed on the back of this sheet.

# Inspectors Listing

## Plumbing

MN Department of Labor & Industry - NW Regional Office (Fergus Falls)

**Mathew Flier**

Office: (651) 587-0108

[Mathew.flier@state.mn.us](mailto:Mathew.flier@state.mn.us)

## Electrical

MN Department of Labor & Industry (Commercial buildings) - District 10 (MN NW Region)

**Lowell Bradbury**

Office: (218) 349-0068

[Lowell.bradbury@state.mn.us](mailto:Lowell.bradbury@state.mn.us)

Polk County Residential Electrical Inspector

**George Stage**

phone: (218) 284-1083

## Building

MN Department of Labor & Industry – Region 1 – NW Regional Building Official

**Cliff Skogstad**

Office: (320) 594-6591 or (320) 815-2314

[Clifford.Skogstad@state.mn.us](mailto:Clifford.Skogstad@state.mn.us)

## Septic System (New septic systems only)

Polk County Planning & Zoning (Crookston)

Jacob Snyder, Sarah Mielke, Dylan Hensch

(218) 281-5700 or 1-800-482-6804

[Jacob.Snyder@co.polk.mn.us](mailto:Jacob.Snyder@co.polk.mn.us)

[Sarah.Mielke@co.polk.mn.us](mailto:Sarah.Mielke@co.polk.mn.us)

[Dylan.Hensch@co.polk.mn.us](mailto:Dylan.Hensch@co.polk.mn.us)