



## Community Buzz



Volume 1, Issue 2

May 2008



### LaBelle Office

Address: 88 S. Main St.  
Phone: 863-675-5245  
Fax: 863-675-5319

### Clewiston Office

Address: 100 E. El Paso  
Phone: 863-983-1463  
Fax: 863-983-1467

### Office Hours

Monday - Friday  
8:00am - 5:00pm

### Inside this issue:

Building Department	2
Contractor's Corner	3
Permitting	4
Permitting	5
New Legislation	6
Code Enforcement	7
Electrical	8

## Building Safety Week

May 5 -11, 2008

Building Safety Week, sponsored by the Building Officials Association of Florida in conjunction with the International Code Council Foundation, is an excellent opportunity to educate the public. It is a perfect time to increase public awareness of the role building safety and fire prevention officials, local and state building departments, and federal agencies play in protecting lives and property. Through their continuing attention to build safe structures for everyday life and times of disaster, we enjoy the comfort and peace of mind of facilities that are safe and sound.

This year's theme is **"Building Safety: where you live, work and play."** It encourages all Floridians to raise awareness of building safety. Everyone can take appropriate steps to insure

that the places where we live, work, and learn are safe. Countless lives have been saved because of the building safety codes adopted and enforced by local and state agencies. We ask everyone to consider projects to improve building safety at home and in their community, and to recognize the local building safety and fire prevention officials and the important role that they play in public safety, everyday and in times of disaster. Building safety and fire prevention officials are at work year round to guide the safe construction of buildings.

Charlie Crist  
State of Florida Governor

Building Department  
Will be closed  
May 26, 2008  
(Memorial Day)



and  
July 4, 2008  
(Independence Day)

## ***Building Department***

Summer is fast approaching and the Snow Birds are leaving, this is generally a time of slowdown but how much slower can you get with today's market. This is an excellent time to catch up on any unfinished work and or open permits that may be outstanding.

Hendry County is dedicated to providing customer service that exceeds your expectations and to keeping appropriately staffed for the tasks at hand, Hendry County Building Licensing and Code Enforcement has adjusted to the current financial and permitting conditions, but rest assured our level of customer service will not be affected.

New Legislation on Carbon Monoxide Detectors is included in this news letter please read that section. Florida has adopted new Florida Building Codes and will be effective October 1, 2008 what that means is any permit APPLIED for on or after that date must comply with the 2007 Florida Building Codes. A link to view the final draft is <http://www2.iccsafe.org/states/Florida2007FinalDraft/>

As a reminder permits are required for all construction in Hendry County there are of course exceptions and please call the Building Official for a determination if a permit is required, assuming does not favor anyone.

On that same note a reminder that all construction work in the State of Florida must be done by an appropriately licensed Contractor and again there are exceptions and basically that is for homeowners who live in the home. Please call for any clarification you may need as I am always available.

With one very productive meeting between interested Licensed Contractors and Building Licensing and Code Enforcement personnel at an open discussion forum, another is planned, this is an opportunity to have an open discourse about things that effect us both and can be very productive. I have found Hendry County a great place to work and live and together it will always remain so.

Thank You  
Bob Bott  
Building Official



Remodel/Renovate  
Permit



Roofing Permit



IMPACT FEES FOR HENDRY COUNTY  
HAVE BEEN SUSPENDED AS OF  
1/09/2008

---

## Contractors Corner

### Construction Licensing Board

Hendry County Construction Licensing Board (CLB) holds a meeting once a month at the County Commissioners Chambers in LaBelle. Meetings begin at 6:00 pm and are open to the public.

May 22, 2008  
June 19, 2008  
July 24, 2008

(Meetings are generally held on the 4th Thursday of the month, unless otherwise noted. (Ex: June 2008))

Our current board members are:

- ◆ Chairman - Richard Yoraschek a certified plumbing contractor of LaBelle Plumbing, Inc
- ◆ Vice Chairman - Daryl Cox a certified AC and Electrical Contractor of Cox Air Conditioning & Electric, Inc.
- ◆ Construction Member - Ronald Revels a certified roofing contractor of Revels Roofing, Inc.
- ◆ Construction Member - Lonnie Howard an engineer of Johnson Engineering
- ◆ Construction Member - William Smith a certified electrical contractor of K & B Pump, Inc.
- ◆ Consumer Member - Bill Neville
- ◆ Consumer Member - Kathleen Stanley-Lynn

There are currently two vacancies on the board. One vacancy requires a licensed general, building, or residential contractors license, or a sheet metal contractor, or pool contractor. We also have a consumer member vacancy. If you are interested please submit a letter of interest and resume to the Hendry County Building Department (P.O. 2340 LaBelle, FL 33975).

### New Contractors approved by CLB

January Meeting:

- \* Luna Carpentry LLC - Daniel Luna -Roofing Contractor
- \* Pro-Glaze Glass & Mirrors - Mark Wisdom - Glass & Glazing Contractors
- \* Ken Bunting Carpentry - Russell Bunting - Carpentry Contractor
- \* Griffin & Kampman Air and Electric Services, Inc Brian Kampman - Electrical Contractor
- \* Blake Brothers Contractors Inc—Gordon Blake Drywall Contractor
- \* Tri Tec Painting & Waterproofing - Charles Dickson - Painting Contractor
- \* Dakota Landscaping & Design - Richard Hutto Irrigation Sprinkler Contractor
- \* Xcel Painting Inc -Gretchen Sax -Painting Contactor

- \* Painting By Stokers -Tammy White - Painting Contractor

February Meeting:

- \* Madux, Inc - Derek Adams -Concrete Form/Place Contractor
- \* Southwest Florida Concrete, LLC -Allen Boone Concrete Form/Place Contractor
- \* Central Florida Insulation, Inc -David Maddox Insulation Contractor
- \* Gateswork, Inc - Robert Unger - Fence Contractor
- \* David Antini Electric Inc -David Antini - Electrical Contractor

March Meeting:

- \* Danny Luna (Individual) - Danny Luna - Aluminum Specialty Contractor
- \* James Shockley Electrical Services Inc - James Shockley - Electrical Contractor

April Meeting:

- \* Diaz Asphalt, LLC - Omar Diaz & Pedro Diaz – Asphalt Sealing & Coating Contractor
- \* Heinkel Plastering, Inc. - Douglas Heinkel - Plastering / Stucco Contractor
- \* A & H Lawn Services and landscaping, Inc. – Marcus Jones - Excavation Contractor
- \* Abash Enterprises, Inc. - James McCarthy - Demolition Contractor

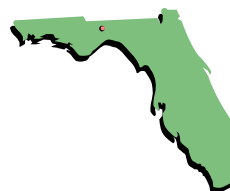
## NOTICE

### State Registered Contractors

As of **May 1, 2008** the County will no longer issue certificates of competency to contractors in trades for which State Certification is available. In order to work in Hendry County you will need to obtain State Certification.

However, if you are an existing State Registered Contractor you will need to keep your contractors license active in order to continue to work in Hendry County.

*Stacy Pate*  
*Staff Assistant III*



# Permitting

<u>Department Activity Report</u> February 2008		
<b>BUILDING PERMITS</b>		
<u>Permits Issued (Type)</u>	<u>#Issued</u>	<u>Valuation of Work</u>
Commercial (demolition)	1	\$ 6,600.00
Commercial (electrical)	1	.00
Commercial (fence)	1	.00
Industrial (remodel renovate)	1	29,200.00
Single-family	11	1,774,188.00
Multi-family	0	.00
Modular unit	0	.00
Mobile home	8	72,022.88
Miscellaneous	94	\$ 405,561.64
<b>Total Permits Issued</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>\$ 2,287,572.15</b>
<b>Total Applications Received 106</b>		

<u>Department Activity Report</u> March 2008		
<b>BUILDING PERMITS</b>		
<u>Permits Issued (Type)</u>	<u>#Issued</u>	<u>Valuation of Work</u>
Commercial (demolition)	1	\$ .00
Commercial (remodel renovate)	2	3,750.00
Industrial (electrical)	1	.00
Single-family	8	1,385,362.27
Multi-family	0	.00
Modular unit	0	.00
Mobile home	4	14,160.00
Miscellaneous	92	\$ 645,221.75
<b>Total Permits Issued</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>\$ 2,048,494.02</b>
<b>Total Applications Received 127</b>		

## Meet the Permitting Staff

Let me introduce you to everyone at the Hendry County Building Department who assist with your permitting needs. In the LaBelle office you will meet Norm Cooper, Kelly Anders, and Stacy Pate, our Staff Assistants, and me, the permitting supervisor. Norm and Kelly are the newest additions to our Department. Norm will usually be the one up front to greet and assist as you come in. Norm has valuable background experience from working in the building industry, and puts it to good use as part of our permitting staff. Kelly also has valuable background experience having worked with an architect, designing and drawing plans. Kelly is experienced with media and publications. She is the designer of our "Community Buzz" newsletter. Stacy works primarily with contractor licensing, which in itself is a full-time job. She is responsible for keeping track of all contractors licensed and working in Hendry County. She also works with contractors wishing to go before the Contractor Licensing Board. Stacy collects and verifies all data required for each contractor's packet to be assembled and presented before the CLB monthly for approval. Stacy has been with the Building Department just over one year. I am the Development Services Supervisor over the permitting department, overseeing the permitting staff and working to answer questions from the public pertaining to their permits. I also work with our Building Official, Bob Bott, as an administrative assistant. I have been with the Building Department for almost 1 ½ years.

In the Clewiston office we are down to just one outstanding Staff Assistant, Yesenia Ramos. Kelly Dyess, who was the other Staff Assistant at the

Clewiston office, recently interviewed, was chosen, and accepted a position with Emergency Management. Kelly is now traveling each day to LaBelle for her new position. We wish her the best in her new job. Yesi, as always, is still working the front counter at the Clewiston sub-office, accepting permit applications, and issuing permits that have been approved.

*Michele Williams*  
Development Services Supervisor

## The Permitting Process

We all work daily to make the permitting process as easy as possible. We find that one of the main questions is: "**Do I need a permit?**" This type of question is generally easy to answer by one of the permitting staff. We would like to encourage the public to ask this question **before** starting any new project.

There is no question that a permit is required for new commercial or residential construction, and also for the installation of a mobile home. These basic permit types are not surprising to anyone. There are however, other types of projects that require permits. Some of these would be **for example:** fences, slab/foundations, site-built utility buildings, pre-fab utility buildings, pole barns, gazebos, pools, electric service turn-ons and change-outs, re-roofs, additions, and remodel/renovations. If you are not sure **if** you need a permit or **what** to bring when applying for a permit, just call the office at (863) 675-5245, LaBelle, or (863) 983-1463, Clewiston. We will be more than happy to be of assistance.

Permit applications are available at both our Labelle and Clewiston locations, as well as online. The web site is *hendryfla.net*. When you go to *hendryfla.net* you will be at the home page for Hendry County. You will click on *Agencies and Departments*, which will take you to a listing of all departments. Next you will click on *Building/Code Enforcement*. On the page that opens you will click on *Forms*. Under *Forms* you will find the applications. If you have any questions, again, please call one of our offices. We will be glad to walk you through the procedure.

Another part of the permit process, which can be extremely important, is knowing the zoning specifications for the property involved. This information, along with much more, can be found in the Hendry County Ordinances. These ordinances can be found online for your review, or you may call either office for zoning information. The online address is *municode.com*. This address takes you to all the ordinances for all the municipalities. On the main page under *municode.com* you will click on *Online Library*, found near the top of the page. At the next page you will click on the state of Florida on the map. The next page will list the Florida counties and you will click on *Hendry County*. This brings you to *Hendry County Code of Ordinances*, a free online link. A left click will bring you to our Code of Ordinances with a directory on the left side of the page. The chapters most often used by our permitting department are: *1-53 Zoning; 1-55 National Resource Protection (flood zone information); 1-56 Signs; 1-58 Buildings and Building Regulations*. All of the municode information is valuable and the online version is constantly being updated.

The zoning for the property that you own, or are thinking of buying tells you many things. The zoning designation identifies what the property can be used for, and defines the minimum lot size and setback requirements. This type of zoning information can be most helpful when you are considering building of any kind and you should always feel free to call our offices for help if you have a question about your zoning.

- A-1 Agriculture Conservation
- A-2 General Agriculture
- A-3 Agriculture Transitional



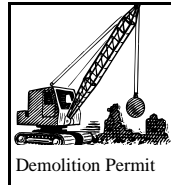
- RR Rural Residential
- RRF Rural Residential Farming
- RG-1 Residential
- RG-1M Residential / Mobile Home



- RG-2 Residential
- RG-2M Residential / Mobile Home
- RG-3 Residential
- RG-3M Residential / Mobile Home
- RG-4 Residential / Miltifamily

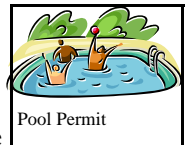


- C-1 Neighborhood Commercial
- C-2 Highway Commercial
- C-3 General Commercial
- I-1 Limited Industrial
- I-2 General Industrial
- PUD Planned Unit Development



**For example:** A piece of property in Montura that is zoned RR (Residential/Rural Development) must have a minimum lot size of 1 acre, front setback of 40 ft., side setbacks of 15 ft., and back setback of 25 ft. In addition no residential accessory uses and structures shall be permitted unless a principal/primary structure (residence) has been established.

You have now checked your zoning, decided what type of construction project you are going to undertake, and filled out your permit application. You will notice that there is a checklist with your permit application. Be sure to check what you need to bring in with you when you submit your application. Simple permits like fences require less information than a new residential or commercial building. We will be glad to assist you if you have questions about what to bring.



Once your permit application has been submitted complete it will be entered into our system and given a permit number. This is the number you will use when calling in for inspections. This number makes it easier to identify your permit quickly. After all your information has been entered, the simpler permits not requiring plan review, will be worked quickly, and you will be notified that your permit is ready to be issued. More complex permits will need to go through plan review and be approved before they can be issued, but they also move quickly, barring any complications.



Once your permit fees have been paid and your permit has been issued, you must be sure to have your permit card and permit package visible and available at the job site for the inspectors.... and **don't forget** that you need to call in for inspections, even for those simple permits. Be sure to inform us of any special instructions, contact numbers, etc. and be aware that some inspections require the homeowner or contractor to be present

for the inspection. **For example:** inspections on property that is gated with livestock or dogs loose on the property. When all your inspections have passed and your project is complete you may be issued a Certificate of Completion or in the case of a new residence, a Certificate of Occupancy.

**Congratulations Now you are ready for another project!!**



Mike Pietrangelo  
(Electrical Inspector)  
and Norm Cooper  
(LaBelle Office)

## Education & Workshops



The Bureau of Mobile Home Construction held an Installer Licensing workshop on April 15th, 2008. Approximately 25-30 people attended, 7 from the Building Department. This class was very informative and gave a lot of insight to those who attended.

Bob Bott (Building Official)  
Travis Reese (City of Clewiston Building Official) (Foreground)  
Stacy Pate & Pate Delance in (Background)



Yesenia Ramos & David Abney  
(Clewiston Office)

## New Legislation

### **9B-3.0472 Carbon Monoxide Protection**

1. Definitions: For purposes of this rule, the following definitions shall apply:

A) **Carbon Monoxide Alarm.** A device for the purpose of detecting carbon monoxide, that produces a distinct audible alarm, and is listed or labeled with the appropriate standard, either ANSI/UL 2034-96, Standard for Single and Multiple Station CO Alarms, incorporated herein by reference, or UL its 2075-04, Gas and Vapor Detector Sensor, incorporated herein by reference, in accordance with its application. Both documents may be obtained by writing to:

*Codes and Standards Section, Department of  
Community Affairs,  
2555 Shumard Oak Blvd.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100*

B) **Fossil Fuel.** Coal, kerosene, oil, fuel gases, or other petroleum or hydrocarbon product that emits carbon monoxide as a by-product of

combustion.

2. Every building for which a permit for new construction is issued on or after 7/1/08 and having a fossil-fuel-burning heater or appliance, a fireplace, or an attached garage shall have an operational carbon monoxide alarm installed within 10 feet of each room used for sleeping purposes.
3. In new construction, alarms shall receive their primary power from the building wiring when such wiring is served from local power utility. Such alarms shall have battery backup.
4. Combination smoke/carbon monoxide alarms shall be listed or labeled by a Nationally recognized Testing Laboratory.

# Code Enforcement

Hello and good day to all. Code Enforcement has had some recent changes that we would like to share with you. Our previous newsletter informed you that our hours were Monday through Saturday 8:00AM to 5:00PM, we will be keeping those hours by rotating our current staff. We are currently staffed with 4 officers, plus the code enforcement supervisor. Two of our officers have just received certifications with F. A.C.E (Florida Association of Code Enforcement).

With that being said we would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Wanda Rota for receiving her Level 1 Code Enforcement Certification and David Abney for receiving his Level II Code Enforcement Certification. Currently we have two officers that have all three certifications. Every code enforcement staff member has his or her Level I certification. These classes are given by F.A.C.E and help train staff on Florida Statute 162, which gives the procedures for code enforcement for the state of Florida. We have county ordinances that we have to insist on throughout the county, but Florida Statute 162 dictates procedure. We would like to take this opportunity to inform the county's constituents on some of the counties ordinance.



**Did you know that a recreational vehicle cannot be used as a temporary or permanent residence? The ordinance states the following:**

1-53-6.2. *Nonallowable residential units.*

(a) No recreational vehicle, boat, bus, shed or other similar thing shall be used as a permanent residence. A vehicle which is not designed as such shall not be used as a temporary or permanent residence.

(b) No mobile home, recreational vehicle, bus, or other similar vehicle shall be used as an office, storage facility, shed, workshop, or shelter for livestock or pets.

Also the following exert from the ordinance states:

(4) No motor vehicles, travel trailers, hauling trailers, boat trailers, etc., shall be parked in a residential zoning district without a primary residence on the property, meaning in a residential zoning district you are required to have a primary residence before you can park a motor vehicle, travel trailer, and other items.

**We have recently received a lot of questions regarding mobile homes as well. Hendry County is a Wind Zone III designation that means a mobile home that is not design to withstand 110mph winds may not be set up in the county.** This is a directive from the state Technical Advisory MH04-01. "Technical Advisory MH04-01 does not apply to the re-sitting of manufactured/mobile homes that are involuntarily relocated pursuant to Chapter 723, Florida Statutes, nor should it be applied to any involuntary relocation of a home due to a manufactured/mobile home park closing, or when the park/site has been declared no longer suitable for sitting of manufactured/mobile homes by a government agency. Any home that is involuntarily relocated can be re-sited within the wind zone in which it is currently sited or in a lesser wind zone. Copies of the technical advisory are available in our office.

## Watering Restrictions

We know that everyone has heard the news that the watering restrictions have been lifted. We have contacted SFWMD to confirm this information. SFWMD has informed our department that portions of Hendry County are still currently on Phase III watering restrictions (On properties less than 5 acres you may water one day a week from either 4:00 AM to 8:00 AM or 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM (but NOT during both time periods). The days are Monday for odd numbered addresses and Thursday for even numbered addresses. More than 5 acres you may water on the same days noted, but your time frame is extended, choose either 12:00 AM to 8:00 AM or 4:00 PM to 11:59 PM). SFWMD will get a definitive answer to inform us what portions have changed to Phase II, but until they get the answer they recommend that everyone in the county stay under the Phase III restriction. Should you have any questions please contact our office.

We look forward to the next newsletter and keeping the county informed of any changes that may come your way.

*Myra Johnson/Code Enforcement Supervisor*



# Electrical

## General Guidelines For Smoke Detectors

1. Smoke detectors shall be located outside each separate sleeping area, in immediate vicinity of the bedrooms. REF: Nat. Fire Codes-(2-1.1-1)CABO-(R216).
2. Smoke detectors shall be located in each sleeping area.
3. Smoke detectors shall be located on each additional story of the family living unit, (head of stairs) including basement. Nat Fire Code-(2-1.1-1)CABO-(R216).
4. Each smoke detector shall be clearly audible in all bedrooms, over background noise levels, with all intervening doors closed. Nat Fire Codes (2-1.1.2)
5. For electrically powered detectors, an A.C. primary power source shall be utilized in all new construction.
6. In existing households, AC primary power is preferred, however where such is not practical, a monitored battery primary power is permitted. (3-1.1.1)
7. Smoke detectors shall not be installed on G.F.I. circuits (Firex Owners Manual)
8. Detectors located- flat ceiling- no less than 4" for a sidewall to the nearest edge of detector.
9. Detector location- wall mount- between 4" and 12" down from ceiling to top edge of detector.
10. Detector location- cathedral- (peaked) no less than 4" from ceiling- no more than 36" from peak (high side) measured horizontally. Nat Fire Codes (4.3.8)
11. Where forced ventilation is present, detectors shall not be

located where air from supply diffusers could dilute smoke before it reaches detector. Nat Fire Codes (4.4.1). Do not install detectors within 36" of heating or cooling supply and return vents Firex Owners Manual.



12. Do not install detectors in an area where particles of combustion are normally present, such as kitchens, automobile garages, unless the detector has a false alarm control feature. Nat Fire Codes (4.5.1.5).
13. Do not install detectors within 36" of a fluorescent light fixture Firex Owners Manual.
14. Smoke detectors shall not be installed in areas where the normal ambient temperature is likely to exceed 100 degrees F. or fall below 32 degrees F. unless specifically listed for these installations. Nat Fire Codes (4.5.1.4)
15. Install detectors in both rooms (areas) that are divided by a partial wall extending 8" or more, down from ceiling (header). Firex Owners Manual
16. Due to locations of hallways, headers, return and supply air vents etc. additional detectors may be required.
17. Do not install detectors within 36" of the outer edge of paddle fan blades or other moving devices that will dilute smoke or stop smoke from reaching the detector.
18. Install all detectors as per manufactures recommendations.

## !! NEW !!

### 9B-3.0472 Carbon Monoxide Protection.

- ◆ Definitions: For purposes of this rule, the following definitions shall apply:



- (a) CARBON MONOXIDE ALARM. A device for the purpose of detecting carbon monoxide, that produces a distinct audible alarm, and is listed or labeled with the appropriate standard, either ANSI/UL 2034-96, Standard for Single and Multiple Station CO Alarms, incorporated herein by reference, or UL 2075-04, Gas and Vapor Detector Sensor, incorporated herein by reference, in accordance with its application. Both documents may be obtained by writing to: Codes and Standards Section, Department of Community Affairs, 2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2100.

- (b) FOSSIL FUEL. Coal, kerosene, oil, fuel gases, or other petroleum or hydrocarbon product that emits carbon monoxide as a by-product of combustion.

- ◆ Every building for which a permit for new construction is issued on or after 7/1/08 and having a fossil-fuel-burning heater or appliance, a fireplace, or an attached garage shall have an operational carbon monoxide alarm installed within 10 feet of each room used for sleeping purposes.
- ◆ In new Construction, alarms shall receive their primary power from the building wiring when such wiring is served from the local power utility. Such alarms shall have battery

back up.

- ◆ Combination smoke/carbon monoxide alarms shall be listed or labeled by a Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory. Specific Authority 553.885(2) FS. Law Implemented 553.72, 553.73(2), (3),(7),(9), 553.885(2) FS. History-New 11-18-07.

### 210.12 Arc-Fault Circuit-Interrupter Protection

- ◆ Definition: Arc-Fault Circuit-Interrupter: An arc-fault circuit interrupter is a device intended to provide protection from the effects of arc faults by recognizing characteristics unique to arcing and by functioning to de-energize the circuit when an arc fault is detected.
- ◆ Dwelling Unit Bedrooms: All 120-volt, single phase, 15-and 20-ampere branch circuits supplying outlets installed in dwelling unit bedrooms SHALL be protected by a listed arc-fault circuit interrupter, COMBINATION type installed to provide protection of the branch circuit.

Branch/feeder AFCI's shall be permitted to be used to meet the requirements of 210.12(B) until January 1, 2008. Hendry County will require COMBINATION type AFCI's on every building permitted on or after January 1, 2008. Combination AFCI circuit breakers shall be visibly marked Combination AFCI with panel cover installed.

*Mike Pietrangelo*  
*Electrical Inspector*

A Public Information Service provided by  
HENDRY COUNTY BUILDING LICENSING & CODE ENFORCEMENT

POST OFFICE BOX 2340 88 SOUTH MAIN STREET LABELLE, FL 33975 (863) 675-5245 FAX: (863) 675-5319 100 EAST EL PASO AVE - CLEWISTON, FL 33440 - PHONE (863) 983-1463 - FAX: (863) 983-1467