



Clackamas  
Multnomah  
Washington  
COUNTIES

A BCD field office, the Tri-County Service Center administers the minor label program and coordinates forms, processes, and application of code for building programs in Clackamas, Multnomah, & Washington counties.

Tri-County Service Center

123 NE 3rd Ave., Ste. 440  
Portland, OR 97232-2901  
Phone.....(503) 872-6731  
TTY.....(503) 373-1358  
Fax.....(503) 872-6735

Joan Stevens-Schwenger  
..... manager  
E-mail..... Joanie.M.  
Stevens-Schwenger@state.or.us

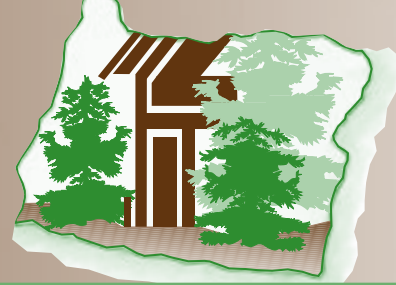


Building Codes Division

Web site ..... www.oregonbcd.org  
Mark Long.....administrator



# News Site



A quarterly newsletter for homebuilders and contractors

March-May 2005

## The Home Builders Association to sponsor March 30 code forum

The Home Builders Association is sponsoring a free forum on one- and two-family structural code issues, 4-7 p.m., Wednesday, March 30 at the Multnomah Board Room in the Multnomah Building, 501 SE Hawthorne, Portland.

Qualified participants may receive three hours of code-related credit from BCD, three hours of HSW credit from AIA or a certificate for three HSW hours, three hours of Master Builder continuing-education credit, or three hours of home-inspector continuing-education credit from CCB.

The purpose of the forum is to discuss regional code applications and reach consensus on standards for the tri-county region. All area contractors, remodelers, architects, and building-department personnel are invited.

### Agenda

- Code update
- Statewide interpretation process and latest interpretations
- Inspector and contractor checklists:
  - Footings, foundations and slabs
  - Underfloor post and beam

## BCD launches new online services: [BuildingPermits.Oregon.gov](http://BuildingPermits.Oregon.gov)

**Note:** Due to the cancellation of the December 15 One- and Two-Family Structural Code Forum, we are reporting on the new development in BCD online services to substitute for the usual forum Q&A.

As part of the Governor's Regulatory Streamlining Initiative, the Building Codes Division is implementing the first stages of a multi-phased statewide electronic permitting system that will eventually allow customers to apply and pay for permits online.

New Web-based services developed for the initial stages of the project are already available at [BuildingPermits.Oregon.gov](http://BuildingPermits.Oregon.gov). Using the site, contractors can:

- Apply for and purchase minor labels.
- Obtain information about purchasing electrical, plumbing, and mechanical permits in the pilot jurisdictions.
- Locate the correct building department for a project by entering an address in the "Address Locator."
- Link to permit forms and contact information in the pilot jurisdictions.

The e-permitting pilot is a collaborative effort of the Building Codes Division and six building departments in the Portland area, including those of Portland, Beaverton, Milwaukie and Hillsboro; and Clackamas and Washington counties. The division is developing and hosting the site.

The second stage of the project, to start in May, will allow users to purchase over-the-counter permits online. Initially, this system will be available exclusively to contractors for purchasing the most common plumbing, electrical, and mechanical permits. Users will be able to go online, complete a permit application, pay by MasterCard or Visa, and request an inspection.

"Currently, [BuildingPermits.Oregon.gov](http://BuildingPermits.Oregon.gov) is helpful for contractors dealing with the frustration of determining which of the many tri-county building departments has jurisdiction over a particular project," said Nathan Phillips, Elec...

Continued...



Clackamas  
Multnomah  
Washington  
COUNTIES

## News Site

Mark your  
calendars for  
2005 Residential  
Structural Code  
Forums

Wednesdays, 4-7 p.m.,  
Multnomah County  
Board Room,  
501 SE Hawthorne St.

March 30  
June 1  
September 22

trical Board chairman. The site gives easy access to permit application forms and information in the jurisdiction.

“This program will be a good proving ground to determine the requirements for the statewide system that is the long term goal,” said BCD Administrator Mark Long.

The long-term plan is to expand the system to include access to permitting in all jurisdictions statewide and eventually bring plan review into the system. The permit site will link to the new licensing system at BCD and other useful functions.

“Piloting these online services in the tri-county region makes sense,” said Long. “Working together, the construction industry and government agencies have instituted many changes to streamline government, lower construction costs, and get the economy moving again, including standardizing forms, fees, and procedures throughout the tri-county area. The next step in reducing the regulatory time for construction is to process the transactions online instead of on paper.”

For more information, contact Joan Stevens-Schwenger, Tri-County Service Center manager, (503)872-6731.

440-2737 (3/05/COM)

## Fast facts for BuildingPermits.Oregon.gov

### Phase 1:

- Minor label e-pay
- Allows contractors to easily apply and pay for selected statewide permits.

### Phase 2:

- Address locator (pilot)
- Use a search function to identify appropriate building department and download permit forms.

### Phase 3:

- Over-the-counter permit (pilot pending; May 1 projected activation)
- Expand pilot to regions around the state allowing contractors to purchase over-the-counter permits and schedule inspections.

### Phase 4:

- Statewide interoperability (planned)
- Expand the pilot to include building departments across the state

### Phase 5:

- Plan review (planned)
- Expand to all permits statewide including electronic submission and approval of building plans.

Tri-County Service Center  
123 NE 3rd Ave., Ste. 440  
Portland, OR 97232-2901

Permits Protect  
Protecting the Safety  
& Value of Your Home  
www.permitsprotect.info

PRSR STD  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
SALEM OR  
PERM NO. 24