METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY



Karl F. Dean Mayor

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Contact: Emily Richard (615) 880-1507 direct (615) 308-2123 cell emily.richard@nashville.gov

HOMEOWNERS CAN APPLY ONLINE FOR FLOOD-RELATED BUILDING PERMITS 50 Percent of All Flood-Damaged Properties are Immediately Eligible for Building Permits, Homeowners are Encouraged to Move Forward with Repairs

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – Today Mayor Karl Dean and Metro Government officials from Codes and Information Technology Services announce an expanded online code permit system created to meet the needs of thousands of homeowners who have been affected by the recent flood. Now owners of flooddamaged one and two-family residential properties located in Davidson County may apply for, receive and print their flood-repair permits online, without having to visit the Codes Department. Affected property owners can learn more and apply online via a link at http://www.nashville.gov/flood.

The recent flood damaged approximately 11,680 Nashville properties, which are now in need of repair. A building permit and building inspections are required for flood damage repairs. Initially, this new online feature is available to homeowners affected by the flood whose properties are not in the floodplain, and those in the floodplain whose properties have been assessed by a Metro Water Services' contractor and their homes were found to have damage worth less than 40 percent of their assessed value. As assessments by Metro Water Services continue, additional homes will be added to the online permit system.

Approximately 5,850 properties, or 50 percent of the total affected by the flood, are located outside of the 100-year floodplain. Owners of these properties are immediately eligible to receive a building permit and are encouraged to move forward with repairs. An easy-to-understand flyer about who is eligible for a building permit is available for download online at http://www.nashville.gov/flood/docs/Building Permit Flyer.pdf.

This new online process for homeowners was achieved through custom modification of Metro's existing computer application (Accela Inc's KIVA), which the Codes Department uses daily to issue permits and process inspections. The online KIVA option is already being used by contractors to apply for permits, saving them visits to the Codes Department. Currently, 70 percent of contractor permits are issued in this manner.

In a typical year, the Department of Codes and Building Safety issues approximately 10,000 building permits as well as approximately 40,000 trade permits associated with the installation of electrical, HVAC and plumbing systems. All the information about the properties within Davidson County and buildings, which have been constructed in Nashville, is maintained through databases shared by several Metro departments including the Tax Assessor and Trustee.

The Codes Department has also enhanced its Interactive Voice Response (IVR) telephone system, which is available to all permit holders when requesting codes inspections. Inspection requests can be made from any touch-tone phone from 6 a.m. through 10 p.m., Monday through Saturday. Instructions for accessing the IVR system are issued with each online permit.