



## Alexandria Department of Code Administration

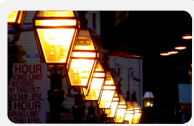
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[www.alexandriava.gov/code](http://www.alexandriava.gov/code)  
"One Team, One City— Our City"



## Code Administration Maintenance Code Division Teams with Transportation and Environmental Services to Inventory Non-Working Street Lights

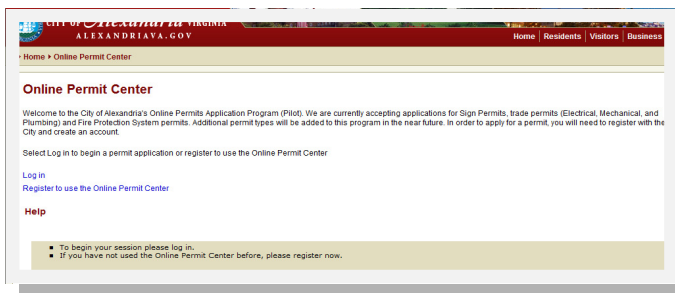
The Code Administrations Maintenance Code Team partnered during February with TES to inventory dark street lights in the city. The issue came to the attention of city staff after Mayor Bill Euille and members of City Council at recent meetings noted the numerous non-working street lights in the city. Rich Bair, Director of TES and his staff put together an aggressive program to identify and report dark street lights to Virginia Power so that they can be repaired. The inventory is complete and repairs made to over 500 of the nearly 800 lights found not to be working, with more work to come in the following months .



Have a street light that needs to be repaired? Report it at <http://request.alexandriava.gov/Portal/> . Select "Street Light Outage Report" when prompted.

## Online Permits and Payments Increasing

Code Administration has been marketing the online application, permit, and payment options available through their web site. The online payment option has steadily increased from 47 in September, the first month that they were available. October realized 56 web based payments; with 73 in November December marked a significant point where 162 electronic payment transactions occurred. The amount of money collected electronically has doubled in the first four months of availability.



Simple permits not requiring multi-agency review and trade permits that have had previous plan reviews can now be applied for, processed, and paid for on-line.

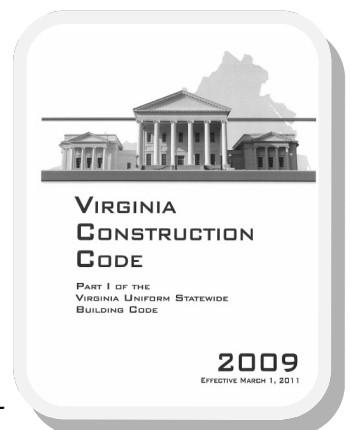
We are working to replace our current permit and inspection software. The new system will have Electronic Plan Submission and Review (EPSR) capabilities. This should make any building permit

eligible for electronic submission, electronic review, and electronic permit processing once EPSR is deployed.

## Use of 2006 Virginia Construction Code Deadline Passes March, 1 2012

February 29, 2012 signaled the last day that plans could be submitted under the 2006 Virginia Construction Code. All plans from March 1, 2012 forward must be designed and reviewed under the 2009 VCC.

*103.2 When applicable to new construction. Construction for which a permit application is submitted to the local building department after the effective date of the 2009 edition of the code shall comply with the provisions of this code, except for permit applications submitted during a one-year period after the effective date of the 2009 edition of the code. The applicant for a permit during such one-year period shall be permitted to choose whether to comply with the provisions of this code or the provisions of the edition of the code in effect immediately prior to the 2009 edition. This provision shall also apply to subsequent amendments to this code based on the effective date of such amendments. In addition, when a permit has been properly issued under a previous edition of this code, this code shall not require changes to the approved construction documents, design or construction of such a building or structure, provided the permit has not been suspended or revoked.*



**Did you know** that the first building code in the United States occurred in Virginia? That's right. Jamestown established the first building code in 1608 to combat roof fires from chimneys.

## Code Administration Staff Complete Education, Certifications and Achievements at Fever Pace in December 2011

Code Administration staff hit the ground running in December and closed the year with a run of new staff certifications and achievements. We want to recognize the following for their hard work and dedication to outstanding, high quality, and professional customer services:

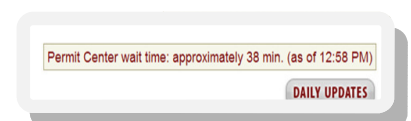


- Inspector Chris Evans obtained his final exams to be promoted to Inspector III and is now certified in all trade areas associated with residential and commercial building construction. In addition, Chris received a degree in Business Administration in December.
- Inspector Mike Christensen obtained his final exams to be promoted to Inspector III and is now certified in all trade areas associated with residential and commercial building construction.
- Supervisor Paul Abernathy passed the Certified Building Official (CBO) Technical Exam
- Supervisor Pete Mensinger passed the Certified Building Official (CBO) Technical Exam
- Inspector Charles Cooper passed the Electrical General (Commercial) Exam
- Plans Examiner Lei Fei recently passed three exams - Plumbing Plans Examiner, Commercial Plumbing Inspector and Residential Plumbing Inspector
- Plans Examiner Paul Sood, Master Code Professional (MCP) attended his first NFPA meeting as an Alternate Member of Code Making Panel-1 (CMP-1) for National Electrical Code 2014 Edition. Paul is a past president of the Southern Section of the International Association of Electrical Inspectors.
- Deputy Director Gregg Fields, CBO is serving his second term as the Virginia Building and Code Officials (VBCOA) Region V Chairman.
- Code Administration Director John Catlett, MCP has been appointed by the International Code Council Board of Directors to the IBC General Code Committee for the 2015 Code Cycle. John has also been selected to co-chair the VBCOA 2012 USBC Administrative Code Change Committee.

## Web Based Customer Services

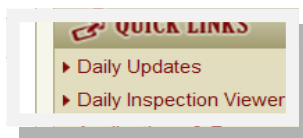
**Online Permits and Payments:** You can now apply for many permits on-line. Simple permits that do not require plans or multi-department approvals can now be processed through our web page. There are some basic steps that need to be followed that will set you up as an account holder, make your permit application, pay for the permit with credit card, and print your permit in the convenience of your home or office .

**Approximate wait times for the Multi-Agency Permit Center** can be viewed on our web page. Check out this and other information on the Code Administration web page [www.alexandriava.gov/code](http://www.alexandriava.gov/code). **Tip:** The best time to avoid long lines is before 11 AM and after 2 PM. Between 11 AM and 2 PM, many customers use their lunch break to come in and our staff rotate through lunch breaks.



**ACCESS** now has the ability to have your **inspection results sent to you by phone, fax or email**. To obtain your complete, most recent inspection results by one of the above methods, follow the prompts provided on the ACCESS system when you schedule the inspection.

The **Daily Inspection Viewer** allows you to check for scheduled inspections, the inspector assigned, and the results when the inspection is complete.



The **Daily Updates** page provides pertinent and current information regarding inspection work loads, plan review schedules, and other statistical information. Our **Monthly Activity Report** is also available through our web page. You can also complete an **On-line Customer Survey** related to your permitting experiences.

Do you want to keep up with schedule changes, training opportunities, plan review results, and customer service enhancements in our office? Code Administration has developed an **Email Notification System** for all customers in our permit database that have provided email addresses. Not in our database yet? Simply send an email with the reference line titled "Add me to the Code Administration Email Notification" at [permit.center@alexandriava.gov](mailto:permit.center@alexandriava.gov).

For more information or to participate in a short educational session on the use any of our on-line services by our Permit Center Staff, contact Permit Center Manager and Division Chief James Hunt at 703.746.4200 or [james.hunt@alexandriava.gov](mailto:james.hunt@alexandriava.gov), or go to [www.alexandriava.gov/code](http://www.alexandriava.gov/code) to access these services today!