

# Community Development e-Newsletter

JANUARY 2008

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## Helpful Links

### [DCD Web Page](#)

*Applications, Documents, Studies, Reports, Maps and more!*

### [The Lee Plan](#)

*As amended through November 2006*

### [Land Development Code](#)

*Codified through Ord. No. 06-25, adopted Nov. 28, 2006. (Supplement No. 8)*

### [What's New](#)

*Information on recent zoning applications received for larger projects*

## Contact Us

<mailto:jlaguardia@leegov.com>

## New flood maps to be effective in September

As a result of appeals, the Federal Emergency Management Agency has revised 76 of 155 new Flood Insurance Rate Map panels proposed for Lee County. With these revisions completed, Lee County must now adopt these new maps and make them effective by September.

This is the first comprehensive review of flood zones throughout Lee County in 22 years. Lee County's map modification is part of FEMA's nationwide updating of flood maps.

Lee County, the city of Sanibel, the town of Fort Myers Beach, and several private parties asked FEMA to change some of the mapping that covers Lee County. The appeals generally reduced the area that FEMA originally placed in flood ways in the proposed maps, which were first distributed locally in July 2006.

To view the new map panels by entering a local street address and to learn more about the flood mapping process, go to <http://www.lee-county.com/dcd/fema.htm>. To obtain pdf versions of all 76 of the revised panels, contact [jlaguardia@leegov.com](mailto:jlaguardia@leegov.com).

## Certificates of Competency renewals due

Contractors doing business in Lee County must renew certificates of competency by March 31, 2008. Through January, the fee for renewal is \$120 for all trade and journeyman certificates and \$130 for general, building and residential contractors. Fees increase \$5 on Feb. 1, and will increase again in March. Make checks payable to the Lee County Board of County Commissioners.

Renewals can be done easily online at <http://www.lee-county.com/dcd/ContractorLicensing.htm>. After payment and insurance verification, you will receive your Competency Certificate by mail.

You will need current certificates of insurance for general liability and for Workers Compensation or exemption.

If your certificate of competency is not renewed or placed on voluntary inactive status by March 31, 2008, it will expire. All expired certificates require re-filing and approval of the Contractor Licensing Board to renew.

## December and annual permit report

Builders in unincorporated Lee County, Bonita Springs and Fort Myers Beach pulled 35 permits for single-family houses in December 2007.

For the year 2007, permits were pulled for 2,393 single-family houses and permits were issued for 1,674 duplex and apartment units.

Commercial permitting was valued at nearly \$12.4 million in December. For all of 2007, commercial permitting was valued at \$551.4 million.

Lee County issued a total of 27,769 building permits of all kinds, which were valued at nearly \$2.3 billion in 2007. For more detailed permit reports, go to <http://www.lee-county.com/dcd/Reports/ReportsMain.htm>

## Upcoming meetings

For a complete calendar of events, go to [http://dcd-calendar.leegov.com/cal\\_popup.php?op=view&id=813&uname=](http://dcd-calendar.leegov.com/cal_popup.php?op=view&id=813&uname=)

## Congratulations

Please join us in congratulating Cathy Cropper of Development Services who was recently recognized for 20 years of service to Lee County.

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*This monthly update is published by the Lee County Department of Community Development to highlight news and trends in planning and development for unincorporated Lee County. For details on these topics and the department, visit our Web site at <http://www.lee-county.com/dcd>. Joan D. LaGuardia, communications manager, [jlaguardia@leegov.com](mailto:jlaguardia@leegov.com) or call (239) 533-8705.*

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