



CITY OF SAINT PAUL
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To: Homeowners Applying for Electrical Permits

From: Electrical Inspection Department

1. A person must own and occupy (or intend to occupy upon completion of the electrical work) a property in order to take out an electrical permit. This does allow someone to wire a new or vacant house under a homeowner's permit **as long as they intend to occupy it on completion of the work** (MN Stat 326B.31, Subd. 23). It is illegal for an owner to install electrical wiring on property that is rented, leased, or occupied by others.
2. After receiving your electrical permit, the inspector must always be called (651-266-9003 between 7:30 & 9:00am Monday-Friday) for an inspection:
 - a. Before covering any new wiring in walls, ceilings or floors with any type of building material (paneling, sheetrock, etc.)
 - b. Before you refill any trench in the ground with electrical conduit or cable in it.
 - c. When the project is completely finished, a final inspection must be done.
3. All electrical devices such as outlets (receptacles) smoke detectors, light fixtures, etc. must have an electrical box installed behind it to which the device is attached. This box must be a factory-made, listed box- no homemade or home-fabricated boxes of any type will be permitted.
4. All splices of wires must be made using an approved connector (Scotchlocks, wirenuts, etc.) inside the electrical box.
5. By Minnesota State Law, electrical permits of \$250 or less are void 12 months after the date of the permit. If the work is not finished and a final inspection passed by the end of that 12 month period, a new permit will have to be obtained for the balance of the work.
6. All permit records are available for inspection by the general public. If you do not get a final inspection approval of your work, that information is available to any interested party, including potential purchasers of your home. We receive many requests for that information from these potential buyers.
7. The Truth-In-Sale-of-Housing Report required for sale of a house indicates whether there are any open permits for your property. This may affect the future sale of your residence.