

Website Update for March 19, 2020

As directed by the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention and leadership, the Bannock County Building Department is implementing social distancing practices to minimize health risks to our community in regards to the COVID-19 pandemic. This includes modifications to the inspection process.

Effective March 20, 2020 Bannock County will no longer be conducting in-person inspections. The County will be utilizing the following process for conducting inspections until further notice;

1. The permit holders or authorized agents should request their inspections via the building inspection request line 24 hours in advance. Inspection requests not received by 3:30 P.M. will not be conducted the next business day and will be scheduled with the following business day.
2. Partial inspections will only be conducted as necessary for the sequence of inspection as approved by the County inspector/building official. The County will not be conducting supplement inspections for consulting at this time.
3. All inspection requests should be very specific as to what is being inspected and at what locations. All construction related to the items being inspected should have previously been reviewed and approved by the design team and building official prior to construction (stamped plans). Unauthorized or incomplete work will constitute a failed inspection.
4. Inspection can be done via FaceTime (preferred). This will require a compatible device from the user requesting the inspection. A cell phone number for the FaceTime inspection should be provided with the inspection request as well as an email address. If you do not have the ability to FaceTime you will be required to video your inspection or take photos and submit the video to our inspector via dropbox or photos to the inspectors email address. The County will allow photo or video inspections to be provided by the permit holder for proof of completeness of required inspections. The submitted photos or videos will be sent to the inspector who responded to the inspection request and results will be held for review for up to twenty four (24) hours before the inspection pass/failure response is provided to the permit holder.

Photos must be clear and accurate depictions of the scope of work under scrutiny. Measurements for clearances or proper distances, elevations, etc. must be depicted with a legible measurement implement (ie: a tape measure) shown in the image. Images will need to include identifiable landmarks or indicators that provide reference to the subject property or project and the precise inspection location. Larger sections or portions of the project being inspected may require a video submission to verify the completeness of the scope of work. You must receive approval from our office before covering work that was inspected.

5. FaceTime inspections will be conducted between 8:00-Noon and from 1:00-3:30 P.M. Please provide a two hour window within these times listed above that you will be available for the inspection. The building inspector will then be in contact (at end of day or first thing in the morning) to try and reduce the two hour window to a shorter time frame and discuss the inspection request. Communication via text may transpire to facilitate coordination efforts.

6. The building inspector will try to make contact up to three times within the time frame agreed upon to try and conduct the inspection. After three failed attempts the inspection will be considered not ready and it will need to be rescheduled via the inspection line.
7. All inspection results will be published and available in viewpoint. A separate message will be texted or sent to the email address provided to the County.

This is a temporary measure under the current extreme situation and is not meant as a substitution for required County inspections under normal circumstances. Any inspections conducted during this period will be recorded as being completed under these terms. Inspections conducted during this period may be somewhat compromised by this method but the Contractor and property owner shall always be responsible for code compliance no matter what the circumstances. If later inspections reveal noncompliance with Code or approved plans or development approvals, failure to so discover during these violations or failures during utilization of abbreviated inspections shall not constitute a waiver of the County's ability to enforce the adopted Codes or the scope of issued permits and approvals. If any portion of the permitted scope of work inspected in this manner comes under future scrutiny or produces any sort of questionable construction or is found defective the County assumes no additional liability beyond what is defined in the currently adopted Building Code and the Contractor carries all normally assumed and assigned liability as defined by Code, Profession and Licensing.

We appreciate everyone's patients and understanding as we work to maintain the integral health of our community with the building life safety of our community. Please feel free to call or contact the Building Official or Building Inspector with any questions or concerns.