



# The Benefits of Building Permits

By reading this, you have already taken the first step toward protecting the outcome and investment value of your construction project. Building Permits are beneficial to you and your community. By working with the Building Department, you will benefit from their knowledge to ensure your project is built right and SAFE.

## WHAT IS A BUILDING PERMIT?

A building permit gives you legal permission to start construction of a project in accordance with approved drawings and local and state codes. A permit also allows the Building Department to protect the occupants and the public by reducing the potential hazards of unsafe construction. By following code requirements, the completed project will meet minimum standards of safety and will be less likely to cause injury to you, your family, and your property.

## WHEN DO YOU NEED A PERMIT?

The best way to find out is to call the Brecksville Building Department at 440-526-2630. Required Permits include, but not limited to; new construction, additions, concrete work, roofs, window and doors, siding, interior alterations, retaining walls, decks, garages, sheds, fences, swimming pools, hot water tank, furnace, air conditioning, landscaping, lawn irrigation and any installation of new electrical, mechanical or plumbing systems.

## THE PERMIT PROCESS

- ✓ **SUBMIT A PERMIT APPLICATION.** This is where you submit the “what, who, where, when and how” of the project. Plans may be required.
- ✓ **REVIEW PROCESS.** Typically within a short period of time, the Building Department will review the plans and determine if the project is in compliance with the state and local requirements. Some projects do require a 10 day wait period prior to issuance of a permit. If the project meets the requirements, a fee is paid, a permit is issued and the project can start.
- ✓ **INSPECTIONS.** On-site inspections are required to confirm the work complies with the approved plans and codes. Projects will have one or more required inspections. Typically a 24 hour notice is required when requesting an inspection.
- ✓ **FINAL APPROVAL.** The Building Department will document and close out the permit once construction is completed, all inspections have been approved and code compliance has been determined.

It takes everyone in a community to keep our homes, offices, schools and other buildings safe for use. Safe construction practices help protect all occupants and their investment. Be sure to get the Brecksville Building Department involved with your project, because the Building Department is an important ally from the start to the finish of the project.