



WEEKLY UPDATE

AUGUST 31 – SEPTEMBER 4, 2020

Message from the Executive Board:

Last week was a very long week for several members whose licenses had expired. It's also been a real long two weeks for our Committee members and Lobbyist, Arthur Goldstein. Thanks to their efforts, the original four members whose licenses expired have now been renewed and are back in business. Unfortunately, two more members expired this past week. We are doing our best to help them get renewed as soon as possible. The MPC will be sending an email to any member set to expire in 2020 to remind them to submit a **complete** application no later than 60 days before their expiration date.

MPC Licensing Committee Comments:

To keep your license active, you must submit a **complete** application no later than 60 days before your expiration date. An application is not complete unless you have checked all of the boxes and the information provided is accurate. It is your responsibility to make sure that all forms are completed accurately. Failure to do so may result in your license expiring.

THINGS YOU SHOULD DO TO GET RENEWED IN TIME

1. Have your completed application ready to go 75 days ahead of your expiration.
2. Do you have a question about a form or what is required? **Contact the Licensing Unit at:**
NYC Department of Buildings - Licensing & Exams Unit
280 Broadway, 1st Floor, New York, NY 10007
Hotline Number: (212) 393-2259 | **Email:** Licensingdob@buildings.nyc.gov
3. Submit your application **no later** than 60 days ahead of your expiration.
4. If you are not renewed 30 days ahead of your expiration contact the Unit.
5. If your application is reviewed and rejected, immediately make the corrections, and resubmit it.
6. If you do not receive a response contact the MPC at licensing@nycmpc.org.



WEEKLY UPDATE

SITE SAFETY TRAINING ANNOUNCEMENT

On Thursday, August 27th, the City Council approved the [legislation](#) that extends the September 1st deadline requiring forty hours of Site Safety Training under Local Law 196 of 2017 to **March 1, 2021**. The DOB expects that the bill will lapse into law on September 26th and is retroactive to September 1st.

As such, the current requirement that workers on sites requiring a DOB-licensed safety professional have thirty hours of sites safety training continues until **March 1, 2021**.

The Department encourages all workers to receive the full forty hours of this potentially life-saving training ASAP, and they will keep us posted on the status of this legislation.

REMINDER: NYC DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS REOPENING GUIDANCE – NYC CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY

DOB Committee Comments: Don't be complacent. The DOB is active in looking for violators and is writing violations.

As a reminder, all active sites must continue to be in compliance with State and City Phase 1 restart requirements. To understand what is expected of your site, please refer to the following:

- [Interim Guidance for Construction Activities During the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency](#)
- [“Do's and Don'ts” Document](#)
- [“What To Know” One-Pager](#).

If upon a visit from NYC Department of Buildings (DOB), a single Phase 1 restart violating condition is observed– your site will be assessed a violation that carries a financial penalty of \$5,000. If your site does not have a [Safety Plan](#) and [State Affirmation](#) conspicuously posted and/or is lacking a proper hand hygiene station, your site will be issued a Stop Work Order in addition to the financial penalty. Continued noncompliance may result in additional summonses with accompanying civil penalties of up to \$10,000 for each offense. If during DOB's visit, **any Construction Code and Electrical Code** non-compliances are observed, Inspectors will take appropriate enforcement actions, including the potential issuance of violations with monetary penalties.

The [Safety Plan](#) you must have on-site should be filled-out completely and posted for all to see. The [Safety Plan's](#) intent is to outline how your workplace will prevent the spread of COVID-19. You should follow [the Safety Plan template](#) located on the State's website, which you can access by clicking [here](#). Your [State Affirmation](#) should be posted as well, you can fill-out your Affirmation by clicking [here](#). All sites must also provide and maintain (at least one) hand hygiene station that is accessible for all personnel. This could include a handwashing station with soap, water, and paper towels, or an alcohol-based hand sanitizer containing 60% or more alcohol for areas where handwashing is not feasible.

If your site is assessed a COVID-19 Stop Work Order, a portal is available in [DOB NOW: Safety](#) to submit a rescind request. Additional information can be found in our [Service Notice](#).



WEEKLY UPDATE

Also please remember as City Employees performing essential regulatory duties, DOB Inspectors and other Field Staff with face coverings who visit construction sites are self-monitoring for any COVID-19 symptoms every day to ensure they do their work safely for themselves and the public. As such, Inspectors and Field Staff are not subject to screening and must be permitted access to a construction site. Failure to provide access will result in the issuance of a Stop Work Order.

For additional information on the Phase 1 re-opening, please visit nyc.gov/buildings. On our Phase-1 re-opening [webpage](#), you will find resources including [DOB's Phase 1 Re-Opening Guidance](#), [FAQs](#), and the [State's Interim Guidelines](#). If you have any questions, please reach out via [email](#).

DOB PROPOSES CHANGES TO BOILER INSPECTIONS TIMELINES IN NEXT CODE REVISION

AC 28-303 & 28-304 REVISED TEXT

Boilers Compliance Inspection Timelines

Device	Inspection Type	Compliance Period	Filing deadline	Extensions	Extension Period	Required Parties for Reports
Boilers	Boilers - Initial	Calendar Year	7 days from inspection date	N	NA	Licensed Insurance Company or LMP or OBI or HPBOE
Boilers	Boilers - AOC	90 days from initial inspection	14 days from correction inspection	2 times	45 days	Licensed Insurance Company or LMP or OBI or HPBOE

MPC Code Committee Comments:

MPC Code Committee members participated in two special meetings with the DOB and other industry groups to discuss the proposed changes. The biggest changes to the requirements are to file the initial report within seven days of the inspection. Although there was a consensus in the industry that seven days is an insufficient amount of time to conduct an inspection and submit it to the DOB, this was not changed to reflect the industries concerns.

This is unrealistic and inconsistent with other periodic inspections like the Periodic Gas Inspection, which provides for up to 60 days to submit the report. Besides boiler inspections these changes also effect the elevator industry. Elevator inspectors will have a much harder time to comply with the proposed regulations.



WEEKLY UPDATE

LL152 UPDATES

Updated August 31, 2020

The AOC list will be sent to membership this week. This list is derived from the DOT training program and it lists possible AOCs you may encounter, as well as what actions should be taken.

The DOB did not specifically approve this list. However, they took no exception to it. Their comment was *“the licensee needs to be using their own judgement to determine its sufficiency”*.

What does that mean? It can mean a lot of things. One thing we can say about these inspections is that they are truly black and white. The job of an inspector is to REPORT. Other, more qualified, persons will DECIDE. The training process and the list of AOCs developed are not all-inclusive, as it would be impossible to make such a list. The training was specific about what to do if you come across something that is not “on the list”. You report it. The list can be used as a guideline for you to do an inspection. It can be filled out and saved for future reference.

We submitted a follow-up list of questions to the DOB last week and anticipate receiving final responses this week. Once we receive them, we will send the information to membership.

SURVEY: The MPC is considering creating a LL152 inspection training course. This course would be provided at a cost to membership. The course would review all of the inspector requirements for conducting the inspections, identification, and reporting of AOCs and completing the paperwork. Please fill out the survey below to express your interest in this course.

[Click here](#) to complete the survey.

Message from the DOB Committee:

Members have been contacting us about unqualified persons advertising to conduct these inspections, as well as plumbers who have been advertising extremely low priced inspections. Please send any literature you come across that meets this criteria to office@nycmpc.org

WARNING: Any DOT 86/87 **active** qualified operator is **required** to conduct these inspections according to the NYS inspection protocols. To conduct these inspections, the inspector **must** be either a DOT 86/87 **active** qualified operator to conduct these inspections or a NYC licensed Master Plumber.



WEEKLY UPDATE

INSPECTION WAIT TIMES – PLAN AHEAD

Updated August 31, 2020

Members have alerted us that they are experiencing long wait times for plumbing inspections. [Click here](#) for the DOB NOW Inspection page and click **Inspection Service Levels** for the current service levels.

The MPC was told that inspection times should start to shorten in the next couple of weeks. If you are finding that you are outside of these wait times, please let us know by emailing dob@nycmpc.org.

Coming soon: Survey on the DOB Development Inspections

How to Apply for a DEP Water Meter Permit or Break Seal Permit via Email

(Updated 08-31-20)

Message from the DEP (08-28-20):

Master Plumbers Council,

Please advise your members that bringing permit applications to any of our Borough Offices will not shorten DEP's review process. All applications are handled as they are received. Those coming in through the email account will be handled in date order with consideration of what has been received by mail and in person (also in date order). We also continue to receive repeated requests for updates (especially through email) that slows down our process and causes further delays. At this time we are issuing permits within 10 business days. We aim to improve this turnaround, but without the cooperation of our customers and having to abide by strict COVID-19 office requirements, our turnaround time will only increase.

Thank you for understanding.

Message from the DEP Committee:

PLEASE PAY ATTENTION

The DEP has bent over backwards to help you obtain water meter permits. Please follow the required procedures. When this process started, permits were issued within 2 - 3 business days. If applicants follow the protocols, we are certain that they could be issued in under a week.

[Click here to view the DEP Email Permit Application Procedure.](#)

If you have an issue with the process, please contact us at dep@nycmpc.org



WEEKLY UPDATE

1. Submit your application.
2. Pay the required fees (it takes 2-3 days to process)
3. Allow for 10 business days to process the application.
4. Only contact the DEP on day 11 after the submission of your application.
5. Only use the queenspermits@dep.nyc.gov email, unless you are contacted from a staff person with a specific issue.

Email submission is a great privilege. Please be considerate and follow the required protocols. Your cooperation will help alleviate some of the backlog and get the systems moving along more quickly.

Also, starting August 24, 2020, returned meter permits will be accepted by mail at each Borough Office locations. Completed meter permits, along with their respective meter tags can be mailed to a **location listed below**. After the permit is accepted, a receipt will be mailed to the plumber's office on file. If you would also like to receive an electronic version of the receipt, which will be faster than mail, please include an email address with your submission.

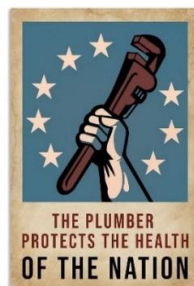
Locations:

- | | | |
|--------------|--|--------------------|
| • Bronx: | 1932 Arthur Ave., 6 th floor | Bronx, NY 10457 |
| • Brooklyn: | 250 Livingston St., 8 th floor | Brooklyn, NY 11201 |
| • Manhattan: | 1250 Broadway, 16 th floor | New York, NY 10001 |
| • Queens: | 96-05 Horace Harding Exp., 1 st floor | Corona, NY 11368 |
| • S.I.: | 60 Bay St., 6 th floor | S.I., NY 10301 |

Other DEP Bureau of Customer Services Updates:

Please be advised that starting August 24, 2020:

- all customer service borough offices are open by appointment only basis. Customers must have an appointment to enter our customer service offices and they must also wear a mask or face covering, as required by New York State.
- all indoor meter inspections have also resumed with protocols implemented to keep both our customers and staff safe during this public health emergency.
- For more information please visit our [website](http://www.nycmpc.org)



STAY SAFE