

VILLAGE OF OWEGO CODE ENFORCEMENT
20 ELM STREET
OWEGO, NY 13827

James S. Mead, Code Enforcement Officer
607-687-1101

The mission of the Department of Code Enforcement is to serve the community by providing for the health, safety, welfare and safety education of the public. The Department encompasses the following areas:

- Building Permits
- Fire/Life Safety Inspections
- Building Permit Inspections
- Common Code Violations

The Code Enforcement Officer coordinates enforcement activities including cases between the Code Enforcement Office, Planning Board, Zoning Board of Appeals, Fire Department, Legal Department and Village Court System.

This office is tasked with the enforcement of the Building Code of New York State, local laws and ordinances dealing with building construction, renovations (interior and exterior) and building demolition and removal. Building permits with a construction cost of \$1,000 or less have the permit fee waived. Regardless if you need a permit or not – ALL CODES must be followed, if you have a question please call 687-1101. Examples of projects that require a permit:

- Any new building
- All additions to existing buildings
- Any change of occupancy
- Any rental property renovations
- Pools capable of holding 24 inches of water
- Sheds 144 square feet and larger
- New decks and porches
- Additions and upgrading to electrical systems, plumbing systems, new heating systems
- New electrical work
- Woods stoves and chimneys

Outside solid fuel heating devices are not allowed in the Village.

Building Inspections are required during each stage of construction to ensure compliance with construction codes and building plans. Inspections are required at the following stages: **IF YOU COVER IT UP PRIOR TO INSPECTION – YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO UNCOVER IT BEFORE A CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY WILL BE ISSUED.**

- Pre inspection of construction
- Footings before backfilling
- Foundation walls before backfilling
- Electrical
- Plumbing
- Framing prior to enclosing
- Heating, ventilation and air conditioning before enclosing
- Insulation before enclosing
- Sewer system before backfilling
- Sprinkler inspection
- Fire protection equipment before enclosing
- Final (Certificate Inspection) upon completion of all other inspections

Inspections should be requested at least three business days before the inspection is needed.

Common Code Violations include:

- Unsafe buildings – structurally unstable or abandoned
- Unsecured buildings – buildings that are abandoned, opened and accessible to children of transients must be boarded up, repaired or demolished
- Lawn and lot maintenance – weeds and grass that is greater than 10 inches in height for a substantial portion of the lot
- Junked or abandoned vehicles – no special use permit applied for or having more than one unlicensed vehicle on a property
- Waste materials and trash – rubbish, trash, garbage and other waste materials must be stored only in proper receptacles