

THE HAMMER

Delaware County Department of Building Safety Quarterly Newsletter



Year to Date Statistics

Single Family Homes:	994
Residential Alterations:	279
Residential Equipment Change Outs:	1,895
Swimming Pools:	163
Decks:	177
Commercial Multi-Family:	22
Commercial Alterations:	118
Commercial Signs:	77
Inspections Performed:	37,062
Residential Plan Reviews Completed:	3,285
Commercial Plan Reviews Completed:	946

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YEAR TO DATE STATISTICS

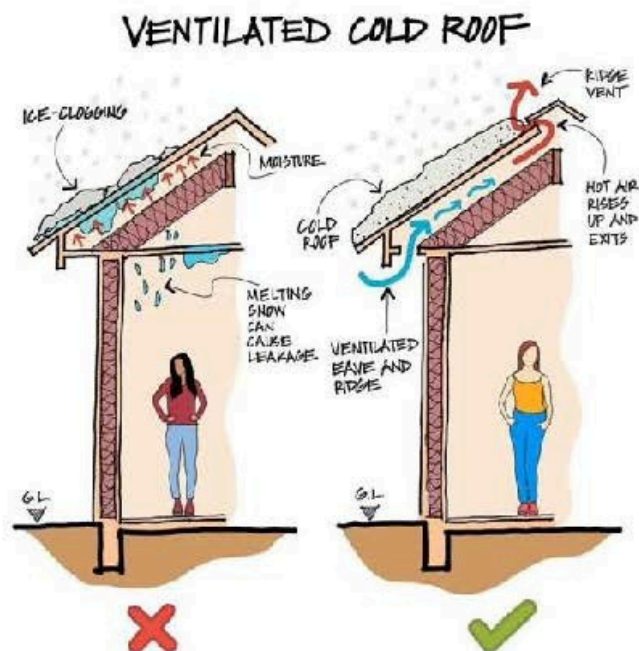
ICE DAMMING PREVENTION

COLD WEATHER & HOLIDAY FIRE SAFETY

UPCOMING HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

ICE DAMMING PREVENTION

PROPERLY INSTALLED ROOFS PREVENTS ICE DAMMING.



806.1 Ventilation required.

Enclosed attics and enclosed rafter spaces formed where ceilings are applied directly to the underside of roof rafters shall have cross ventilation for each separate space by ventilating openings protected against the entrance of rain or snow. Ventilation openings shall have a least dimension of 1/16 inch (1.6 mm) minimum and 1/4 inch (6.4 mm) maximum. Ventilation openings having a least dimension larger than 1/4 inch (6.4 mm) shall be provided with corrosion-resistant wire cloth screening, hardware cloth, perforated vinyl or similar material with openings having a least dimension of 1/16 inch (1.6 mm) minimum and 1/4 inch (6.4 mm) maximum. Openings in roof framing members shall conform to the requirements of Section 802.7. Required ventilation openings shall open directly to the outside air and shall be protected to prevent the entry of birds, rodents, snakes and other similar creatures.

903.2 Flashing.

Flashings shall be installed in a manner that prevents moisture from entering the wall and roof through joints in copings, through moisture permeable materials and at intersections with parapet walls and other penetrations through the roof plane.

905.1.2 Ice barriers.

In areas where there has been a history of ice forming along the eaves causing a backup of water as designated in Table 301.2(1), an ice barrier shall be installed for asphalt shingles, metal roof shingles, mineral-surfaced roll roofing, slate and slate-type shingles, wood shingles and wood shakes. The ice barrier shall consist of not fewer than two layers of underlayment cemented together, or a self-adhering polymer-modified bitumen sheet shall be used in place of normal underlayment and extend from the lowest edges of all roof surfaces to a point not less than 24 inches (610 mm) inside the exterior wall line of the building. The 24 inch measurement shall be along the slope of the roof from the point where the projected outside face of the wall intersects the roof deck.

COLD WEATHER AND HOLIDAY FIRE SAFETY

Put a **FREEZE** on Winter Holiday Fires

It's fun to decorate for the winter holidays, but holiday decorations can increase your risk for a home fire. As you deck the halls this season, be fire smart.

 <p>Almost half of the home decoration fires in December are started by candles.</p>	 <p>Think about using battery-operated flameless candles.</p>	 <p>Christmas is the peak day for candle fires.</p>
 <p>Keep candles at least 12 inches away from anything that burns.</p>	 <p>A dry Christmas tree can burn very hot and very fast.</p>	 <p>More than 1 in every 5 Christmas tree fires were caused by a heat source too close to the tree.</p>
 <p>Read manufacturer's instructions for the number of light strands to connect.</p>	 <p>Make sure your tree is at least 3 feet away from heat sources like fireplaces, radiators, space heaters, candles or heat vents. Also, make sure your tree does not block exits.</p>	 <p>Get rid of your tree after Christmas or when it is dry.</p>






For more information on how to prevent winter fires, visit usfa.fema.gov/holiday and nfpa.org/winter.

Put a **FREEZE** on Winter Fires

Did you know? 1 in every 6 home fires and 1 in every 5 home fire deaths involves heating equipment.

As you stay cozy and warm this winter, stay fire smart! Have a qualified professional clean and inspect your chimney and vents **every year**.

Store cooled ashes in a tightly covered metal container and keep it **outside at least 10 feet** from your home and any nearby buildings.








Put a **FREEZE** on Winter Carbon Monoxide Dangers

Did you know? Carbon monoxide (CO) is a gas you cannot see, taste, or smell. It is often called "the invisible killer."

As you stay cozy and warm this winter, stay fire smart! Install and maintain CO alarms inside your home to provide early warning of CO.

Make sure vents for the dryer, furnace, stove and fireplace **are clear** of snow and other debris.



Upcoming Holiday Schedule

Christmas Eve

Wednesday, December 24, 2025

Office Closes at Noon

Christmas Day

Thursday, December 25, 2025

New Years Day

Thursday, January 1, 2026



2026