

Building Inspection Profile

The Building Inspection Department is a division of the Department of Planning and Development. Building Inspection is responsible for inspecting the construction of all new and existing buildings and structures for conformity with approved plans and permits, and for compliance with state and local building code requirements. Inspectors within the division respond to emergency situations and complaints of unsafe structures, working with permits, and neighbors. The division issues occupancy permits for new businesses to occupy existing space as well as for liquor licenses issued by the City Clerks Department. The division also licenses contractors to allow them to perform work in the City of Sheboygan. Plan approval for single family homes and commercial under 5,000 square feet is handled by inspectors in the division.

The electrical inspection division provides structure safety by inspecting electrical and life safety systems to ensure compliance with the adopted codes and regulations.

The plumbing inspection division is responsible for assuring thorough inspections, the proper functioning for installations of drainage, water, gas, and other mechanical systems covered in the codes. Plumbing inspectors also manage the City's Clearwater compliance program to make sure property owners are not discharging their sump pumps into the sanitary sewer system.

The division administers the City's weights and measures program in collaboration with the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture and Consumer Protection agency. Weights and measures relates to the accuracy of all weight and measuring devices used by local businesses, including taxi meters, scales in businesses and gas station pumps.

The code enforcement service investigates complaints of violations of the building, plumbing and electrical and employs abatement procedures to correct code deficiencies. Code enforcement officers also target specific neighborhoods and generate code orders to property owners to comply with local ordinances and the adopted International Property Maintenance Code. Inspectors also handle landlord/tenant issues and complete housing inspections to make sure rentals and single family homes are compliant with current codes.

Projecting signs into the street right-of-way are managed by the Building Inspection division as well as permitting of new signs across the City. The division inspects and issues rooming house permits and sells at cost uniform address numbers.

The division is made up of nine employees, including two permit clerks, one plumbing inspector, one electrical inspector, a housing inspector, two building inspectors and two code enforcement officers. All inspection staff reports to the Director of Planning and Development. The division is located on the first floor of City Hall to better serve the public needs.