

CHENANGO COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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PRESS RELEASE

DATE: May 19, 2020
FROM: Chenango County Health Department
Codes Division

REMINDER TO OBTAIN CONSTRUCTION PERMITS: MAY IS BUILDING SAFETY MONTH

Our region is now in phase one of the New York Forward opening plan. This phase allows for many industries to reopen including Construction, Wholesale trade, Manufacturing, certain Retail, Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting. **The Chenango County Health Department Codes Division** wants to remind builders, contractors, and the public to file their plans to build at this time. Building permits are required for most construction projects. It is important to act now so there is time for plan review and the approval process, ahead of the actual project start date.

If you have started a project early on without a permit or need to obtain one for a new project, please call the **Code Enforcement Office at 337-1796** to schedule an office visit at this time. You must call ahead for an appointment timeslot before enter the building. We are encouraging residents to act now. We understand that it may have been difficult for some customers to obtain a permit application or to acquire information regarding a project due to the restricted access to the building during the COVID-19 pandemic. The office has been acting on applications by mail and answering questions by phone.

May is the 40th Annual **Building Safety Month**, a worldwide campaign presented by the International Code Council, its members and partners to promote building safety. This year's campaign, "*Safer Buildings, Safer Communities, Safer World*," highlights the importance of building codes for providing a strong and resilient built environment, and regularly updated codes that ensure that communities are protected in the face of disasters.

Homes and buildings that are built in compliance with building safety codes are essential to helping communities minimize the risks of death, injury and property damage in the event of a disaster. It is also very important to have officials who enforce the safety codes to make our communities safer and more resilient. Helping individuals and the community plan for events such as hurricanes, floods, tornadoes, wildfires, earthquakes and pandemics can minimize costly damage and save lives. Modern model building codes are crucial to ensuring safety. They also play an important role in protecting our community infrastructure investments.

For more information about the Chenango County Codes Department visit:
www.co.chenango.ny.us/code-enforcement.com

For more information about Building Safety Month 2020 go to:
www.iccsafe.org/advocacy/building-safety-month/2020-about.com

Learn more about Building Safety Month at www.buildingsafetymonth.org or join the conversation on social media using #BuildingSafety365.

Persons with questions or requiring additional information may contact the
Chenango County Health Department at **(607) 337-1660**.

Promoting and protecting health, safety, and the quality of life in Chenango County