

News and Happenings



Use of Coal Tar Pavement Products Banned in the County

County Council Bill 104-15, prohibits the sale and/or use of coal tar paving products in the county for public or private use.

Coal tar sealant is a black liquid sprayed or painted on many asphalt parking lots, residential driveways, and playgrounds to protect and enhance the appearance of the underlying asphalt. Federal, state and local agencies have identified coal tar based pavement sealant as a major source of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon (PAH) contamination and a potential concern for human health and aquatic life. Exposure to PAHs has been linked to an increased risk of lung, skin, bladder, and respiratory cancers.

Storm water run-off from coal

tar sealant pavement also poses a risk to aquatic life. As vehicles drive over pavement sealant the friction from the tires abrades the sealant into small particles. These particles are carried by rain and snow-melt down storm drains and into rivers and streams. The particles can also be blown into the soil by wind, evaporated into the air, or carried into homes on the soles of shoes.

Contractors or property owners found to be in violation of the coal tar pavement products ban will be required to remediate the surface and may be fined up to \$1,000 for the first violation; \$5,000 for the second violation; and \$10,000 for the third or any subsequent violation.

Helpful Hints:

- When buying a pavement product or sealant ask for the Materials Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) to verify the product does not contain coal tar.
- Use asphalt-based latex sealants that are less toxic.
- Construct parking lots and driveways with pervious pavement that does not require sealers.

For more information on coal tar pavement products and a list of alternative products or County Council Bill 104-15 visit: <http://www.aacounty.org/departments/inspections-and-permits/environmental-programs/coal-tar-pavement-ban/>.

Calendar

All County offices will be closed for:



Independence Day
Monday, July 4th

and

Labor Day
Monday, September 5th



JOIN US!

Saturday, September 10th,
10 a.m.—2 p.m.

Preparedness Fair at Marley Station Mall, Parking Lot B

Now Accepting Façade Sign Permits Applications Online!

The Department of Inspections and Permits continues to look for ways to improve our service processes and make applying for and receiving permits as efficient and easy as possible.

We are excited to announce that applying for façade sign permits just got easier and more efficient through our online permitting! Façade sign permit applications may be submitted by visiting the following link: <http://www.aacounty.org/departments/inspections-and-permits/permit-center/online-permit-application-form/index.html>.

For questions or assistance please call 410-222-7730.

County Council Passes Expedited Review Bill

The County Council passed Bill 23-16 establishing a voluntary expedited review program for development plan review that allows third-party review of engineered water and sewer, road, storm drain, stormwater management or grading plans by reviewers certified by the County. The Expedited Review Program aims to accelerate the permit review process for larger scale projects.

The initiative was a recommendation by the Office of Planning and Zoning transition team and will be the second of its kind in the state. Prince George's County also has a similar program.

To ensure that County processes are followed, the County has drafted a manual which establishes guidelines and procedures for the Expedited Review Program.



The Permit Center opens at 10:00 a.m. the first Thursday of every month in order to facilitate monthly training for staff.

SPOTLIGHT ON NEW EMPLOYEES NEW ASSIGNMENTS

During the second quarter of 2016 we are happy to welcome a new employee:

- ◆ Sarah Pfoff as an Office Support Assistant I in the Permit Center

Congratulations to the following employees who recently celebrated their 10 year anniversaries with the county:

- ◆ Kurt Brezina
- ◆ Allen Jones
- ◆ David Woodard

Passage of the FY 2017 Budget will result in the reorganization of some operating units within the Department of Inspections and Permits and the Office of Planning and Zoning to ensure greater efficiency and a smoother work flow.

The Department of Inspections and Permits welcomes the following employees who will transfer from Planning and Zoning effective July, 2016.

- ◆ Brad Bodman, Engineer
- ◆ John Bory, Critical Area Engineer
- ◆ David Braun, Engineer Manager
- ◆ Rania Carriker, Engineer
- ◆ Kirsten Cook, Traffic Analyst
- ◆ Subhash Dhir, Engineer
- ◆ Sarah Fowler, Engineer
- ◆ John Igbinovia, Senior Engineer

- ◆ John Kagiri, Engineer
- ◆ Monet Lea, Engineer
- ◆ Bob Murphy, Engineer
- ◆ Michael Murray, Planner
- ◆ Kathy Shatt, Planning Administrator
- ◆ Roseann Zimmerman, Planner

The Department of Inspections and Permits Code Compliance/Forestry Division has relocated to the 4th floor of 2664 Riva Road. Customers conducting business with the division should continue to report to the 2nd floor reception desk for assistance.

Also effective July, 2016, the Zoning Enforcement Division will transfer to the Office of Planning and Zoning and will be located on the 3rd floor of 2664 Riva Road. We wish our friends and colleagues well in their new department!

Is Your Deck Safe for Summer Fun?

Summer is here! Time for family and friends to gather on the deck for warm-weather fun! Don't forget to inspect your deck for wear that could be hazardous.

Anne Arundel County Inspection Services Division reminds you that it is important to regularly inspect your decks and balconies to help prevent personal injuries and property damage.

Each year hundreds of people are injured as a result of deck failures that may have been avoided simply by performing basic preventive maintenance. Failures also occur because of faulty construction techniques. Always obtain the required permits and inspections from the Department of Inspections and Permits whenever constructing or replacing decks to help ensure your family and guests enjoy your deck without worry of failure or collapse. Use the checklist below as a guide to inspect your deck for possible unsafe conditions.

Tips for deck safety:

1. Check support posts and beams for rot, splitting or abnormal movement.
2. Closely check the attachment points between the deck and the house.
3. Check all fasteners, bolts brackets, etc., for rust and corrosion.
4. Check all guards and rails to be sure they are sturdy and well secured

You can also hire a licensed contractor certified in deck safety evaluations.

For more information go to: http://www.aacounty.org/departments/inspections-and-permits/permit-center/forms-and-publications/Resources/Deck_Guide.pdf.



Annual deck safety inspections can help to ensure this doesn't happen at your next outdoor celebration.

