

# Mechanical News

August 2013

## Questions from contractors

**Question :** Am I required to have fan shut down for static ceiling radiation dampers?

**Answer :** Yes. By the UL 555C listing please see the following information from UL 7.1

Closing reliability of static ceiling dampers and static ceiling air diffusers is evaluated on the basis that air-conditioning and ventilation systems are automatically shut down when a fire occurs as described in the various provisions of the Standard for the installation of Air Conditioning and Ventilating Systems, ANSI/NFPA No. 90A. Therefore, the ratings are applicable to static ceiling dampers and static ceiling air diffusers installed in systems where air movement is effectively stopped at the start of a fire. Closing reliability of dynamic ceiling dampers and dynamic ceiling air diffusers is also evaluated per section 10A. Ratings for dynamic ceiling dampers are also applicable in static systems where air movement is stopped at damper closure.

**Question :** What gauge sheet metal is required for auxiliary drain pans?

**Answer :** Section 307.2.3 requires that sheet steel pans to have a minimum thickness of not less than 24 gauge.

**Question :** What is a proper dryer vent label ?

**Answer :** See the following code section and Commentary

**504.6.5 Length identification.** Where the exhaust duct is concealed within the building construction, the equivalent length of the exhaust duct shall be identified on a permanent label or tag. The label or tag shall be located within 6 feet (1829 mm) of the exhaust duct connection.

❖ A point to consider is the situation that will exist when the original dryer is replaced or the original occupant moves out and the new occupant installs a different dryer. In either case, the replacement dryer might not be compatible with the existing duct length. If the duct system equivalent length is not identified in a conspicuous manner, the new resident will be unaware of the potentially hazardous situation that has been created by the dryer and exhaust mismatch (see Figure 504.6.5). It is assumed that the installer will be aware of the equivalent length of exhaust ducts that are entirely exposed and observable.



Figure 504.6.5  
EXAMPLE OF PERMANENT LABEL OF EQUIVALENT LENGTH

## **Permit information**

Please provide us with accurate permit information including contact information, cross streets and description of work . There are fields on the permit application for all of this information to be provided. By completing all of the appropriate information we can operate more efficiently and help get your job completed quicker. If you should need assistance on completing any of this information please contact me and I will help walk you through the process or go over it with your office staff.

## **Policy for Mechanical Inspections**

Please go over your job and make sure your job is ready for an inspection before the inspection is requested. With the increase in our work loads we are running at least one day behind. We still put the most critical inspections at the front of the work loads. If you have a question for one of the inspectors about a job in their area please call that inspector so we can provide you with great service, if they can not answer the phone please leave them a message and they will return your call before the day is over. Please do not call the inspector just to see what time he will be at your job for the inspection, this only holds the inspector up from getting their job completed in a timely manner because the inspector will have to stop and pull over to take the phone call. The city policy discourages employees from talking on cell phones while operating city owned vehicles.

## **Permit fees**

We recently changed our permit fees. The fee schedules can be viewed on our web site under forms and fees. If you have any questions regarding these changes please give me a call and I will be glad to explain them to you.

## **Contact information**

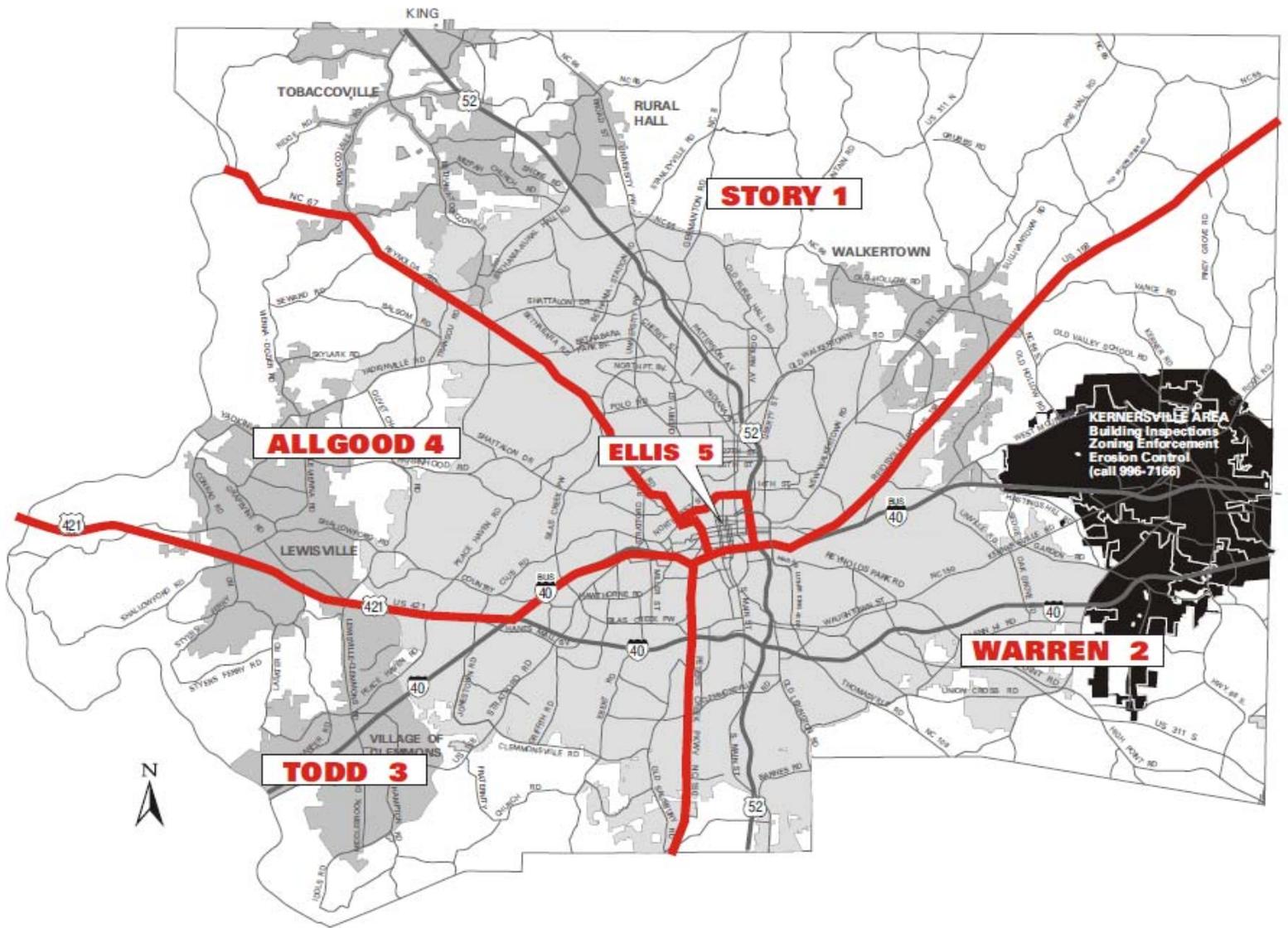
**If you have a occupied dwelling that needs an inspection, please leave us the contact information on the permit and let the owners or tenants know that we will be contacting them to make arrangements to gain access to perform your inspection . Please Do not tell them when we will be there to do the inspection .You can let them know that you have your inspection scheduled and that we will contact them.**

**Thank you**

**If you wish to have your questions included in our monthly newsletter,  
Please send to [alexe@cityofws.org](mailto:alexe@cityofws.org) Alex Ellis Senior Mechanical Inspector 336-727-2382**

CITY OF WINSTON-SALEM Mayor: Allen Joines City Council: Vivian H. Burke, Mayor Pro Tempore, Northeast Ward;  
Denise D. Adams, North Ward; Dan Besse, Southwest Ward; Robert C. Clark, West Ward; Molly Leight, South Ward; Wanda Merschel,  
Northwest Ward; Derwin L. Montgomery, East Ward; James Taylor, Jr., Southeast Ward City Manager: Lee Garrity  
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Richard V. Linville; Walter Marshall; Gloria D. Whisenhunt County Manager: Dudley Watts, Jr.





## Mechanical/Heating Inspector's Work Areas

MECH. / HEATING INSPECTORS	Work Area	Office Phone	Nextel Mobile	Nextel Direct Connect
Alex Ellis (Supr.)	5	747-7462	462-7501	150*1129*30
Jim Story	1	748-3098	462-7498	150*1129*27
Wade Warren	2	734-1394	462-7502	150*1129*31
Shawn Todd	3	727-2387	462-7499	150*1129*28
Troy Allgood	4	747-7431	462-7489	150*1129*18