



COUNTY OF YOLO

Office of the County Administrator

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Building Amnesty Program

(Woodland, CA) – Through the Yolo County Building Amnesty Program, between March 1 and June 1, 2010, owners of property in the unincorporated areas of Yolo County will have the opportunity to apply for building permits through the Yolo County Planning & Public Works Department for buildings, additions, remodels, electrical, plumbing and mechanical work that was not completed with the benefit of permits and the associated inspections. The benefits of obtaining building permits through the Building Amnesty Program include:

- Double building permit penalty fee waived
- Use of the building code that was in effect at the time of construction (typically less restrictive)
- No civil penalties assessed for site development work without permits
- Removal of deed recorded Violation for Non-Compliance on property file
- Assignment of Yolo County Planning & Public Works staff to assist with the application process

“Yolo County’s Building Amnesty Program is aimed at protecting public health, homeowner safety and the environment by encouraging property owners to complete the county’s permit process which ensures that construction and grading activity meet acceptable standards,” said Yolo County Board of Supervisors Chairwoman Helen Thomson.

“Anyone who voluntarily applies through the Building Amnesty Program may have unpermitted construction or occupancy at their property recognized by the county, provided the work and materials comply with all minimum program requirements,” said Yolo County Planning & Public Works Director John Bencomo. “The program also provides for the waiver of all investigative and penalty fees.”

Property owners who secure retroactive permits through this program must still comply with all provisions of Yolo County development regulations, i.e. floodplain, building and fire codes, zoning and improvement standards, and health regulations for septic and well designs. This program is only available for uses allowed within the zoning classification for the parcel. For example, an auto repair shop built illegally in a residential neighborhood would not be able to obtain zoning approvals through this process.

For more information on Yolo County’s Building Amnesty Program, contact Lonell Butler, Chief Building Official, Yolo County Planning & Public Works Department (530) 666-8775 or visit: www.yolocounty.org (go to: Government > Planning & Public Works > Building Inspection Services).

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