

Code Enforcement Corner

by, Richard Sonterre, Code Enforcement Official

The furious chill of winter is behind us as the warmth of spring and summer awaits. And of course, warmer weather means we will begin creating our spring cleaning checklists! While doing so, make sure to keep an eye out for any potential code violations that you may want to include on your to-do list. Here are just a few to look out for this spring:

City Code Section 92.21: building maintenance and appearance

What we generally come across requires homeowners to commit a weekend to patching and painting, or picking up and organizing. You'd be surprised how nice your house looks after that weekend of work is completed. You may also get a thank you from your neighbors.

City Code Section 97.10: address numbers required on buildings

This may seem trivial or unimportant, but if you ask your local firefighter or police officer, having an address that is easily visible really does matter and makes a world of difference. The code lists out what is required for size, along with utilizing contrasting colors to make numbers easily visible. Also, if you do have your address numbers added to a light post, please make sure that vegetation is not blocking them from view. Look at how the address numbers appear from different locations and angles as well.

Permit check

Many home improvement and property improvement projects require a permit. Please do not assume that a permit is not needed. You can call the License and Permit Specialist at 612-782-3301 to verify if a permit is required for your home improvement project. Permits not only ensure the work complies with current building codes, but it also protects your investment in the improvement of your home.

CHECKLIST

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Information available at [savmn.com](http://www.savmn.com)

The City website provides easy-to-access information regarding code requirements. Residents can view a list of common code violations at [savmn.com/CommonCodeViolations](http://www.savmn.com/CommonCodeViolations). For the City's complete Code of Ordinances, go to: <http://www.savmn.com/DocumentCenter/View/66/City-Code-PDF?bidId=1>. Questions or clarifications can be directed to the Code Enforcement Official at 612-782-3438 or the Administrative Services Coordinator at 612-782-3313.■