

RECOMMENDING CONTRACTORS



BUILDING DEPARTMENT

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This handout is intended only as a guide and is based in part on the 2020 Minnesota Residential Code, Big Lake City ordinances, and good building practice. While every attempt has been made to insure the correctness of this handout, no guarantees are made to its accuracy or completeness. Responsibility for compliance with applicable codes and ordinances falls on the owner or contractor. For specific questions regarding code requirements, refer to the applicable codes or contact your local Building Department.

Building Inspections Department employees are often asked to recommend contractors. For many reasons, some of them legal, we must regretfully refrain from this practice.

If you are planning to hire a building contractor and are unsure of whom to hire, the following may be sources of recommendations:

- Local lumberyards and building centers.
- Neighbors, friends and relatives.
- Local builder associations.

Don't hesitate to ask a contractor for references of building owners where they have previously performed work. Then contact the owner to determine if the work was satisfactory. If possible, try to view the work yourself. Residential contractors are required to be licensed by the state. Inquire if the contractor's license is current.

You may also wish to contact Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry - Licensing Division. They can provide information regarding the status of licensing and any complaints where action has been finalized. The Department can be reached at (651) 284-5012 or 1-800-657-3944.