



**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**  
**BUILDING INSPECTION DIVISION**

Chief Inspector Guy Fox  
Electrical Inspector Glen Thompson  
Plumbing Inspector Lydell Weir  
Code Enforcement Officer Ed Gresser  
Clerk Debbie Tabbert

The City of Fond du Lac Building Inspection Division includes a professional team of experienced tradesmen responsible for ensuring compliance with local, state and national building, electrical, plumbing, mechanical and property maintenance codes. In addition, inspectors enforce fuel gas regulations, and zoning and floodplain ordinances.

**CHIEF INSPECTOR** Guy Fox has led the Building Inspection Division since 1994. Guy holds State of Wisconsin certifications in commercial building and heating, and residential building and heating. Prior to the position of Chief Inspector, Guy served as the City's Housing Inspector/ Rehabilitation Specialist and Code Enforcement Officer for six years. Guy began his career with the City with more than fifteen years of experience in residential and commercial construction.

**ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR** Glen Thompson is a State licensed Master Electrician and is certified as a commercial and residential electrical inspector. Glen brought thirteen years of experience as an electrician when he joined the City workforce in 1990 as the City Electrician, followed by the position of Electrical Superintendent from 1993 to 2004.

**PLUMBING INSPECTOR** Lydell Weir is a State licensed Master Plumber and designer of engineering systems. He is certified as a residential heating inspector and as a commercial and residential plumbing inspector. Lydell has worked with the City of Fond du Lac since 1994 as the Plumbing Inspector/Assistant heating Inspector. Lydell began his career with the City with over twenty years of field experience in the plumbing trade.

**CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER** Ed Gresser has been licensed by the State as a Home Inspector for thirteen years. Prior to beginning his employment with the City in 2001 as the Code Enforcement Officer he was an Inspector for the Fond du Lac Housing Authority. Ed holds commercial and residential building and heating certifications.

**CLERK** Debbie Tabbert is a long-time City employee since 1980.

## **BUILDING INSPECTION DIVISION – AN OVERVIEW**

Inspection Services is an essential function of the community and, in fact, a major National Code Council often refers to Inspectors as the “First Protectors”. Every house where someone lives, every store where someone shops, church of worship, place of employment, school, medical clinic or hospital - every building in the community – is inspected for safety before it can be used. It takes a combination of many skilled tradesmen and experienced inspectors to make it all happen.

Inspectors are involved in the construction of a building from the time a hole is dug for a foundation until the final inspection for occupancy. In addition to making inspections in the field, inspectors work with architects, engineers, homeowners and business owners for building remodeling, renovations and additions. Inspectors review plans before permits are issued and routinely interact with contractors and property owners for the best course of action for a particular project. Inspectors also work with citizens, tenants and property owners on a multitude of complaints regarding property appearance and quality of life issues, resolving conflicts to assure that the community is a desirable place in which to live and raise a family.

New homes are only a small piece of the Inspection pie and often the number of permits issued for new buildings are perceived as the measure of productivity. Not true! The bulk of permit activity and inspection duties are largely changes to existing buildings – additions, expansions, renovations, kitchen and bath remodels, garages, decks, parking lots, fences, signs, swimming pools, doors and windows, roofs, gazebos, storage sheds. Each permit reviewed and approved requires a level of expertise to assure compliance with code requirements.



## **THE DOLLARS & CENTS OF BUILDING INSPECTION**

Permit fees cover a large part of the operational cost of the Inspection Division. In 2011 70.5% of the operational cost of the Inspection Division was covered by fees; in 2010 the percentage was 85.4. The remaining costs not covered by fees are largely due to Code Enforcement activities for which no fees are charged, i.e. inspections for property maintenance violations, neighborhood complaints, etc.