



# MNSPECT

HELPING YOU COMPLY WITH THE CODE

235 First Street West • Waconia, MN 55387-1302

## INSPECTION PERSONNEL:

- Scott Qualle, Designated Building Official
- Ty Turnquist, Operations Director, Senior Commercial Plans Examiner
- Dean Mau, Senior Fire Plans Examiner
- Nick Qualle, Senior Residential Plans Examiner/Field Inspector
- Dale Engelmann, Senior Plumbing Plans Examiner/Plumbing Inspector
- Derek Qualle, Rental/Field Inspector
- Steve Maki, Field Inspector
- Tracy Montgomery, Office Manager
- Wendy Morrissey, Administrative Assistant
- Brandy Blauert, Operations Assistant

## INSPECTOR SPOTLIGHT



**STEVE MAKI**

We welcome Steve Maki to our Building Inspection team. Steve has 25+ years (or as he says "lots and lots") of experience in both the construction and the building inspections fields. The best part of being an inspector for Steve is helping homeowners with their projects. Like so many Minnesotans, Steve likes going up north and being outside – which is obvious from the camo jacket he wears! The nice thing to know about Steve is that if you answer the door for an inspection in your pajamas, he won't tell – his response to "What's the weirdest/funniest thing you have ever seen while inspecting?" "That would not be appropriate to talk about here!"

If you have questions regarding this article or have a story idea, please call us at 952-442-7520.

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

City of Silver Lake (22 yrs)  
City of Hampton (6 yrs)

Stay connected with the  
**MNSPECT MINUTE**  
April 2016

## Sediment and Erosion Control (SEC) and Minnesota Waters

No matter what our positions are on environmental issues or local politics, at some point we need to agree to disagree, and just address the issues we are sure of. Both sides will agree that we do not want Minnesota lakes and streams polluted and we don't want to impair our drinking water. In response to a report from the state's Pollution Control Agency that showed half the lakes and streams in southern Minnesota are not safe for fishing or swimming, Governor Mark Dayton has made water quality a top priority. On February 27, 2016, at Minnesota's first water summit, he said, "What we really need is to establish an ethic of clean water practices. I urge you ... to spend today establishing our ethic: that clean water practices are every Minnesotan's responsibility. That anything less is unacceptable. And that it's achievable if all of us do our part."

That leads us to the question: What is our part? There are lots of small things we can all do to keep Minnesota's waters safe from pollution. The following is a list of how pollutants can unintentionally seep into our waters:

- When we think of fertilizers and other chemicals getting into our waters, we tend to blame agricultural practices. However, these toxins can also come from yard maintenance and landscaping projects. We suggest using organic fertilizers, not letting water from a fertilized yard run into streets or lakes, leaving a buffer zone if your lawn is next to a body of water, and keeping clippings out of the street.
- It's nice to have that nasty sump pump water flowing down your drain instead of making your yard swampy and/or mowing around a long drainage pipe. However, this added water not only costs more for the water treatment plant to process, but it also adds unnecessary wear and tear on the treatment processing equipment. Most municipalities have an ordinance against this practice.
- It is good practice to wash your vehicles. That being said, many soaps contain chemicals that can harm fish and other aquatic plants and animals. If you are going to wash your car at home, wash it on the gravel or lawn so that the ground will act as a filter for the water, detergent, dirt, grime, grease and oils. Do not let the dirty, soapy water run down the driveway and into the storm drains.
- If you are doing construction work on your property, use preventative methods such as silt fences, straw bales, and mulch berms to keep dirt from running off your property. Cover any piles of dirt with a tarp to prevent it from washing and/or blowing away.
- Keep your vehicles well-maintained – watch for fluid leaks and repair immediately.
- Clean up pet waste.
- Do not drain your pool or hot tub to a storm drain.
- Use bricks, gravel, stone, and pavers instead of asphalt or concrete when possible.
- Plant native, low maintenance plants and grasses.
- Do not mow into the street – keep clippings out of the storm drain.
- Only rain belongs in the drain – be sure to keep leaves and debris out of the storm drain.

As Governor Dayton reminds us, if we all do our parts we can save our Minnesota waters and not put our clean drinking water supply in jeopardy!

CONGRATULATIONS DEREK QUALLE, LBO – Derek successfully passed the Limited Building Official examination last week!

## CONTRACTOR CONTINUING EDUCATION INFORMATION

Good news: Contractors can now review their continuing education history on DLI's website!

- Visit DLI's online License Lookup at <https://secure.doli.state.mn.us/lookup/licensing>.
- Look up your license or certification by searching for your name or personal license number.
- Click on "Detail" next to your record.
- Click on "View Details" next to the "CE Status" field.
- Enter the last four SSN digits and click, "Submit."
- View all the DLI-approved CE courses that you have taken in the past five years, beginning with the most recent courses.