



MNSPECT

HELPING YOU COMPLY WITH THE CODE

235 First Street West • Waconia, MN 55387-1302

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

Plato – 14 yrs. Mound – 13 yrs.
Douglas Twp. – 6 yrs. Greenvale Twp. – 5 yrs.

HAPPY
NEW YEAR!

Stay connected with the
MNSPECT MINUTE

January 2017

GET MOTIVATED FOR 2017!

- Planning a home improvement to commence this year? New deck, basement finish, addition, or remodel? Get your building plans in now. During our peak months, plan review can take up to ten business days (residential). If you are like most people, when you decide to start a project, you don't want to wait. You have 180 days from issuance to start.
- Is your house ready for the spring thaw? Every spring, the snow melts. We usually get lots of rain, too. Don't wait until the water is leaking in your house to take preventive measures: Get the snow off of your roof and away from your foundation; repair/replace broken or missing gutters; attach an elbow to the bottom end of the downspout, and make sure the extensions run rainwater or melting snow away from your house.
- Feeling a little chilled in your house? It might be time to draft-proof your house. On a cold, windy day, take inventory of drafts. Feel for cold air seeping in through these possible places: windows, key holes, electrical fittings on walls and ceilings, between floor boards, around pipework leading outside, at ceiling-to-wall joints. Caulk or seal any leaks.
- Have the batteries in your smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors been checked lately? It's too cold to go outside, so you might as well take the time to walk through your house pushing buttons on your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. Also, a little-known fact: smoke detectors only have a life expectancy of eight to ten years. Smoke detectors should be located in the following locations: one in each sleeping room, one outside of sleeping rooms (within about ten feet), and one on each level of the home. Carbon monoxide detectors should be located within ten feet of sleeping rooms. CO detectors have a life expectancy of five to six years.
- Is your house feeling cluttered? It seems that "stuff" accumulates slowly and can take over your escape routes. Make sure your halls and walkways are clear, and egress windows do not have furniture or other items blocking them. Your electrical panel should have at least three feet of clear space in front of it. And be sure you do not store combustibles near your gas appliances, such as your furnace and water heater!

If you get started on the above items right now, you might be able to take it easy and enjoy your summer!

MNSPECT is Proud of its Fleet Record!

Highway vehicles release about 1.7 billion tons of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere each year—mostly in the form of carbon dioxide—contributing to global climate change. Each gallon of gasoline you burn creates 20 pounds of greenhouse gases!

A fleet's carbon footprint will vary based on many factors. MNSPECT, alert to its effect on the environment, is proud of its part in minimizing its contribution of greenhouse gases being added into the atmosphere. Collectively, its fleet is tracked as achieving 31.95 MPG per year. Compare that with the average car in the US, which gets 23.41 MPG! The MNSPECT fleet drives about 180,000 miles per year, so correspondingly saves 2055 gallons per year. On average, MNSPECT vehicles use 35% less gas than the average vehicle, preventing 41,100 pounds of greenhouse gases from entering the environment.

Ways you may minimize your carbon footprint from driving include:

✓ Drive a low carbon vehicle and use low-carbon fuel.	✓ Avoid being stuck in traffic.
✓ Combine trips and carpool when you can.	✓ Maintain properly inflated tires and get tune-ups.
✓ Use hitch-mounted racks and remove excess weight from your vehicle.	✓ Avoid speeding and unnecessary acceleration, and use cruise control.

Stay connected! Look for our page on [FACEBOOK](#)
(MNSPECT – A Full-time Building Code Administration Service Provider) or follow us on Twitter (MNSPECT, LLC)!

Questions about a future project? Call us at 952-442-7520 or e-mail us at info@mnspect.com. Be ready to start your spring project – get your plans in for review SOON!

YOUR CODE PROFESSIONALS:

Administrative Personnel:

Scott Qualle, Designated Building Official Ty Turnquist, Operations Director, Senior Commercial Plans Examiner
Kandis Hanson, Relationship Manager Tracy Montgomery, Office Manager

Inspection Personnel

Dale Engelmann Steve Horsman Steve Maki Dean Mau Ermias Mekonnen Derek Qualle Nick Qualle Tracy Reimann

Office Support Personnel

Brandy Blauert Wendy Morrissey Tamara Stuart