

News Release



Planning & Development Services Department
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County Workshops Help Homeowners with Plans and Permits

Experts from Snohomish County's Planning and Development Services Department are going on the road to help residents with their building and remodeling projects.

A series of free weekend workshops throughout March will teach homeowners how to make their building or remodeling projects run more smoothly and pleasantly, particularly the process of obtaining necessary permits. The neighborhood workshops are part of County Executive Aaron Reardon's emphasis on simplifying the permitting process and making County services more accessible and convenient to the public; an effort that has included the introduction of online permitting as well as a complete overhaul of the County's on-campus Customer Assistance Center.

County Planning and Development Services Director Craig Ladiser hopes that the opportunity for citizens to discuss their home improvement projects directly with expert staff in informal workshop settings will help change public perception of the County's regulatory role.

"The permitting process is simply a tool to help homeowners build safe, durable structures that they will enjoy and that will add value to their property," said Ladiser. "Our goal with these workshops is to help people be successful and to enjoy their projects, not to burden them with regulatory requirements," said Ladiser.

Initially, three Saturday morning workshops will be held to serve homeowners in North, East and South unincorporated Snohomish County.

March 4	9:30 – Noon	Snohomish High School Cafeteria
March 11	9:30 – Noon	North Creek Presbyterian Church – Mill Creek
March 18	9:30 – Noon	Stillaguamish Senior Center -- Arlington

Workshop content will include an introductory general presentation followed by three breakout sessions: Property, Plans and Permits. Residents will learn about researching their property, interpreting zoning maps, lot restrictions, requirements for structural plans, when to hire an architect, permit requirements and forms, and considerations for environmental conditions.

Space is limited and reservations are required. Call 425-388-3228 to reserve a seat. Visit www.co.snohomish.wa.us and search for PDSLLatestNews for more information on workshop content, locations, times, etc.

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