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## **Polk County joins BuildingPermits.Oregon.gov**

*Contractors can buy building permits online*

(Salem) — Contractors doing work in Polk County can now buy basic electrical and plumbing permits online at [BuildingPermits.Oregon.gov](http://BuildingPermits.Oregon.gov). The county is joining 35 other jurisdictions throughout the state to offer building permits and other services online.

“We are excited to start offering permit services online through the e-permitting program,” said Autumn Hillebrand, Polk County office manager. “This will help our department better serve the needs of our local and distant contractors by providing them the convenience of applying for permits online 24 hours a day, which will save them time and money. I think a lot of our contractors will also be excited about the convenience of being able to pay for their permits online with a credit card.”

The Department of Consumer and Business Services' Building Codes Division hosts the e-permitting site. Within minutes of completing the permit purchase on the website, the contractor can print an “Authorization to Begin Work,” post it at the work site, and get started on the project. Contractors can apply and pay for multiple permits from multiple jurisdictions in one transaction.

“E-permitting is the next step that Polk County is making to ease the permitting process,” said Michael Schilling of Fowler Homes in Dallas. “Currently we take full advantage of the online applications and web map system, and e-permitting will help us save even more time, fuel, and paper by allowing simple paperless transactions. We look forward to being able to accomplish more with the time saved.”

Polk County is among 27 jurisdictions offering basic permits online. In addition, eight building departments have implemented a “Full Service” e-permitting program, which allows contractors to conduct additional building department activities online, such as submitting plans for review, tracking projects, and buying a full range of permits. Those building departments are Springfield, Lebanon, Jefferson County, Milwaukie, West Linn, Lincoln City, Florence, and Cottage Grove. Twelve others are in the process of joining.

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The Department of Consumer and Business Services is Oregon's largest business regulatory and consumer protection agency. For more information, go to [www.dcbs.oregon.gov](http://www.dcbs.oregon.gov).