

BUILDING DEPARTMENT STATISTICS

The City of Wilmington Building Department in 2010 issued 232 permits with total fees collected of \$23,985.32. Total number of permits and permit fees collected for this year are very close to last year's totals. Forty-seven permits issued were for new building construction, remodels, or additions while the remainder included mechanical, electrical, and fire suppression/protection work, demolition of structures, signs, and certificates of occupancy. This year, the majority of permits, 58%, were for residential projects. The construction value of all projects this year was \$989,315. This is significantly less than last year's total of \$3,788,116 and can be attributed to the reduced number of commercial projects started this year. While the commercial construction activity was low, the valuation of the residential projects was higher than it has been since 2007. There were 4 new single family homes built in the City this year. As for building department inspections, there were 339 building and electrical inspections completed.



One of four new single-family homes built in the City in 2010– Clark Street

The following is a breakdown of building permits issued by purpose in 2010:

<u>Construction Purpose</u>	<u>Permit Tally</u>
New Single Family Home	4
New Multifamily Homes	0
Expand Residential Home	5
Repair/Remodel Residential Home	6
Deck/Porch	12
New Commercial Building	0
Expand Commercial Building	2
Repair/Remodel Commercial Building	8
New Outbuilding	6
Expand Outbuilding	1
Repair/Remodel Outbuilding	0
Utility	3
TOTAL	47

There were no new commercial buildings erected this year, but we did see the remodeling of a few existing commercial spaces for new tenants to occupy. Among these were Cool J's new space in the shopping center near Donatos, the new Shoe Sensation store in the Wilmington Plaza shopping center, and the new Goodwill store in the Meadow Park Plaza shopping center. There were also a few additions to existing commercial buildings: the Equipment Superstore added to the square footage of their office areas, #1 China Buffet added a patio and terrace for customers to enjoy outdoor dining, and the Master Feed Mill expanded their working areas. Other commercial work included the replacement of a roof, stabilization of the Hale Hospital property, remodel of the GamePlay area in Wal-Mart, and the restoration of Blake's Buffet after suffering fire damage earlier this year. The remainder of commercial permits issued were for mechanical, electrical, and fire protection improvements.



Cool J's Salon

Some of the permits issued this year required the granting of a variance from the zoning code. The Board of Zoning Appeals met five times in 2010 to hear requests for variances on seven different projects. Six of the variance requests were granted.