



PERMITGRAM

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Roofing Against Disasters

By Herb Guy and Carl Broadhead

Flash, the newsletter of the Federal Alliance of Safe Homes, is headquartered in Tallahassee, Florida and can be found on the web at www.flash.org. The Spring 2005 edition of *Flash* has outlined ways in which roofs can be installed making them more stable and resistant to hurricane winds. The stability of the roof is critical to sustaining only minor damage in a hurricane.

Ten steps are outlined that can improve the life and strength of a home's roof.

- Consider the shape of the roof. A hipped roof because of its upward slope from all sides is usually more stable than a gabled roof.
- Brace gable ends. Balloon frame construction seems to perform better than platform framing since there is no horizontal plate attached to the top of the end wall. Platform framing requires bracing.
- Secure roof to wall connections, wall to foundation, roof to wall and floor to floor. Add hurricane straps to rafters.
- Reinforce roof decking by installing plywood a minimum of 5/8" thick with nails that reaching into the roof framing.
- Create a second barrier by installing flashing tape over roof deck joints.
- Install roof underlayment.
- Install an impact resistant roof covering, one that has been tested to the latest standards for wind and hail resistance.
- Choose the right roof covering for your location. Gauge whether wind or hail is an important local factor and choose accordingly.
- Increase the wind uplift resistance of the roof by applying a 1/4 inch of wood adhesive along the intersection of the roof, deck and roof support elements on both sides of the beam.
- Perform roof inspections twice a year replacing any worn areas and cleaning roof and gutters of debris from trees.



COAA Award



The Code Officials of Alabama Association has awarded Chapter of the Year status to Code Officials of Lower Alabama. This honor is largely the result of an April conference held in Orange Beach, Alabama that served to provide education and training for local code officials. The continuing commitment to education and training of code officials, contractors, architects, engineers and suppliers will make safer buildings in our communities a reality.

**New Trends in Planning
Notes provided by Terry Plauche**

PLAN REVIEW APPROVALS—MAY2005



“Throughout most of the U.S., suburban sprawl has created a nation that has been supersized beyond walking distance.” States *Time Magazine* writer Richard Lacayo. He joins an ever-stronger public call for better neighborhood design. The article quotes Columbia (Missouri) Mayor Darwin Hindman—an avid biker at 71—who says, Everyone is created to walk. But we have designed our streets to create barriers to an obvious, efficient activity.”

Time Magazine, V.163 N.23 6/7/2004

TYPE	BUILDING	MECHANICAL	ELECTRICAL	PLUMBING	LAND USE	ENGINEERING	FIRE RESCUE	FORESTRY	RIGHT-OF-WAY	TRAFFIC	HISTORIC
# OF PLAN REVIEWS	55	59	39	36	44	17	16	21	11	24	0
# PASSED	35	27	33	19	33	6	11	15	5	17	0
AVERAGE DAYS	3	3	4	5	2	8	8	5	3	4	0
% PASSED	64	46	85	53	75	35	69	71	45	71	0

DID YOU KNOW ?

An appendix of the International Fire Code affects the development of one and two-family residential developments. If more than 30 units are located on a single public or private access way, a secondary fire apparatus access road must be provided. If the houses all have approved residential sprinkler systems, access from two directions will not be required.

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Label