

**CALVERT COUNTY GOVERNMENT  
PERMIT PROCESSES FOR EMERGENCY REPAIRS  
DUE TO HURRICANE IRENE**

Recognizing the hardships created by Hurricane Irene, Calvert County Government is putting in place the simplest permit processes possible for making repairs. This memo is applicable until October 31, 2011.

▪ **Interior/Exterior Structure Repair & Structure Replacement (no expansion).**

Building permits are required for structure replacement and for repairs of structural damages caused by wind, falling trees or floodwater. The permits must include a plot plan. If applicable, electrical and plumbing permits will also be required and must be applied for by licensed contractors. Emergency repairs may be initiated before a permit is obtained, though a permit must be obtained within 24 hours. Take pictures prior to any work being done and include the pictures with the permit application.

Inspections & Permits has instituted a fast-track building permit process on Tuesdays and Thursdays through October 27, 2011, with the goal of giving same day approvals for projects located outside the 100-year floodplain. The fast-track approval process applies only to storm-related repairs and in-kind replacements in the same location. If the structure is in the 100-year floodplain, FEMA floodplain regulations apply, and the process may take longer. In some cases structures may need to be elevated to meet Federal requirements. All work, including emergency repairs, must be inspected. Repairs to engineered components of a structure (i.e. roof and floor trusses) will require a licensed engineer or architect to design and/or certify the repair. A list of design professionals who can perform these services is available at the Inspections & Permits office.

Electrical and plumbing permits will be fast-tracked five days a week for storm related repairs. NO COUNTY PERMIT FEE WILL BE APPLIED FOR STORM RELATED PERMITS.

▪ **Expansion or Relocation.**

Any expansion or relocation of a structure must follow the regular building permit process.

▪ **Simple Deck, Stairs and Board Repairs to Piers and Bulkheads.**

All simple repairs may proceed without County permits.

▪ **Pier and Bulkhead Structural Replacements.**

In-kind replacements of piers, bulkheads and other shoreline erosion control measures may proceed without County permits provided that no trees are removed. Maryland Department of the Environment requires that a notification form be sent to them regarding the replacement at their website at [www.mde.state.md.us](http://www.mde.state.md.us)

▪ **Tree Removal in the Critical Area.**

Trees severely damaged by the storm and those that endanger a person or property may be removed immediately. Photos of the trees should be taken and retained by the property owner for documentation purposes. Other tree removal within the Critical Area requires permit approval.

▪ **Restoring Beach Sand.**

No permits are required to restore beach sand to pre-storm conditions provided that no trees are removed. Tree removal associated with this action must follow the guidelines above.