



# DIVISION OF INDUSTRY SERVICES QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES | SUMMER 2024

## 2% Fire Dues Season Update

The Fire Prevention/Safety & Health Program wrapped up the self-certification and audit season as it relates to the 2% dues program. DIS arranges payments to eligible municipalities based upon results from Municipal Clerk and Fire Chief self-certification submittals for the previous calendar year and in-person audits conducted by DIS Fire Prevention Coordinators. Under [Wis. Stat § 101.575](#), if a city, village, town, or fire department fails to satisfy code requirements, they are issued a notice of non-compliance and provided their 2% dues funds for the calendar year. If compliance is not met within one year of the non-compliance notice, they will not be eligible for 2% dues funds in that year.

### 2% Dues Self-Certifications

Out of the 1,845 municipalities that are eligible for 2% dues funds this year:

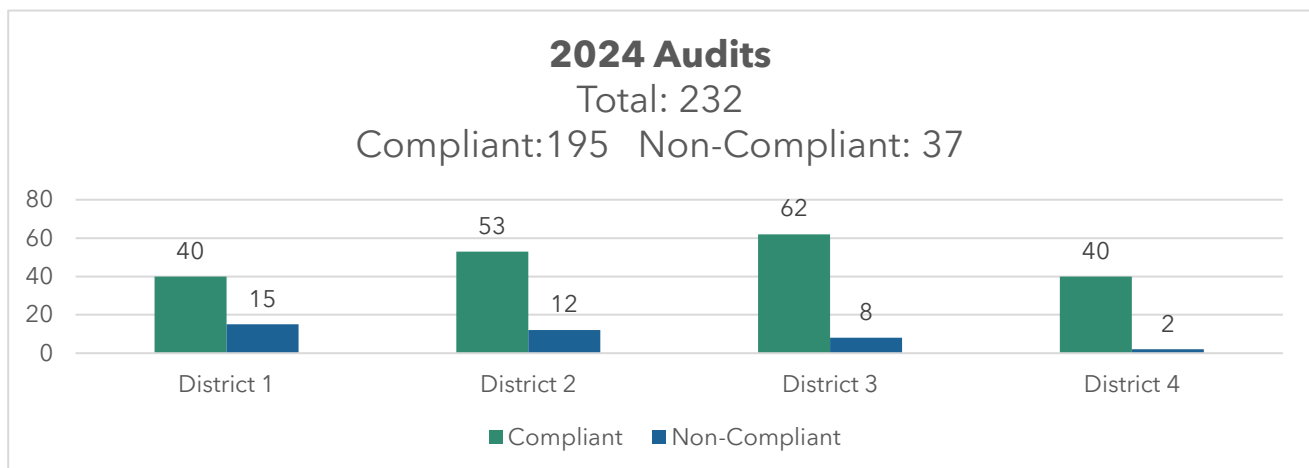
- 1,819 (99%) were determined to be eligible for payment.
- 26 (1%) municipalities were determined to be ineligible for payment.

Out of the 799 Fire Chiefs and 1,845 municipal clerks in Wisconsin:

- 5 Chiefs and 11 clerks did not complete the certification process.
- 4 Chiefs and 3 clerks certified that SPS 314 requirements were not met.

These metrics show improvement from last year, where 12 Fire Chiefs and 12 clerks certified as Failed to meet SPS 314 requirements.

### 2% Dues Audits



# State Building Commission Approves Over \$48 Million in Wisconsin Projects

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Gov. Tony Evers announced the Wisconsin State Building Commission approved a total of \$48.3 million in key projects across the state.

“Through the approval of dozens of building projects this year so far, the State Building Commission has consistently worked to improve the lives of Wisconsinites across our state in communities of all sizes, and today’s projects are no different,” said Gov. Evers. “Each of these projects approved today are critically important to ensure Wisconsinites have the quality care, services, and resources they deserve and expect from their state government.”

Highlights of the Commission’s approved projects include:

- Release of Non-State Grant funds for the construction of a 79,000-gross-square-foot addition to the Versiti Blood Research Institute facility on the Milwaukee Regional Medical Campus in Wauwatosa. This expansion is pivotal for enhancing research capabilities in blood cancers, hematology, cellular therapy, and immunology, aiming to pioneer more effective immunotherapies and cancer treatments.
- Construction of an equipment storage facility at the Wisconsin Rapids Service Center, providing centralized storage and protection for six Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) programs.
- Development of a new storage garage at the Schmeckle Reserve on the University of Wisconsin (UW)-Stevens Point campus to support increased land management activities and accommodate additional restroom and amphitheater facilities alongside groundskeeping equipment.
- Authorization for 19 facility maintenance and repair projects across multiple state agencies, including: upgrades to heating, cooling, telephone, and security systems for Wisconsin Department of Health Services facilities; heating, cooling, and roof replacements for Wisconsin Department of Military Affairs facilities; bridge repairs, fish hatchery repairs, and building envelope replacements at DNR facilities; a roof replacement for the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction; food service upgrades for the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs; and utility system replacements, bike path improvements, and event space upgrades to multiple campuses across the UW System.

**See the press release** or subscribe to other Governor press releases [online](#).

## SUBSCRIBE TO DIS NEWS

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## DIS PROGRAM INFO

### DIS PROGRAMS

See the list of program webpages:

[dsps.wi.gov/Pages/Programs](https://dsps.wi.gov/Pages/Programs)

### DIS TECHNICAL QUESTIONS

Each program maintains separate communication inboxes. Find these email addresses at the link below.

[dsps.wi.gov/Pages/Programs/Contacts](https://dsps.wi.gov/Pages/Programs/Contacts)

### CREDENTIAL LOOK-UP

Be sure to follow the formatting instructions while using the NEW Credential Look-Up Tool

[license.wi.gov/s/license-lookup](https://license.wi.gov/s/license-lookup)

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## ESLA CORNER

USER GUIDE AND HELP PAGE

[dsps.wi.gov/Pages/eSLAResources](https://dsps.wi.gov/Pages/eSLAResources)



# Safety Month in Wisconsin!



A plaque was presented to recognize May 2024 as Safety Month, per proclamation by Wisconsin Governor Tony Evers. The plaque was provided by DIS Administrator, Branden Piper, to Jason Golec, President of the Wisconsin Building Inspectors Association, from the City of Milwaukee. The plaque was presented during the League of Municipalities Conference held in Elkhart Lake, WI on April 17.

## Note to Electrical Inspectors

**All municipalities AND inspection agencies performing commercial electrical inspections must have an active Electrical Inspection Agency credential.**

Many organizations obtained this when first delegated but have let the credential lapse. An active credential is required under [Wis. Admin. Code § SPS 316.011](#). Credential renewals are now submitted via [LicenSE](#). Check out the [EIA credential webpage](#) for information on renewals in LicenSE.

## DIS Open Positions

Visit [wisc.jobs](#) to apply today!

### Plumbing Plan Review/Inspectors (3)

Qualified candidates have the Wisconsin Master Plumber license at the time of application. See the ad for a potential sign-on bonus!

Southwest Position covers Juneau; Adams; Sauk; and Columbia counties. [Job ID 14482](#)

South-Central Position covers Dane; Jefferson; Rock; and Green counties. [Job ID 14481](#)

East-Central Position covers Door; Brown; Manitowoc; and Sheboygan counties. [Job ID 14409](#)

### Electrical Inspection Consultant

This position requires independent statewide travel throughout Wisconsin to be a primary consultant on technical and complex code issues related to electrical permitting and installation. Qualified candidates have the Wisconsin Commercial Electrical Inspector license and the Wisconsin Master Electrician license at the time of application. [Job ID 14648](#)

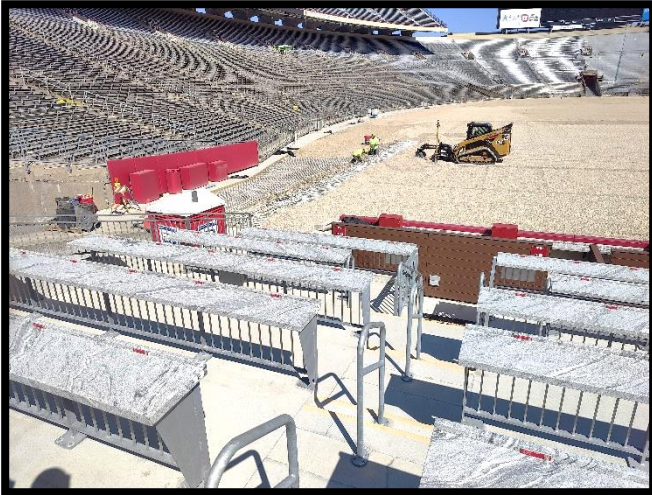
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### Fire Suppression Systems Plan Reviewers (2)

These positions provide technical support and review complex fire protection system plans for compliance with relevant codes and statutes. [Job ID 10277](#)



# Success Story: Camp Randall Prelim Review Consultation



DIS Plan Reviewer, Larry Wiest, met with Berners Schober architects and project managers to discuss the project design prior to submission for review. The Green Bay-based firm has been involved in many UW-Athletics projects and instead of having a web or office meeting in town, BSA recommended having the meeting on-site at Camp Randall.

Larry also met UW Athletic Operations Director, Barry Fox, who was thankful and provided the meeting space to begin discussion of the project plans and path to code compliance. Walking around the site was a great way to experience the scale of the proposed sports center project and its relation to Camp Randall Stadium. All the existing buildings to the east of the stadium will be razed for the new sports center facility. The project will be completed in two phases.

In the first, the old Olympic Sports concrete shell will be razed in August and replaced with a new building, a full-size football practice field on first floor, and a 350-car parking garage below with street level access to Monroe Street. The second phase will replace the locker rooms, meeting rooms, training rooms, and offices with new facilities.

It was beneficial to meet the BSA team in person and on-site because in addition to discussions of code issues, Larry was provided the opportunity for an up-close tour of prior projects. The stadium south endzone alteration, north field house alteration, and the current field heating project would make you proud to be a Badger.



# Safety Notes for Mines, Explosives, and Fireworks

Spring cleaning. To-do lists. Job Jars. We've either had them or have heard of them. They come in many different forms and durations, but they can become very memorable quickly.

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*April 24, 2024. Holladay, Utah. Authorities detonated "ancient" dynamite found in a shed and in the basement of a Holladay, Utah house. The husband, a retired chemist, had recently passed away and his widow discovered dozens of sticks of old dynamite in a shed in the backyard. She also found boxes of old dynamite, old fuses, and hazardous chemicals in the basement. Authorities determined there was no safe way to remove these items due to age and degradation; so, the decision was made to detonate these items in place. There were no injuries to residents, neighbors, or emergency response personnel, but the house was completely destroyed and neighboring homes were impacted. [\[source\]](#)*

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Watch out for those retired chemists, right? Not just them.

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*June 9, 2004. Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin. 820 pounds of old dynamite were rendered inert, transported off site and burned. UXB, a demolition contractor from Virginia, along with the Dane County, WI bomb squad and Department of Commerce personnel, worked throughout the day to render the explosives safe to handle. The materials were then transported to an idle quarry south of town where the items were burned. The portable explosive storage magazine had also been saturated with nitroglycerine leached from the dynamite but had to be rendered safe, transported off site, and burned. The 7 businesses and 35 residences evacuated were allowed to be reoccupied before sunset. The dynamite was found after the property had been sold and was being cleared for a building project. The explosives were discovered when a welder torched off the high-security locks on the magazine. The licensed blaster had passed away many years ago and the magazine was "assumed" to be empty. The magazine and had been pushed from its original location several years prior by a company bulldozer. This resulted in the sticks of dynamite being strewn about the structure. [\[source\]](#)*

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You would expect old explosives to be found on unused/abandoned mine sites; and they often are. However, old explosives are often found on farms. Through the 1960's, dynamite and caps could be purchased at hardware stores. The problem arises when more is purchased than what is needed to get rid of a few stumps or a nuisance beaver dam. Often a box labeled "Atlas Powder," "Nobel," or even (*all kidding aside*) "Acme," may be found in a forgotten part of a barn or shed. If you come across something like this, DON'T TOUCH IT. Contact your local fire department or law enforcement office and let them run their checklist. *They* have planned for it, *you* have not.

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*April 30, 2014. Winlock, Washington. Lewis County sheriff's deputies responded to a call from a homeowner who found old explosives while clearing out a barn. The homeowner told authorities that the explosives must have been there before he owned the property and estimated that the explosives have been in the barn for several decades. Deputies called the Washington State Patrol Bomb Squad, which determined that the explosives, identified as dynamite, were extremely deteriorated and volatile. It was determined that the safest way to dispose of the explosives was to conduct a controlled burn of the barn. The barn, along with the explosives inside, was successfully destroyed in a controlled burn. [\[source\]](#)*

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A new twist to be aware of is the impact of the internet on explosives. Whoever said "you can get anything on Amazon" isn't far off. While high explosives won't be delivered via FedEx or UPS, components can be purchased separately with deadly results.

**Continued on next page**



# Mines, Explosives, and Fireworks (Continued from Page 5)

August 1, 2022. At approximately 7:25 p.m., an explosion and fire occurred inside a garage in the Town of Crescent, Oneida County, Wisconsin. According to interviews and documents obtained, the deceased was in the process of manufacturing fireworks which caused the explosion and fire. He was the only person making fireworks at the time of the explosion. Oneida County Detective Wanta related that the deceased and a friend had purchased chemicals and explosive components over the internet. The deceased then combined these chemicals in an unsuitable location (not a Class H occupancy) in a manner that resulted in detonating the mixture. No records relating to the deceased having had training in safe assembly or manufacture of fireworks were discovered. The deceased did not have required permits from the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives, neither did he have the necessary Fireworks Manufacturer license from DSPS nor an approved storage magazine. Neighbors related how the deceased had been making his own fireworks for several years and that this time it sounded "louder than usual." [source]

To conclude, if something looks suspicious or sounds sketchy, it may very well be. Ask questions rather than let an unsuspecting person fall victim to an unsafe explosive situation.

## Questions?

Submit to the [DSPSMineSafety@wisconsin.gov](mailto:DSPSMineSafety@wisconsin.gov) tech box.

## Congratulations, DIS Fire Prevention Coordinator, Gary Peck



Gary Peck was recently appointed to the National Community Risk Reduction (CRR) Vision 20/20 Champions & Emerging Leaders Group (CEL) for a 2-year appointment. The CRR Champions & CEL Group participates directly in National CRR Strategic Planning to achieve measurable outcomes in CRR at the local, state, and national levels.

Read more about the CEL [here!](#)

## DIS Staff Updates

Welcome the following new employees to DIS!

Natalie Newth  
POWTS Intern

Shane Rolff  
Commercial Building Plan Reviewer

Jeff Lutzke  
Commercial Building Plan Reviewer

Shayne Kucko  
Plumbing Plan Reviewer

The following individuals are no longer with DIS. Check the [District Maps](#) for new contact information in your area

Ron Soquet  
Plumbing Plan Reviewer

James Eddy  
Plumbing Plan Reviewer

Scott Demers  
Electrical Consultant

Jeff Abts  
FSFA Plan Reviewer

## DSPS Awards Youth Firefighter Training Grants

In April, DSPS announced four winners of a grant that funds youth firefighter training. The grant aims to boost recruitment in fire departments by introducing fire service careers to Wisconsin students. The program provides a total of \$75,000 in grant funding. Recruitment and retention have become key issues for many Wisconsin fire departments but particularly the all-volunteer stations. The

Youth Firefighter Grant Program is designed to help address these concerns by exposing high school students to career and volunteer opportunities in the fire service at a time when they are making decisions about their future careers and endeavors.

"Public safety is a primary mission of our Department and Wisconsin's fire departments are a key partner in keeping our communities safe," said DSPS Secretary, Dan Hereth. "These grants support innovative educational programs that benefit those fire departments and lead to safer cities, towns, and villages across Wisconsin."

Read more about the awardees in the [full article!](#)



### Fox Valley Technical College

- FVTC will offer a Firefighting Principals course in partnership with nine area high schools and fire departments.
- Through the four-credit course, students will learn fire behavior and control techniques, and meet all requirements of Firefighter I certification.
- Read the full press release [here](#).

### Kewaunee County Junior Firefighter Program

- The program is a partnership between the Luxemburg-Casco, Algoma, Denmark, and Kewaunee school districts, along with eight area fire departments.
- These schools will recruit students, who will be active volunteers at one of the participating fire departments and can receive credit for a course through Northeast Wisconsin Technical College.

### Madison Area Technical College

- The college will expand the availability of its NextGen Responders Academy.
- This grant money will purchase turnout gear in outlying sizes to expand program availability and improve the safety of participants.
- Donations have paid for 326 scholarships to the Academy over the past years, removing financial barriers for a diverse group of students.



### Northcentral Technical College

- Awarded money will be applied toward the college's Youth Firefighter Academy, a partnership that includes the volunteer Central Fire and EMS District, and Colby and Abbotsford high schools.
- The college will train six high school students to be Firefighter Level I volunteers/employees and prepare them for the Emergency Medical Responder certification exam.
- Read the full press release [here](#).

# Upcoming Fire Prevention/ Safety & Health Events

**August through November** - Staff will provide annual Fall Training to Wisconsin Fire Service throughout the state. Training is hosted by Wisconsin technical colleges. Register at: <https://bookwhen.com/widsps-fireprevention>  
Topics: Elevators - Fire Code, Website Navigation, CRAIG 1300 CRA/CRRR, NERIS, SPS 314 Inspection Programs and SPS 330 Training Programs

**October 7** - WI Towns Association Annual Convention - 2% Fire Dues Self-Certification Training for municipal clerks. <https://www.wisctowns.com/annual-convention/>

**October 23-25** - WI State Fire Inspectors Annual Fall Conference. Speaking engagement and educational booth. <https://wsfia.org/fall-conference>

## State of Wisconsin Plumbing Licenses & Credentials

DSPS is responsible for credential application processing for more than 200 licenses and credentials. Of those 200+, 11 are specific to the enforcement of the plumbing code, [Wis. Admin. Codes §§ SPS 381-387](#). We want to share the overall number of plumbing licenses and credentials issued for calendar years 2020 to the present. The following chart shows the licenses and credentials for the plumbing industry per calendar year.

License Type	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024 to Date	Grand Total
Commercial Plumbing Inspector	8	9	17	12	15	61
Journeyman Plumber	126	193	200	173	70	762
Journeyman Plumber Restricted Appliance	13	19	9	9	5	55
Journeyman Plumber Restricted Service	8	10	13	7	9	47
Master Plumber	38	39	61	55	22	215
Master Plumber Restricted Appliance	3	5	4	3	2	17
Master Plumber Restricted Service	5	8	6	9	1	29
Plumbing Apprentice	308	399	405	370	127	1,609
Plumbing Learner Restricted Appliance	39	51	57	61	25	233
Plumbing Learner Restricted Service	64	81	67	64	24	300
UDC Plumbing Inspector	13	10	18	8	5	54
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>625</b>	<b>824</b>	<b>857</b>	<b>771</b>	<b>305</b>	<b>3,382</b>

Per [Wis. Stat. § 145.06](#), no person may engage in or work at plumbing in the state unless licensed to do so by the Department. All of the licenses and credentials listed in the chart above can be found within [Wis. Admin. Code § SPS 305](#).

All applications for licensure and credentials must be made through [LicenSE](#). Go to [license.wi.gov](https://license.wi.gov) to apply for or renew a license. Please refer to the [LicenSE Applicant User Guide](#) for assistance.

### Other helpful links:

[LicenSE User Guides and Videos page](#)

[LicenSE FAQs](#)

[LicenSE Customer Information page](#)

[Step-by-step instructions for renewing a license](#)



# Tech Box Questions

DIS maintains program-specific email inboxes (Tech Box) to provide a general code answer or direct you to an appropriate code section, based on the question submitted.

Non-technical questions for eSLA, permits, delegated agents, and invoices have their own Tech Box! Use the appropriate Tech Box to ensure a timely response to your question. View the [full list of Tech Box emails here!](#)

See the examples below of real customer questions submitted to our tech boxes!

Dear DSPS POWTS Tech,

Why can I not include attachments when I submit for a Sanitary Permit in eSLA?

Signed,  
Needing a Plan Review

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Dear Needing a Plan Review,

DSPS only issues sanitary permits for state-owned properties. If you are looking to submit a component manual design, start a new eSLA application and choose "POWTS Component Manual Design" under Permit Type.

DSPS POWTS Tech

Dear DSPS Health and Safety Tech,

Do inflatable amusement rides need to be registered with DSPS prior to operation?

Signed,  
Amusement Ride Owner

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Dear Amusement Ride Owner,

Yes!

State of Wis. Admin. Code SPS § 334.04 requires inflatable amusement rides that are used by the public to be registered with DSPS yearly. Inflatable amusement rides shall be registered using the State of Wisconsin eSLA system.

For more information on inflatable amusement rides, check out our 2024 Summer Webinar presentation on [DSPS's YouTube Channel](#).

DSPS Health and Safety Tech

## Recent Enforcement Actions

- The Department entered a Stop Use/Stop Work Order against a wood processing mill in the Town of Hixon due to unsafe conditions and their failure to submit building plans.
- The Department entered a Notice of Violations and Order against a Medford establishment that underwent a change of use and alterations without submitting building plans.
- The Department entered a Notice of Violations and Order against a County for public sector safety violations.
- The Department entered a Stop Use/Stop Work Order against a construction project in the Town of Farmington. It was determined that construction was occurring with no building plan approval.
- The Department entered forfeitures against a Milwaukee resident who engaged in unlicensed electrical and plumbing work.
- The Department suspended a Spooner resident's soil tester credential for engaging in negligence, incompetence, and misconduct as it relates to their responsibilities as a soil tester.
- The Department entered a Notice of Violations and Order against a Town of Auburn site for failing to submit building plans for an addition.
- The Department entered a Notice of Violations and Order against a City of Owen site for failing to submit building plans after it underwent a change of use and/or had alterations performed.
- The Department entered a Notice of Violations and Order against a Town of Green Grove site for failing to submit building plans for additions, alterations, and construction.
- The Department entered a Notice of Violations and Order against a City of Gillett site for failing to submit building plans after it underwent a change of use and/or alterations performed.
- The Department entered a Notice of Violations and Order against a Town of Hoard site for failing to submit building plans for construction.
- The Department entered a Notice of Violations and Order against a Town of Mosel site for failing to submit building plans for construction.
- The Department entered a Notice of Violations and Order against a Village of Knapp site for failing to submit building plans after it underwent a change of use.
- The Department entered a Notice of Violations and Order against a City of Marinette site for pool code violations.
- The Department entered a Notice of Violations and Order against a Town of Lewiston site for failing to submit building plans for construction.
- The Department entered a Notice of Violations and Order against a Village of Centuria site for failing to submit building plans for an addition.
- The Department entered a Notice of Violations and Order against a Town of Columbus site for failing to submit building plans after it underwent a change of use.
- The Department entered a suspension against a Kaukauna electrical contractor for utilizing unlicensed individuals to perform electrical work for their company.