



# TOWN OF MILLIS

## Building Department

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## ELECTRICAL RESIDENTIAL FEES As of May 15<sup>th</sup> 2015

Minimum Fee	\$ 40.00	Per inspection
Re-Inspection	\$ 30.00	
New Dwelling Underground Svc.	\$ 200.00	
New Dwelling Overhead Svc.	\$ 175.00	
Addition/Renovations	\$ 80.00	
In-Ground Swimming Pool	\$ 120.00	
Above Ground Swimming Pool	\$ 80.00	
Add for Pool Heater	\$ 40.00	
Temporary Service	\$ 75.00	
100 to 200 AMP Service	\$ 40.00	
Each Additional 100 AMPS	\$ 20.00	
Trench	\$ 80.00	Two inspections
Fire Call	\$ 30.00	
Fire/Burglar Alarm	\$ 40.00	One inspection
New Construction Fire/Burglar Alarm	\$ 80.00	
Temp. Trailer w/ Temp. Service	\$ 80.00	
Siding Remove & Replace Meter	\$ 40.00	
Detach Building with Trench	\$120.00	
Sewage Ejection Pump	\$ 80.00	
Spa/Hot Tub/Jacuzzi/Sauna	\$ 80.00	
Dryer/AC/Furnace per unit	\$ 40.00	
Microwave/Dishwasher	\$ 40.00	
Aluminum Wire Determination	\$ 40.00	
Solar	\$ 25.00	per KW
Generator	\$ 40.00	With trench \$80.00
Cable television	\$ 80.00	Two inspections
Data Premises wiring	\$ 80.00	Two inspections

- Work performed without a permit is subject to Administrative fee and fines in accordance with MGL 143, section 3L.
- All trenching and buried conduit shall be inspected prior to backfilling or pouring of concrete subject to 527 CRM 12 Rule 10. Wiring method shall not be covered before inspection.
- Homeowner permit – Add \$20.00 to regular fee.
- Plans must be submitted for all installations valued in excess of \$4000 permit fee will be determined by Inspector based on submitted plans.
- Work performed must be listed on the application or additional permits will be required.

## **Explanation for fee increases.**

Fees for other communities range lower, the same or higher than our fees depending on how the inspectors are compensated for their services. Communities with full time or part time salaried employees generally have lower fees because building departments are funded through the general budget. Communities with fee based inspectors have higher or same fees because the inspector is compensated directly from the fee. The advantage to the municipality in fee based structures is that the budget is not tapped for this service and the inspectors are compensated in direct relationship to the work load.

I surveyed the surrounding community's electrical permit fees and found that minimum permit fees (single inspection) range from \$30 to \$100.00.

Electrical services from \$40.00 to \$80.00 or more depending on their capacity.

New dwellings range from \$125 - \$250 depending on size of the house or the total cost of installation.

Large electrical installations are being assessed between 1% and 1.5% on the total cost.

Inspections in most cases require more time on site for inspections than they did five to ten years ago.

More differing types of systems are now being installed in structures and residences than 10 years ago.

Administrative time has doubled for filing of proper paper work and data entry to MUNIS systems per permit applications and the inspection response logs for inspections and permits must be kept per state board.

Energy saving devices are now numerous and compatibility with other devices must be verified.

## **Solar**

Solar systems are sophisticated and require several hours per installation for plan review, listing for approval checks ( testing laboratory approval). Compatibility for listed devices must be checked through official publications to verify that components are capable of working safely together.

Solar systems require sequenced shut down so that back feeds or premises wiring is not energized when normal power is off.

Proactive measures must be kept on all installation for fire fighting purposes.

There is more interaction with utilities and time on the installation for the inspector because the utility company wants to verify system size and that there will be rapid shut down during power failures to prevent back feeding on to the utility grid.

The State board of examiners has determined that all equipment and hardware associated with solar installations may only be installed by a licensed electrician. The only work normally requiring a carpenter on roof top jobs is getting structural engineers reports, penetrations to accommodate wiring methods and material used for ballasting systems to the roofs or grounds. Rails and rack systems for solar panels can carry current or provide return electrical paths for fault currents. Therefore installation of solar systems are not permitted by other than licensed electricians. This means that almost all of the total construction cost is electrical.

## **New to the code**

Personal protection devices for overcurrent devices are now required for ARC fault and ARC FAULT / GROUND FAULT combination devices. Extra time required for testing and verification.

Trenching now requires 2-3 trips for inspections per trench because of the move towards Plastic Conduit. Plastic Conduit (PVC) requires to be installed in sand beds and warning ribbons must be placed.

## **Results**

The only fee changes I am recommending are highlighted in gray. The remaining is on par with surrounding communities. Some communities are higher or lower. I feel that if we move to the high end on all fees at this time there may be some folks that will avoid the permit process because of expense and that action would lower safety inspections.

