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February 28, 2011

HOME REMODELING ON AN UPSWING IN GLENDALE; SPRINGTIME KICKS OFF PERMIT 101 CLASS

GLENDALE, Ariz. – Spring is “Home Sweet Home” improvement for many homeowners in Glendale where the Building Safety Department is seeing a remodeling permit boom, which has resulted in a 35 percent increase in residential permits and 22 percent increase in solar permits in the last year.

The city is offering consumers a special class on the tips they need to stay safe and save money during renovations. The class will teach residents how to get a permit for construction projects, an explanation of why permits are necessary, how to fill out the required paperwork and what the possible costs are associated with these projects.

The Glendale Building Safety Department and Home Depot have teamed up to get these important safety messages to those who are actively working on projects. The class is 11 a.m., March 19 at the Home Depot at 67th Avenue. and Bell Road. To reserve a spot in the class, call 623.930.2800 or email rhuggins@glendaleaz.com.

Instructors Adam Venetis and Randy Huggins with Glendale Building Safety will educate homeowners about when a permit is necessary. For example, basic projects such as painting, tiling and replacing broken windows do not require permits. However, permits are required for modifying electrical, plumbing, air conditioning and irrigation systems.

One of the most popular springtime home projects is building a patio.

During this class, instructors will demonstrate how to build a patio from the

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ground up. The city will provide free handouts filled with sample plans, which can be used a guide to build a new patio.

Another popular improvement area that will be covered in the class is the conversion to solar systems from traditional electric. The filing of solar permits has been soaring in the last few years as homeowners recognize renewable energy benefits. The solar permit rise is also a testament to the commitment of Glendale residents practicing green living. Over the last three years, there has been a 277 percent increase in solar projects and a 234 percent increase in residential additions.

“We typically see an increase in permits in the springtime as people are starting to fix-up or remodel homes,” said Randy Huggins, senior development services representative for Glendale Building Safety Department. “It is important to reach out to people prior to starting a remodel job so there is understanding of what permits are necessary. Safety is our number one priority and the best way to protect the homeowner is to provide tips, advice and helpful plans in advance of a project.”

For more information on the free permit 101 class or general information on how to obtain a building permit, call 623.930.2800 or visit www.glendaleaz.com/buildingsafety.

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