



For Immediate Release

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DBI CELEBRATES BUILDING SAFETY MONTH Safety Workshops Offered Weekly To Residents

SAN FRANCISCO – The Department of Building Inspection (DBI) invites its customers and all San Franciscans to join the nationwide Building Safety Month celebration already underway this May. DBI is offering, in partnership with the SF Fire Department, Department of Emergency Management and the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, lunch-time brown-bag discussions for each week this month on a building safety-related topic, which includes housing/fire, earthquake preparedness, water and solar safety.

“This month DBI invites its customers and the public to look at specific ways to ensure that buildings are code-compliant, habitable and safe by joining DBI staff and our partners at our Building Safety workshops this month. It is important that San Franciscans are aware of their role in ensuring building safety in their home, place of business or work,” said Tom Hui, DBI Director and Chief Building Official.

DBI is the regulatory building safety agency responsible for overseeing the effective, efficient, fair and safe enforcement of the City and County of San Francisco’s more than 200,000 commercial and residential buildings as it pertains to enforcement of the City’s building, housing, plumbing, electrical, mechanical, and disability access codes. Every day, the Department of Building Inspection reviews construction plans, approves permits, conducts inspections and investigates complaints. In 2014, over 65,000 permits were issued and 150,000 inspections were conducted. These include the work of engineers, plan reviewers, as well as building, plumbing, electrical and housing inspectors.

DBI and its partners invite building/property owners, residents, homeowners, contractors to attend one or all four of its lively safety discussions.

- May 6, 2015 [*Housing and Fire Safety Tips for Your Home & Property*](#)
- May 11, 2015 [*Preparing Your Home and Business for the Next Earthquake*](#)
- May 21, 2015 [*Water Use Alternatives: Rain Barrel & Laundry to Landscape*](#)
- May 27, 2015 [*Solar Installations and the GoSolarSF Program*](#)

Visit www.sfdbi.org/buildingsafetymonth to get the most up-to-date event information and safety tips. Follow @sfdbi on Twitter and Facebook to receive real-time safety tips.

Also in celebration of Small Business Month this May, permit plan review fees for awnings, signs on awning replacements and pedestrian level lighting are waived for all those who apply with DBI and the Planning Department. This fee waiver program was sponsored by [Supervisor Katy Tang](#) and developed in partnership with the Department of Building Inspection, the [Planning Department](#), the [Office of Economic & Workforce Development](#), and the [Office of Small Business](#). Awning improvements help invigorate businesses and the commercial corridors they live on. Small businesses with 100 employees or less are encouraged to take advantage of this fee waiver opportunity as it can save over \$1,500 dollars in plan review fees. Program ends on May 30, 2015. For more information, please visit <http://sfdbi.org/awning-fee-waiver-program>.

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