NEW BAN ON WOODEN FIXED-UTILITY LADDERS

IF YOU HAVE ONE OF THESE LADDERS ON ANY BUILDING YOU OWN, YOU MUST ACT IMMEDIATELY TO REMOVE OR REPLACE IT.

Wooden fixed utility ladders may be dangerous, and are now illegal. These ladders were commonly added to buildings constructed in the City during the 1930s and earlier. They were never part of a building’s fire escape system; but they often were installed as a ‘convenience’ to building owners who wanted roof access without bringing a portable ladder to the site.

These ladders are now prohibited on residential buildings and must be removed with a proper building permit. Action by property owners is required as a result of legislation passed by the Board of Supervisors and signed by the Mayor. The new law takes effect on December 8, 2008. Given the potential danger they pose, DBI is already citing property owners to encourage immediate removal of these ladders.

Protect your building and those living in it by calling the Department of Building Inspection’s Housing Inspection Services today to learn what to do.

Obtain helpful information on DBI’s website www.sfgov.org/dbi or call (415) 558-6220 and comply today with the City’s new law by removing these ladders.