



COLORADO

Department of Regulatory Agencies

Division of Professions and Occupations

State of Colorado Electrical and Plumbing Inspections Remote Video Inspection Guidelines

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic and the indefinite unavailability of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), the Division of Professions and Occupations has temporarily modified its procedures for electrical and plumbing inspections. The modified procedures prioritize the safety of industry workers, consumers and inspectors, while preserving PPE and being mindful to minimize any impact on industry.

Inspection services for new residential, commercial, school, state-buildings, multi-family construction and the exterior of an occupied residence will continue as usual until further notice.

In an effort to provide inspection services for **occupied residential projects** while maintaining the safety of the public and state inspectors and preserving PPE, the State Electrical and Plumbing Inspections Program will provide Remote Video Inspections using Google Duo, Google Hangouts, Skype, FaceTime or other approved video-based programs. As some electrical and plumbing installations may not lend themselves to Remote Video Inspection, the individual Inspector will have the discretion, on a case by case basis, to determine if an on-site inspection is required.

Remote Video Inspections will be offered for the following **occupied residential** electrical and plumbing installations:

- Final inspections for all electrical and plumbing installations
- Re-inspections to determine compliance with required corrections
- Rough in inspections for the following installations:
 - Underground and under slab electrical and plumbing installations
 - Main breaker "de-rate" for photovoltaic (solar) panel installations
 - Electrical service upgrades (up to 200 AMP)
 - Electric meter socket replacement
 - Minor electrical work including one or two circuit installations
 - Water heater replacement
 - Minor plumbing work
 - Plumbing, Repipe 1 Bathroom
 - Plumbing, Repipe 2 Bathrooms
 - Plumbing, Repipe 3+ Bathrooms
 - Sewer lines

The following are not eligible for Remote Video Inspections:

- New Construction installations
- School installations
- State-building installations
- Multi-family construction installations
- Exterior installations for an occupied residence
- Gas line repair or replacement
- Gas clearance
- Gas Piping installations

There are five key components of effective Remote Video Inspection- remote site coordination, personnel, address and permit verification, detailed inspection, documentation and quality assurance.

Remote Site Coordination

- Prior to scheduling the inspection, the inspector will provide the requesting party with a copy of the Remote Video Inspection Guidance and Requirements
- Upon receipt of the Acknowledgement and Waiver Form, the inspector will schedule the inspection and a pre-inspection coordination call.
- During the coordination call the inspector will address the following with the requesting party:
 - The date and time of the scheduled inspection;
 - The remote video inspection process;
 - The required 4G internet connectivity;
 - The required Smartphone or Tablet;
 - The downloading of the agreed upon live-streaming application to be used for the remote video inspection with connectivity check;
 - Advising requesting party to provide the required copy of the permit at inspection;
 - Advising requesting party that property address must be affixed to the exterior of the dwelling for inspection; and,
 - The tools required to be available and used during the remote video inspection including, but not limited to, flashlight, screwdriver, level, tape measure, step ladder, and/or GFCI receptacle tester.

Personnel, Address and Permit Verification

- At the start of the Remote Video Inspection, the inspector will verify that a licensed electrician or plumber or the homeowner that performed the work is on-site for the inspection. This verification includes visualization of the state issued electrician or plumber license and photo identification; a homeowner performing the work will be required to show photo identification to the inspector on video.
- The inspector will require the requesting party to display the permit on the video.

- The remote video inspection must begin at the exterior front of the dwelling ensuring visualization of the property address, which the inspector will compare to the site address on the permit.

Detailed Inspection

- After verifying the site address, the inspector will instruct the requesting party on where and what to capture on video, setting the pace for the inspection.
- The inspector will instruct the requesting party, as applicable, to take measurements, test receptacles, devices, overcurrent devices, open boxes, provide water pressure test and drainage, waste and vent test, verify all code required fittings, and verify approved slope. Underground inspections must show ground level with a board across a trench and tape measure.
- All features of the home that are applicable to the required inspection must be visible at the time of the remote inspection. The features must be captured sufficiently for the inspector to evaluate

Documentation

- If for any reason the Inspector is unable to verify necessary items during the remote video inspection, the inspector will document this as a correction and an on-site inspection will be required. Parts of the inspection that were in compliance with the applicable code and were passed, must be noted in the comments section of the inspection form.
- Inspectors will document thorough notes in the comments section of the inspection form, in the event another inspector performs the on-site inspection, the re-inspection, or the final inspection.
- The inspector will document on the inspection report that the inspection was conducted via Remote Video Inspection.
- inspection results will be emailed to the requesting party within 24 hours of the remote video inspection.

Quality Assurance

- Inspector supervisors will arrange to have at least one Remote Video inspection per inspector are inspected by another inspector via on-site inspection for quality assurance purposes.

Please contact the Division regarding via email at dora_eandp_permits@state.co.us if you have questions or wish to obtain additional information regarding Remote Video Inspections.

Issued April 17, 2020