



**Growth & Resource Management  
Building & Zoning Division**  
123 W. Indiana Avenue, DeLand, FL 32720

## **Tips for Hiring Contractors for After-Storm Repairs**

- Be cautious of contractors soliciting door-to-door.
- Obtain estimates from at least three licensed contractors.
- Ask for the contractor's license number and verify their license with either Volusia County or the State of Florida.
  - To check if a contractor holds the appropriate license, call Volusia County Contractor Licensing at (386) 736-5957, visit [ConnectLiverPermits.org](http://ConnectLiverPermits.org) the county's "Online Information Center" – click "Contractors" under "Search" on the left side-bar menu or email [ContractorLicensing@volusia.org](mailto:ContractorLicensing@volusia.org).
  - You may also verify State of Florida licensed contractors by visiting [www.myfloridalicense.com](http://www.myfloridalicense.com).
- Ask for and check references.
- Ask for proof of general liability and workman's compensation insurance. If they do not have insurance, you could be personally liable for any accidents on your property.
- Ask for a written estimate and read the fine print.
- Obtain a written contract that covers: what scope of work is included; when the work will start; the cost and payment schedules; and the quality of materials to be used.
- Never make full payment up front. Don't sign over an insurance settlement. Most reputable contractors will accept payment based on the percentage of work completed.
- Don't make final payment until the job is completed. Obtain lien waivers so you don't end up with bills from suppliers the contractor didn't pay.
- Make sure that all work requiring permits and inspections is approved and officially closed out by Volusia County before you make final payment.

For more information, contact the Volusia County Building and Zoning Division at one of the phone numbers or email addresses listed below.

Contractor Licensing	(386) 736-5957	<a href="mailto:ContractorLicensing@volusia.org">ContractorLicensing@volusia.org</a>
Permit Center	(386) 736-5929	<a href="mailto:PermitCtr@volusia.org">PermitCtr@volusia.org</a>
Plan Reviews & Inspections	(386) 626-6591	<a href="mailto:Building@volusia.org">Building@volusia.org</a>

[www.volusia.org/growth/](http://www.volusia.org/growth/)