

COLUMBIA COUNTY BUILDING DEPARTMENT

135 NE Hernando Ave, Suite B-21, Lake City, FL 32055

Phone: 386-758-1008 Fax: 386-758-2160

bldginfo@columbiacountyfla.com

Scan QR code to submit online.

(On next page)

Solar Application Checklist

PERMIT EXEMPTION: If the construction job cost is \$5000 or less, no permit is required. (County Ord. 2025-05) This does not change the requirement for the use of licensed contractors and the requirement of recording a Notice of Commencement when the cost is \$5000 or more. (F.S. ch:489, F.S. ch:713)

- ☐ 2nd pg of Permit Application with PROPERTY OWNER'S Signature & Notarized Contractor Signature - The deeded property owner must sign page 2 of Application
- ☐ License Holders (Contractors) must complete a "Letter of Authorization" for who is authorized to pull the permit on their behalf
- ☐ Proof of ownership by way of Recorded Deed or Property Appraiser's parcel details printout-- visit <https://search.ccpafl.com/>
- ☐ Corporation or Trust Details listing authorized signor(s) and POA forms if necessary
- ☐ If an Owner Builder, Notarized Owner Disclosure Statement is required
- ☐ For hard copy apps: 2 sets of plans folded to 9x12 size with Signed & Sealed Engineering; For online apps: 1 set of Engineered plans digitally sealed (verifiable)
- ☐ Recorded Notice of Commencement; before 1st inspection
- ☐ Any other necessary documents requested (Floodplain Notice to Owner, etc...)

Notice Regarding Solar Installations:

All solar installations, whether roof-mounted or ground-mounted, must comply with the Columbia County Land Development Regulations, the Florida Building Code, and the National Electrical Code. This permit application must include complete structural and electrical details, site layout, and manufacturer specifications. Approval of this application does not exempt the project from meeting zoning setbacks, floodplain requirements, or other applicable regulations. The applicant is responsible for ensuring that installation is performed in accordance with approved plans and all applicable codes. Failure to comply may result in permit denial, inspection failure, or enforcement action.

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Columbia County, Florida

Solar Array Application



**Scan QR Code to
complete application online.

For Office Use Only	Application # _____	Permit # _____
Comments/Notes _____		

***This page not required for Online submissions.**

Applicant _____ **Phone #** _____
(person applying, not owner)

Applicant Address _____

Contact Email (updates sent here) _____

Owners Name _____ **Phone #** _____

Job Site Address _____

Contractors Name _____ **Phone #** _____

Contractors Address _____

Contractors Email _____

Architect/Engineer Name & AR/PE # _____

Architect Address _____

Power Company - ☐ FI Power & Light - ☐ Clay Electric - ☐ Suwannee Valley - ☐ Duke Energy

Parcel # ____ - ____ - ____ - ____ - ____ **Estimated Cost of Construction** _____

Is this? ☐ Ground Mounted ☐ Roof Mounted

Actual Distance of Structure from Property Lines -

Front _____ **Side** _____ **Side** _____ **Rear** _____

Please be advised you will still need to provide a site plan drawing along with filling in the above section

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Columbia County Permit Application - Owner and Contractor Signature Page

CODES: 2023 Florida Building Code 8th Edition and the 2020 National Electrical Code

Application is hereby made to obtain a permit to do work and installations as indicated. I certify that no work or installation has commenced prior to the issuance of a permit and that all work be performed to meet the standards of all laws regulating construction in this jurisdiction.

TIME LIMITATIONS OF APPLICATION: An application for a permit for any proposed work shall be deemed to have been abandoned 180 days after the date of filing, unless pursued in good faith or a permit has been issued.

TIME LIMITATIONS OF PERMITS: Every permit issued shall become invalid unless the work authorized by such permit is commenced within 180 days after its issuance, or if the work authorized by such permit is suspended or abandoned for a period of 180 days after the time work is commenced. A valid permit receives an approved inspection every 180 days. Work shall be considered not suspended, abandoned or invalid when the permit has received an approved inspection within 180 days of the previous approved inspection.

FLORIDA'S CONSTRUCTION LIEN LAW - Protect Yourself and Your Investment: According to Florida Law, those who work on your property or provide materials, and are not paid-in-full, have a right to enforce their claim for payment against your property. This claim is known as a construction lien. If your contractor fails to pay subcontractors or material suppliers or neglects to make other legally required payments, the people who are owed money may look to your property for payment, even if you have paid your contractor in full. This means if a lien is filed against your property, it could be sold against your will to pay for labor, materials or other services which your contractor may have failed to pay.

NOTICE OF RESPONSIBILITY TO CONTRACTOR AND AGENT: YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED as the recipient of a building permit from Columbia County, Florida, you will be held responsible to the County for any damage to sidewalks and/or road curbs and gutters, concrete features and structures, together with damage to drainage facilities, removal of sod, major changes to lot grades that result in ponding of water, or other damage to roadway and other public infrastructure facilities caused by you or your contractor, subcontractors, agents or representatives in the construction and/or improvement of the building and lot for which this permit is issued. No certificate of occupancy will be issued until all corrective work to these public infrastructures and facilities has been corrected.

WARNING TO OWNER: YOUR FAILURE TO RECORD A NOTICE OF COMMENCEMENT MAY RESULT IN YOU PAYING TWICE FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO YOUR PROPERTY. A NOTICE OF COMMENCEMENT MUST BE RECORDED AND POSTED ON THE JOB SITE BEFORE THE FIRST INSPECTION. IF YOU INTEND TO OBTAIN FINANCING, CONSULT WITH YOUR LENDER OR ATTORNEY BEFORE RECORDING YOUR NOTICE OF COMMENCEMENT.

OWNERS CERTIFICATION: I CERTIFY THAT ALL THE FOREGOING INFORMATION IS ACCURATE AND THAT ALL WORK WILL BE DONE IN COMPLIANCE WITH ALL APPLICABLE LAWS REGULATING CONSTRUCTION AND ZONING.

NOTICE TO OWNER: There are some properties that may have deed restrictions recorded upon them. These restrictions may limit or prohibit the work applied for in your building permit. You must verify if your property is encumbered by any restrictions or face possible litigation and or fines.

(Digital signatures accepted,
with proof of verification.)

****Property owners must sign here
before any permit will be issued.**

Printed Owners Name

Owners Signature

CONTRACTORS AFFIDAVIT: By my signature, I understand and agree that I have informed and provided this written statement to the owner of all the above written responsibilities in Columbia County for obtaining this Building Permit including all application and permit time limitations.

Contractors License Number

Printed Contractors Name

Contractors Signature

Notary Public's Signature (For the Contractor)
Notary Seal:

Affirmed and subscribed before me the Contractor by means of physical presence ☐ or online notarization ☐, this ____ day of _____ 20____, who is personally known ☐ or produced ID ☐.

Only Pg 2 Required for
Online Submittals

Page 2 of 2

Published 10/2025



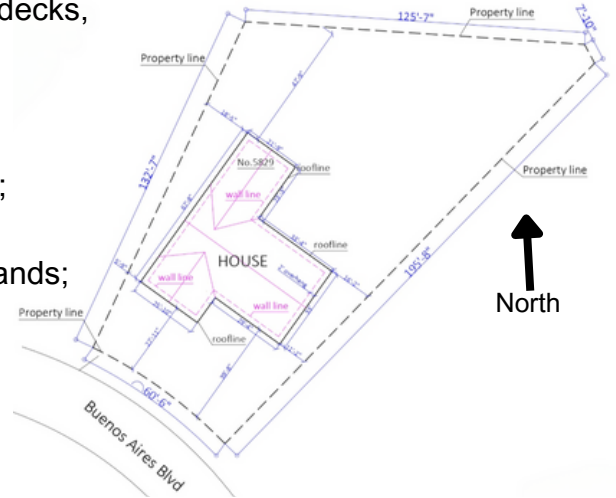
PROPOSED SITE PLAN



SITE PLAN CHECKLIST:

- ___ 1) Property Dimensions
- ___ 2) Footprint of proposed and existing structures (including decks, label these with existing addresses
- ___ 3) Distance from structures to all property lines
- ___ 4) Location and size of easements
- ___ 5) Driveway path and distance from any waters; sink holes; wetlands; and etc.
- ___ 6) Location and distance from any waters; sink holes; wetlands; and etc.
- ___ 7) Show slopes and/or drainage paths
- ___ 8) Arrow showing North direction

SITE PLAN EXAMPLE



Subcontractor Verification Form

APPLICATION/PERMIT # _____ JOB NAME _____

THIS FORM MUST BE SUBMITTED BEFORE A PERMIT WILL BE ISSUED

Columbia County issues combination permits. One permit will cover all trades doing work at the permitted site. It is **REQUIRED** that we have records of the subcontractors who actually did the trade specific work under the General Contractor's permit.

NOTE: It shall be the responsibility of the general contractor to make sure that all of the subcontractors are licensed with the Columbia County Building Department.

NOTE: If this should change prior to completion of the project, it is your responsibility to have a corrected form submitted to our office, before that work has begun.

Violations will result in stop work orders and/or fines.

ELECTRICAL

Printed Name: _____ Signature: _____
Company Name: _____ Owner ☐
License #: _____ Phone #: _____

MECHANICAL / A/C

Printed Name: _____ Signature: _____
Company Name: _____ Owner ☐
License #: _____ Phone #: _____

PLUMBING / GAS

Printed Name: _____ Signature: _____
Company Name: _____ Owner ☐
License #: _____ Phone #: _____

ROOFING

Printed Name: _____ Signature: _____
Company Name: _____ Owner ☐
License #: _____ Phone #: _____

FIRE SYSTEM /
SPRINKLER

Printed Name: _____ Signature: _____
Company Name: _____ Owner ☐
License #: _____ Phone #: _____

SOLAR

Printed Name: _____ Signature: _____
Company Name: _____ Owner ☐
License #: _____ Phone #: _____

STATE SPECIALTY

Printed Name: _____ Signature: _____
Company Name: _____ Owner ☐
License #: _____ Phone #: _____

NOTICE TO APPLICANT/OWNER REGARDING FLOODING

Please read carefully before you begin your construction project!

WARNING: The degree of flood protection required by County's floodplain ordinance and the Florida Building Code are considered as minimum regulatory purposes only. The floodplain ordinance and Florida Building Code are based on scientific and engineering considerations, but do not include actual, observed events of flooding that may have occurred at your property. You should also keep in mind that larger floods have, can, and will occur from time to time. Flood heights may be increased by man-made or natural causes. Approval of your permit under the floodplain ordinance does not imply that the permitted structure will be free from flooding or flood damage. The Special Flood Hazard Areas and Base Flood elevations are contained in the Flood Insurance Study and shown on Flood Insurance Rate Maps. The County adopts these maps for purposes of compliance with the National Flood Insurance Program, but makes no representations or assurances of their accuracy or reliability. The County does not maintain, track, or provide flood history data for any particular parcel of land.

THERE IS NO GUARANTY OF VESTED USE, EXISTING USE, OR FUTURE USE CREATED BY YOUR COMPLIANCE WITH THE FLOODPLAIN ORDINANCE. YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ASSESSING YOUR OWN PARTICULAR FLOOD RISK AND YOU ARE ENCOURAGED TO SPEAK WITH NEIGHBORING OWNERS AND THE PREVIOUS OWNERS OF YOUR LAND TO OBTAIN FIRST-HAND KNOWLEDGE OF YOUR PROPERTY'S SPECIFIC FLOOD HISTORY.

DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY. The County floodplain ordinance does not create liability on the part of Board of County Commissioners of Columbia County or any officer or employee thereof for any flood damage that results from reliance on the ordinance, or any administrative decision lawfully made thereunder. Again, it is your responsibility to assess your property's flood risk and build accordingly.

For more information, see the Columbia County Code of Ordinances, Land Development Regulations, Article 8, at: https://library.municode.com/fl/columbia_county. Additional information can also be found on the County Building Department's web page: <https://www.columbiacountyfla.com/BuildingandZoning.asp>.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I have read and understand the foregoing **NOTICE TO APPLICANT/OWNER REGARDING FLOOD ZONES**. I understand it is my responsibility to determine my property's flood risk, and that the County has made me no assurances that my property can not or will not flood.

OWNER SIGNATURE: _____

PRINT NAME: _____

PARCEL # OR ADDRESS: _____

Recording Stamp



TAX ID/PARCEL #:

NOTICE OF COMMENCEMENT

THE UNDERSIGNED hereby gives notice that improvements will be made to certain real property, and in accordance with Section 713.13 of the Florida Statutes, the following information is provided in this **NOTICE OF COMMENCEMENT**.

1. **Description of property (legal description):** _____
a. Street (job) Address: _____
2. **General description of improvements:** _____
3. **Owner Information or Lessee information if the Lessee contracted for the improvements**
a. Name and Address: _____
b. Name and Address of fee simple titleholder (if other than owner): _____
c. Interest in property: _____
4. **Contractor Information**
a. Name and Address: _____
b. Telephone #: _____
5. **Surety Information (if applicable, a copy of the payment bond is attached)**
a. Name and Address: _____
b. Amount of Bond: _____
c. Telephone #: _____
6. **Lender**
a. Name and Address: _____
b. Telephone #: _____
7. **Person within the State of Florida designated by Owner upon whom notices, or other documents may be served as provided by Section 713.13(1)(a)7., Florida Statutes**
a. Name and Address: _____
b. Telephone #: _____
8. **In addition to himself or herself, Owner designates the following person to receive a copy of the Lienor's Notice as provided in Section 713.13(1)(b), Florida Statutes**
a. Name: _____
b. Telephone #: _____
9. **Expiration date of Notice of Commencement (the expiration date will be 1 year from the date of recording unless a different date is specified):** _____

WARNING TO OWNER: ANY PAYMENTS MADE BY THE OWNER AFTER THE EXPIRATION OF THE NOTICE OF COMMENCEMENT ARE CONSIDERED IMPROPER PAYMENTS UNDER CHAPTER 713, PART I, SECTION 713.13, FLORIDA STATUTES, AND CAN RESULT IN YOUR PAYING TWICE FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO YOUR PROPERTY. A NOTICE OF COMMENCEMENT MUST BE RECORDED AND POSTED ON THE SITE OF THE IMPROVEMENT BEFORE THE FIRST INSPECTION. IF YOU INTEND TO OBTAIN FINANCING, CONSULT WITH YOUR LENDER OR AN ATTORNEY BEFORE COMMENCING WORK OR RECORDING YOUR NOTICE OF COMMENCEMENT.

**STATE OF FLORIDA
COLUMBIA COUNTY**

Signature of Owner or Lessee, or Owner's or Lessee's Authorized Officer/Director/Partner/Manager

Printed Name and Signatory's Title/Office

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me by means of ☐ physical presence or sworn to (or affirmed) by ☐ online notarization _____ day of _____, _____, by _____
as _____ for _____
DATE MONTH YEAR NAME OF PERSON
TYPE OF AUTHORITY - OFFICER, TRUSTEE, ATTORNEY IN FACT NAME OF PART ON BEHALF OF WHOM INSTRUMENT WAS EXECUTED

Personally Known _____ OR Produced Identification _____ Type of ID Produced _____
SEAL/STAMP: _____

SIGNATURE OF NOTARY PUBLIC - STATE OF FLORIDA

PRINT, TYPE, OR STAMP COMMISSIONED NAME OF NOTARY PUBLIC

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OWNER BUILDER DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

(Initial each section and sign)

Columbia County, Florida
Building Department
135 NE Hernando Avenue
Lake City, Florida 32055
Phone: 386-758-1008

Florida Statutes Chapter 489.103:

www.columbiacountyfla.com

_____ 1. I understand that state law requires construction to be done by a **licensed contractor** and have applied for an owner-builder permit under an exemption from the law. The exemption specifies that I, as the owner of the property listed, may act as my own contractor with certain restrictions even though I do not have a license.

_____ 2. I understand that building permits are not required to be signed by a property owner unless he or she is responsible for the construction and is not hiring a **licensed contractor** to assume responsibility.

_____ 3. I understand that, as an owner-builder, I am the responsible party of record on a permit. I understand that I may protect myself from **potential financial risk** by hiring a **licensed contractor** and having the permit filed in his or her name instead of my own name. I also understand that a contractor is required by law to be licensed in Florida and to list his or her license numbers on permits and contracts.

_____ 4. I understand that I may build or improve a one-family or two-family residence or a farm outbuilding. I may also build or improve a commercial building if the costs do not exceed \$75,000. The building or residence **must be for my own use or occupancy**. It may not be built or substantially improved for sale or lease, unless I am completing the requirements of a building permit where the contractor listed on the permit substantially completed the project. If a building or residence that I have built or substantially improved myself is sold or leased within 1 year after the construction is complete, the law will presume that I built or substantially improved it for sale or lease, which violates the exemption.

_____ 5. I understand that, as the owner-builder, I must provide **direct, onsite supervision** of the construction.

_____ 6. I understand that I **may not hire an unlicensed person** to act as my contractor or to supervise persons working on my building or residence. It is my responsibility to ensure that the persons whom I employ have the **licenses required by law** and by county or municipal ordinance.

_____ 7. I understand that it is a frequent practice of unlicensed persons to have the property owner obtain an owner-builder permit that erroneously implies that the property owner is providing his or her own labor and materials. I, as an owner-builder, **may be held liable** and subjected to **serious financial risk** for any injuries sustained by an unlicensed person on his or her employees while working on my property. My **homeowner's insurance may not provide coverage** for those injuries. I am willfully acting as an owner-builder and am aware of the limits of my insurance coverage for injuries to workers on my property.

_____ 8. I understand that I may not delegate the responsibility for supervising work to a licensed contractor who is not licensed to perform the work being done. Any person working on my building who is not licensed must work under my direct supervision and must be employed by me, which means that I **must comply with laws requiring the withholding of federal income tax and social security contributions** under the Federal Insurance Contributions Act (FICA) and **must provide workers' compensation** for the employee. I understand that my **failure to follow these laws may subject me to serious financial risk**.

_____ 9. I agree that, as the party legally and financially responsible for this proceed construction activity, I will abide by all applicable laws and requirements that govern owner-builders as well as employees. I also understand that the construction **must comply with all applicable laws, ordinances, building codes, and zoning regulations**.

_____ 10. I understand that I may obtain more information regarding my obligations as an employer from the Internal Revenue Service, the United States Small Business Administration, the Florida Department of Financial Services, and the Florida Department of Revenue. I also understand that I may **contact the Florida Construction Industry Licensing Board** at 850-487-1395 or <http://www.myfloridalicense.com/> for more information about licensed contractors.

_____ 11. I am aware of, and consent to, an owner-builder building permit applied for in my name and understand that **I am the party legally and financially responsible** for the proposed construction activity at the following address:

(Address of jobsite property)

_____ 12. I agree to **notify Columbia County Building Department** immediately of any additions, deletions, or changes to any of the information that I have provided on this disclosure. **Licensed contractors are regulated** by laws designed to protect the public. If you contract with a person who does not have a license, the Construction Industry Licensing Board and Department of Business and Professional Regulation may be **unable to assist you with any financial loss** that you sustain as a result of complaint. Your only remedy against an unlicensed contractor may be in civil court. It is also important for you to understand that, if an unlicensed contractor or employee of an individual or firm is injured while working on your property, you may be held **liable for damages**. If you obtain an owner-builder permit and wish to hire a licensed contractor, you will be responsible for **verifying whether the contractor is properly licensed** and the status of the contractor's workers' compensation coverage.

Florida Statutes Chapter 489.103:

_____ 13. State law requires electrical contracting to be done by **licensed electrical contractors**. You have applied for a permit under an exemption to that law. The exemption allows you, as the owner of your property, to act as your own electrical contractor even though you do not have a license. You may install electrical wiring for a farm outbuilding or a single-family or duplex residence. You may install electrical wiring in a commercial building the aggregate construction costs of which are under \$75,000. The home or building must be for your own use and occupancy. It **may not be built for sale or lease**, unless you are completing the requirements of a building permit where the contractor listed on the permit substantially completed the project. If you sell or lease more than one building you have wired yourself within 1 year after the construction is complete, the law will presume that you built it for sale or lease, which is a violation of this exemption. You **may not hire an unlicensed person** as your electrical contractor. Your construction shall be done according to **building codes and zoning regulations**. It is your responsibility to make sure that people employes by you have **licenses required by state law** and by county or municipal licensing ordinances.

_____ 14. An owner of property completing the requirements of a building permit, where the contractor listed on the permit **substantially completed the project** as determined by the local permitting agency, for a one-family or two-family residence, townhome, accessory structure of a one-family or two-family residence or townhome or individual residential condominium unit or cooperative unit. Prior to the owner qualifying for the exemption, the owner must receive approval from the local permitting agency, and the local permitting agency must determine that the contractor substantially completed the project. An owner who qualifies for the exemption under this paragraph is **not required to occupy** the dwelling or unit for at least 1 year after the completion of the project.

Before a building permit shall be issued, this notarized disclosure statement must be completed and signed by the property owner and returned to the local permitting agency responsible for issuing the permit.

TYPE OF CONSTRUCTION

____ *Single Family Dwelling* ____ *Two-Family Residence/Duplex*

____ *Addition / Alteration / Modification* ____ *Electrical*

____ *Contractor substantially complete project of a* _____

____ *Commercial -*

Cost of Construction _____ *for construction of* _____

I _____, have been advised of the above disclosure statement for exemption from contractor licensing as an owner/builder. I agree to comply with all requirements provided for in Florida Statutes allowing this exception for the construction permitted by Columbia County Building Department.

Owner's Signature: _____ Date: _____

NOTARY OF OWNER BUILDER SIGNATURE

STATE OF _____

COUNTY _____

The foregoing instrument acknowledged before me by means of () physical presence or () online notarization, this ____ day _____ of 20____, by _____, who is () personally known to me or () has provided the following identification: _____

(Seal)

Notary Public Signature

Notary Printed Name