

## Our Code of Ethics

The WVAHI standards of practice and Code of Ethics sets the standard for WVAHI member inspectors. By following these standards, we thus ensure the general public that inspections will provide them a level of security which can be measured, monitored, and enforced.

To view and download a copy of our Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice, please visit  
[www.wvahi.org](http://www.wvahi.org)

## How to Find a Home Inspector

To help you find a qualified and state certified inspector near you, we invite you to visit our website at [www.wvahi.org](http://www.wvahi.org). This site will provide contact information for our member inspectors by county or by specialty. Your local inspector is:



For more information, please call a WVAHI member near you. Find him on [wvahi.org](http://wvahi.org).

## Questions to Ask the Inspector

Don't assume that a background in construction trades, engineering, code officers, or other building fields are substitutes for education and training as a home inspector. Be sure to ask the Home Inspector these questions:

- Are you a member of any professional organizations, especially the West Virginia Association of Home Inspectors? (Be sure to ask for the inspector's member number so that you can verify the membership.)
- Where did you attain your education and training?
- Can you provide me with a copy of a General Liability Insurance?
- How many inspections have you performed?
- How long have you been a full-time home inspector?
- May I view a sample report prior to the inspection?
- Can you provide me with three references?
- How much time will the inspection take?
- Will you discuss the report with me after the inspection?

Inspectors that offer to repair any problems that are discovered in the course of the inspection are in DIRECT VIOLATION of the WVAHI Code of Ethics, and should be reported immediately. If you wish to report any violations, please send an email to [info@wvahi.org](mailto:info@wvahi.org).

**HOW TO FIND A STATE  
CERTIFIED HOME  
INSPECTOR IN  
WEST VIRGINIA**



**“Setting the Standard”  
Since 2001**

**LOG ONTO  
WVAHI.ORG**

[www.wvahi.org](http://www.wvahi.org)  
[info@wvahi.org](mailto:info@wvahi.org)

## What Is a Home Inspection?

A home inspection is an objective visual examination of a home from roof to foundation. The actual physical structure and internal systems of the home are examined in great detail. This service is equivalent to a physical examination from your doctor. When problems or symptoms of problems are found, the inspector may recommend further evaluation or remedies, making the cost of the home inspection well worth it.

A home inspection report summarizes findings regarding the condition of the subject home's heating system, central air conditioning system (temperature permitting), interior plumbing, electrical systems, roof, attic, visible insulation, walls, ceilings, floors, windows, doors, foundation, basement, and the over-all visible structure of the home.

This inspection also relays the condition of a property, pointing out the need for major repairs as well as identifying areas that may need attention in the near future. Buyers and sellers alike depend on an accurate home inspection to maximize their knowledge of the property, pointing out the need for major repairs, as

well as identifying areas that may need attention in the near future. Buyers and sellers alike depend on an accurate home inspection to maximize their knowledge of the property in question so that they may be able to make intelligent decisions before executing an agreement for sale or purchase.

The home inspection will also call to attention the positive aspects of a home along with any maintenance that may be necessary to keep it in good shape. After an inspection, both parties have a clearer understanding of the value and needs of the property.

For the purchaser, an inspection can be relied upon to identify small problems before they have the chance to become large ones. It will also help the purchaser learn about preventive measures which could avoid costly repairs in the future.

## Pre-Listing Inspections

If you are planning to sell your home, an inspection prior to placing your home on the market provides a better understanding of the condition of your property. The homeowner is then provided with the opportunity to make repairs that will make his or her home more desirable to potential buyers.

## Certification & Requirements

House Bill 4192, which became effective August 1, 2006 established requirements for the certification of home inspectors in West Virginia and defines the process for applying to be a certified inspector. The legislation states that, effective August 1, 2006, anyone who wishes to work as a licensed home inspector in West Virginia must:

- pass the National Home Inspector Exam;
- graduate from an approved 80 hour home inspector course;
- maintain general liability insurance;
- and complete 16 hours of continuing education annually.

Log onto [www.wvahi.org](http://www.wvahi.org) to obtain a copy of the new legislation.

## How to Join WVAHI

If you are interested in joining our organization, visit our website at [www.wvahi.org](http://www.wvahi.org) to download an application. The application can then be sent to [info@wvahi.org](mailto:info@wvahi.org) or mailed to:

### WVAHI

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