

## ***Waiver of Fees for Non-Profit Organizations*** *Survey of County Planning Officials*

***Q: Do you know any counties or municipalities that have waived fees for building permits or other fees for nonprofit organizations such as Habitat for Humanity, churches, Boy Scouts, etc.?***

A: The ***City of Myrtle Beach*** has no fixed policy whereby fees are automatically waived for non-profit agencies.

A: The ***City of Lancaster*** has waived fees for non-profits. A resolution was passed by City Council for the specific development. I believe this has been done once or twice. If you want to know more about the City's process please call Steve Willis, City Administrator, for more information. He can be reached at 803-286-8414.

A: The ***City of Greenwood and Greenwood County*** have waived permit and application fees for non-profits since 2000. In that span, the City alone has lost "significant" amounts of revenue on a major hospital tower addition, at least eight major church expansions, and numerous agency relocations. In many cases, the staff reviews and inspections for these projects are much more involved than the typical commercial or residential permits. There has been discussion over the last six months to reinstate the fees for non-profits, but no action has been taken as of yet.

A: The ***Anderson County*** Administrator is authorized to waive building permit fees in writing for certain projects such as construction of public buildings and low income housing.

A: Churches and volunteer fire departments, and Habitat for Humanity are exempt from [***Aiken County***] Building Permit fees.

A: What we [***City of Columbia***] are considering would be a waiver of fees for non-profit work on owner-occupied, single-family residential . . . maybe duplexes too.

### **Summary**

<b><i>Jurisdiction</i></b>	<b><i>Waive Fees for non-profits?</i></b>
City of Myrtle Beach	No fixed policy
City of Lancaster	Yes, in some instances
City and County of Greenwood	Yes, in some instances
Anderson County	Yes, in some instances
Aiken County	Yes, for certain organizations
City of Columbia	Considering for family dwelling projects
<b><i>5 Responses</i></b>	<b><i>1 No, 4 Yes</i></b>