

International Code Council Government Relations Update – October 2017

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Ready ... set ... SUBMIT your Group A code change proposals on cdpACCESS until Jan. 8

Submit your code change proposals on cdpACCESS from Oct. 2 to Jan. 8, 2018, for Group A codes and until Jan. 7, 2019, for Group B codes to be included in the 2021 I-Codes. For most rank-and-file ICC Members, this marks the start of the code development process for the 2021 edition updates. Included in Group A are IBC- E, IBC - FS, IBC -G, IFC, IFGC, IMC, IPC, IPMC, IPSDC, IRC – M, IRC- P, ISPSC, IWUIC and IZC. All others are in Group B, except for the IgCC which is done in accordance with ASHRAE. The web posting of “Proposed Changes to the I-Codes” will be Feb. 28, 2018, for Group A and March 4, 2019, for Group B. [Key meeting dates for the disposition of Group A and Group B](#) code updates will be:

- **2018 Committee Action Hearings (Group A Codes).** April 15 - April 25, 2018, Columbus, Ohio.
- **2018 Annual Conference and Group A Public Comment Hearings.** October 21–23 for Annual Conference and Oct. 23-31 for Public Comment Hearings, Richmond, Va.
- **2019 Committee Action Hearings (Group B Codes).** April 28 – May 8, 2019, Albuquerque, N.M.
- **2019 Annual Conference and Group B Public Comment Hearings.** October 20-22 for Annual Conference and Oct. 23-3- for Public Comment Hearings, Clark County, Nev.

ICC is offering [free webinars on Oct. 3, Oct. 5 and Oct. 9 to assist with the cdpACCESS voting process.](#)

ICC matching campaign raised more than \$110,000 for American Red Cross disaster relief

The devastation we’ve seen in the wake of hurricanes Harvey and Irma— the scope of the damage, the sheer number of people affected, the violent winds and storm-surge flooding— is staggering. Unfortunately, hurricane season is still going strong, and Hurricane Maria recently hit Puerto Rico with unprecedented force. With your generous support, ICC’s membership reached our American Red Cross matching donation goal in the aftermath of Hurricanes Harvey and Irma. With the ICC match, together we have raised over \$110,000 —\$15,270 of which was from our Annual Conference double-match challenge – and ICC matched with a \$64,000 donation. Thanks to all who contributed and helped with the effort. We are an association of 64,000 members and counting, and together we make a difference. [Click here](#) for more information and other ways you can continue to help.

National Fire Prevention Week keeps public aware of fire safety and fire prevention

October 8-14 is National Fire Protection Association's (NFPA's) [National Fire Prevention Week](#). Its goal is to keep the public informed about the importance of fire prevention. It commemorates the Great Chicago fire that spread up to 3.3 square miles in 1871. This year's theme is "Every Second Counts: Plan 2 Ways Out!" which highlights the need for building escape plans. The International Code Council (ICC) works closely with NFPA to advocate for modern, up-to-date building codes through the Coalition for Current Safety Codes and to inform individuals and communities about the importance of fire prevention. Here are some hyperlinked NFPA resources on fire safety:

- [Home Fire Inspections](#)
- [Safety Tip Sheet](#)
- [Escape Planning & Practices](#) (Video)
- [Who Needs Building Codes?](#)

GR lists new videos for you to educate the public on the value of codes and code enforcement

The 2017 ICC Annual Conference featured some of the new videos developed to quickly and accurately educate the public on building and safety codes, the code development process, ICC and the purpose of enforcing codes. Here are the titles of videos which are hyperlinked to videos:

- [“Code Officials: Building Safety Today for a Stronger Tomorrow”](#) and [related materials](#).

- [“ICC’s Code Development Process”](#) four-minute video on how codes are updated.
- [“Resilient Communities Come Back Quicker & Better”](#) from the Alliance for National & Community Resilience.
- [“How to use the new ICC Voting System”](#) the new Voting System at the 2018 ABM.
- [“Building Safety Month! Code Officials: Partners in Community Safety and Economic Growth”](#)
- [“The High School Technical Training Program”](#) meets the challenge for better skilled labor.

These and other helpful videos are available on the [ICC Government Relations webpage](#).

October 20 is deadline to submit revisions and additions to three standards

The ICC Consensus Committees on Landscape Irrigation Emission Devices (IS-IEDC), Storm Shelters (IS-STM) and Residential High-Wind Construction (IS-RHW) will be developing the next edition of their respective standards, ICC 802-2014, ICC 500-2014 and ICC 600-2014. [Suggested revisions or additions to the standards will be accepted until the Oct. 20 deadline](#).

NAHB posts videos in English and Spanish on workplace fire safety techniques

NAHB just posted new videos (in English and Spanish) on housekeeping and fire protection. They are part of the Toolbox Talks series and can be found at this link, which you can copy, paste and email.

www.nahb.org/en/research/safety/video-toolbox-talks/housekeeping-and-fire-safety.aspx

Also, the new **Construction Fire Safety Coalition** offers materials to educate construction teams and others on preventing worksite fires. Use the coalition’s website www.ConstructionFireSafety.org.

2017 Annual ICC awards recognize leadership and accomplishments by Chapters and individuals

[Click here for more details](#), but below is the list of individuals and ICC Chapters receiving ICC’s top annual awards at the 2017 Annual Conference in Columbus:

- [The Bobby J. Fowler Award](#): David Collins, Ohio
- [The Gerald H. Jones Code Official of the Year Award](#): Becky Baker, Colorado
- [The ICC Fire Service Award](#): Gary Lewis, New Jersey
- **The ICC Educator of the Year Award**: Bill Bracken, Florida
- [The ICC Community Service Award](#): Women in Code Enforcement and Development and Permit Tech Nation Chapter of ICC
- [The Community Service Award \(second recipient\)](#): Building Department, City of San Jose, Calif.
- [William J. Tangye Staff Recognition Award](#): Karla Higgs, Alabama
- [The ICC Lifetime Achievement Award](#): Norman Koplun, Georgia
- [The Chapter of the Year Award](#): Connecticut Building Officials Association
- **The Chapter Merit Awards**: Maine Building Officials and Inspectors Association (MBOIA) and the Utah Chapter of ICC
- **The Regions Spotlight Award**: ICC Region II
- **The Meritorious Service Award**: David Cook, Montana
- **The National Leadership in Sustainability and Energy Efficiency Award**: Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) and Osama Younan, California.
- [The President’s Award](#): To the [team of people who developed the new voting devices](#) that were used at the Annual Business Meeting

The [2017 ICC Annual Conference photographs are available online to view, download and share](#).

Links provided to download the key current disaster minimum standards established by FEMA

As the nation works its way through another costly season of hurricanes, flooding and wildfires, it may be a good idea to review FEMA’s [Public Assistance Required Minimum Standards](#) and its [Disaster Risk Reduction Minimum Codes and Standards](#) which were signed a year ago. Here is a key provision: “As a

condition of assistance, buildings eligible for repair, replacement, or construction located in hazard-prone areas will use, at a minimum, the hazard-resistant standards referenced **in the most recent edition of the model building code (IBC, IEBC, and IRC) as of the disaster declaration date.**"

October 20 is deadline to submit applications to serve on the ICC Exam Development Committee

By serving on [an Exam Development Committee](#), you can share your expertise and help ensure the credibility and validity of ICC certifications, as well as earn CEUs, contribute to exam development, promote building and fire safety, and add to your professional credentials. [Visit the Exam Development Committee Applicant Snapshot](#) for details.

Predictions for 2018's construction and design industry offered in free webinar

Employment and revenues for architecture, engineering and construction have grown modestly in 2017, but the signals for the next 12 months are mixed. Construction project starts are uneven, contractors are concerned about finding qualified workers, and policy initiatives have made the outlook uncertain. Where is the industry heading? [Join leading construction industry economists on Nov. 1 for the 2018 Design & Construction Outlook webcast.](#)

ICC-ES PMG Now Accredited to Certify Products for the Mexican Market

ICC Evaluation Service (ICC-ES) certification is now accredited by Entidad Mexicana de Acreditación (EMA) to certify plumbing products to the Official Mexican Standards (NOMs). This accreditation, coupled with our American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and Standards Council Canada (SCC) accreditations, which ICC-ES has had for years, allows ICC-ES to certify products for the entire North American market. [Read more](#)

Beth Tubbs to represent ICC at Society of Fire Protection Engineers session in Quebec

Although many products and methods used for fire protection are well proven, there is a continual evolution of materials, construction methods, technologies and environmental considerations. ICC Senior Staff Engineer Beth Tubbs will participate in a Society of Fire Protection Engineers (SFPE) session — Recent Fire Protection Events Forum — during the [SFPE North America Conference & Expo: Accent on Fire Protection Engineering](#) to be held on Oct. 11 in Quebec, Canada. The session will explore the ever-changing world of fire protection issues as well as pathways to moving forward in fire research to make improvements in the regulatory environment

Speakers and sessions highlight National Disaster Resilience Conference Oct. 25-27 in Atlanta

The [2017 National Disaster Resilience Conference](#) (NDRC) Oct. 25-27 in Atlanta, Ga., brings together the nation's leaders in disaster resilience. [Click here for the full agenda.](#) Keynote speakers will be:

- **Leo Abruzzese**, Global Director of Public Policy, The Economist Intelligence Unit
- **W. Craig Fugate**, FEMA Administrator, (2009 – 2017)
- **Lt. General Russel L. Honoré**, US Army (Ret.)
- **Dr. Rick Knabb**, Hurricane Expert & Tropical Program Manager, *The Weather Channel*, National Hurricane Conference Director (2012 – 2017)
- **Dave Shull**, CEO, *The Weather Channel* Television Network
- **Wendy Spencer**, President, Leadership Florida and CEO, Corporation for National and Community Service (2012 – 2016)

There will be a panel discussion on "The U.S. Building Code Landscape" moderated by **Dale K. Thomure**, CBO, CFM, Hazard Mitigation Manager, ISO, and also featuring:

- **Sara Yerkes**, SVP Governmental Relations, International Code Council
- **Audrey K. Rierson**, J.D., Senior Policy Analyst, FLASH

The agenda includes leaders from FLASH Legacy Partners BASF, DHS, FEMA, Simpson Strong-Tie, State Farm Insurance Companies, and USAA along with the American Institute of Architects, AIR Worldwide, DHS, Government Accountability Office, MIT, and *The Weather Channel*. More info email info@flash.org.

14th Annual Clean Air through Energy Efficiency Conference set for Nov. 13-15 in Plano, Texas

The 14th annual Clean Air through Energy Efficiency Conference will be held Nov. 13-15 in Plano, Texas. This conference will provide you the opportunity to engage with many state and local policy makers, community and business leaders, researchers, facility and energy managers, design and development professionals, utility and energy service experts, and other stakeholders in [a lively conversation about cleaner air, a better built environment and a new energy economy](#).

Midwest Building Energy Codes Conference set for Nov. 15-16 in Ann Arbor

Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance's 8th Annual [Midwest Building Energy Codes Conference](#) will be at Weber's Inn in Ann Arbor, Mich. The conference is free to attend. [Register today to reserve your seat](#) at the table. Topics include zero energy homes, the new model energy code (2018 IECC), HERS ratings, using big data to save energy, and engaging home buyers, sellers and appraisers. Click [here the full agenda of the conference](#).

December 8 is 'early bird registration' deadline for the Midwest Energy Solutions Conference

More than 650 innovators and thought leaders will gather Feb. 7-9 at the Midwest Energy Solutions Conference in Chicago. It is the nation's premiere energy efficiency conference to forge industry connections, preview upcoming policy developments and check out the latest technologies. [Early bird registration ends Friday, Dec. 8](#). The conference is sponsored by the [Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance](#).

American Wood Council offers free registrations on October, November and December webinars

The American Wood Council, an ICC Preferred Education Provider, is offering the following three webinars that are suited as continuing education for code officials, architects, engineers and building designers. They are:

- Oct. 19 – "[2015 NDS Connections Primer \(DES345\)](#)." The course will be held 1:55 p.m. Eastern Standard Time to 3:30 p.m. Instructor is Lori Koch, American Wood Council. With the variety of fasteners available for wood construction, this presentation will provide a basic understanding of connections that includes design examples based on the 2015 National Design Specification for Wood Construction. Solutions for nailed, screwed and bolted connections will be presented, along with specific information on calculating shear capacity as well as withdrawal capacity. One and a half hour of education credits will be awarded.
- Nov. 16 – "[Cornucopia of Classic Connection Conundrums \(DES340\)](#)." The course will be held 1:55 p.m. Eastern Standard Time to 3:30 p.m. Instructors are Michelle Kam-Biron and Lori Koch, American Wood Council. Based on numerous help desk questions and feedback from design professionals, AWC has identified some of the most commonly overlooked wood connection engineering requirements from the NDS and SDPWS. These requirements will be discussed as well as resources and examples to meet these requirements. One and a half hour of education credits will be awarded.
- Dec. 14 – "[2018 NDS Changes \(STD120\)](#)." The course will be held 1:55 p.m. Eastern Standard Time to 3 p.m. Instructor is Buddy Showalter, PE. One hour of education credits will be awarded.

International Code Council Institutes to be held this fall in several cities

- **ICC Residential Inspection Institute, Denver, Oct. 16-20:** Review the latest inspection tools and learn to complete residential building, mechanical, plumbing and electrical inspections step-by-step at ICC's [Residential Inspection Institute](#). Based on the 2015 I-Codes, this event is an

opportunity to earn 3.0 CEUs and receive practical information from those who know the codes best.

- **ICC Permit Technician Institutes, Seattle Oct. 16-17, and San Francisco Nov. 13-14 and Nov. 16-17:** The [ICC Permit Technician Institute](#) is designed to educate permit technicians with skills and abilities necessary to perform their jobs more effectively. Topics include code administration, legal aspects, code language, enforcement, reading construction documents, performing plan reviews and the permitting and inspection process. Participants will become familiar with the IBC and IRC and sharpen their customer relations skills. Participants will receive necessary reference materials.
- **ICC Plan Review Institute, Los Angeles Nov. 13-17:** [Make your plans now for the Plan Review Institute](#). This five-day course is based on the 2015 International Codes and will include interactive exercises that detail best practices for performing residential, structural and nonstructural plan reviews.
- **ICC Fire & Life Safety Institute, Atlanta Nov. 6-8:** Includes [overview of the fire and life safety requirements](#) of buildings in 2015 IBC and specific problem solving related to fire and life safety of buildings and as well as the application of related code provisions. Institute includes technical skills, to deepen understanding and gain necessary knowledge and tools to apply the code effectively efficiently and reasonably. Topics include building classification, fire protection and means of egress. Each participant will receive all necessary reference materials.
- **ICC Reinforced Concrete Special Inspector Certification Test Academy, New York City Nov. 13-15:** Taught by an expert ICC instructor, the [Reinforced Concrete Special Inspector Certification Test Academy](#) provides instruction, individual/ group interactive review exercises, evening assignments and opportunity to practice test taking. Topics that will be covered include general requirements; concrete quality; reinforcement; formwork, joints and embeds and concrete placement, protection and curing of the special inspection certification exam.
- **ICC Code Officials Institute, Phoenix Dec. 4-7:** Designed for current managers or code professionals on track for a leadership position, this [four-day, in-depth event](#) is an opportunity to learn everything from techniques for processing electronic plan reviews to how to hire the right people.

Valuable seminar on ASCE 7-10 to ASCE 7-16 offered in eight cities between November and March

ICC announced in June the addition of S.K. Ghosh Associates (SKGA) to its family of companies, which further strengthens ICC with respect to the structural provisions of our codes and reference standards. SKGA has partnered with the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) to develop training based on a new publication coauthored by S.K. Ghosh titled **Significant Changes from ASCE 7-10 to ASCE 7-16**. This seminar series is being offered nationally in collaboration with ASCE to introduce engineers, designers, code officials, and others to recent significant changes in ASCE 7, an integral standard referenced in the 2018 International Building Code (IBC). For more information on this timely and essential seminar, visit https://www.secure.skghoshassociates.com/seminar/onsite_seminars.php.

ICC-ES PMG to certify spray sprinkler bodies under the EPA's WaterSense Program

ICC Evaluation Service (ICC-ES), experts in plumbing product evaluation and certification, has been transitionally approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under the WaterSense program as a licensed certifier of spray sprinkler bodies. [ICC-ES can now evaluate and certify such products to the EPA specification](#) (which references ICC/ASABE 802). In addition, ICC-ES PMG can also certify products to AB1953, NSF/ANSI 372, S.3874 (Federal Law for Reduction of Lead in Drinking Water) and other high-efficiency products such as toilets, bathroom sink faucets, urinals, showerheads, weather-based irrigation controllers and flushometer-valve water toilets to the requirements of WaterSense.