

August 23, 2021

# Code Alerts

## Upcoming Code Body Meetings



State	Body	Date	Link
Wisconsin	Wisconsin Plumbing Code Advisory Committee Meeting	8/24/2021	<a href="#">Info</a>
Michigan	Michigan Construction Code Commission Meeting	8/24/2021	<a href="#">Info</a>
Massachusetts	Massachusetts General Requirements Code Committee Meeting	8/24/2021	<a href="#">Info</a>
Connecticut	Connecticut Codes Amendment Subcommittee Meeting	8/25/2021	<a href="#">Info</a>
Massachusetts	Massachusetts Existing Buildings Advisory Committee Meeting	8/25/2021	<a href="#">Info</a>
New Jersey	New Jersey State Board of Examiners of Master Plumbers	8/26/2021	<a href="#">Info</a>
Oklahoma	Oklahoma Uniform Building Code Commission Meeting	8/26/2021	<a href="#">Info</a>
DC	DC TAG (Green and Commercial Energy) Meeting	8/26/2021	<a href="#">Info</a>
New Hampshire	New Hampshire State Building Code Review Board Meeting	8/27/2021	<a href="#">Info</a>
Washington	Washington State Building Code Council TAG (Energy Code) Meeting	8/27/2021	<a href="#">Info</a>
Washington	Washington State Building Code Council BFP Meeting	8/27/2021	<a href="#">Info</a>
Florida	Florida Hurricane Research Advisory Committee Meeting	8/27/2021	<a href="#">Info</a>
Virginia	Virginia Board for Contractors Meeting	8/28/2021	<a href="#">Info</a>
Virginia	Virginia Board for Contractors Meeting	8/28/2021	<a href="#">Info</a>
New Mexico	New Mexico Public Regulation Commission Meeting	8/28/2021	<a href="#">Info</a>
Vermont	Vermont Division of Fire Safety Meeting	8/30/2021	<a href="#">Info</a>
Oregon	Oregon Energy Advisory Work Group Meeting	8/30/2021	<a href="#">Info</a>

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## Recent Activity Alerts



### Building

State/Body	Date	Title
Washington	8/22/2021	<a href="#">WSR 21-16-006</a>
<p>The Building Code Council filed Permanent Rule WSR 21-16-006 to correct errors and omissions of an editorial nature in the amendments to the 2018 International Residential Code, Chapter 51-51 WAC.</p>		
Washington	8/29/2021	<a href="#">WSR 21-16-063</a>
<p>The Building Code Council filed Permanent Rule WSR 21-16-063 in response to E3SHB 1257, chapter 285, Laws of 2019, to address WAC 51-50-0427 Amendments to the 2018 International Building Code pertaining to electric vehicle charging infrastructure. This is a correction to WSR 21-14-074, which inadvertently retained an earlier error in section numbering, placing what should have been Section 429 into 427.</p>		
Massachusetts	9/8/2021	<a href="#">Proposed IBC Amendments</a>
<p>On September 9, the Geotechnical Advisory Committee will review/vote on proposed amendments and new content of IBC 2021, Chapter 18, for inclusion in the Tenth Edition of the Massachusetts Building Code (780 CMR).</p>		
Maine	8/19/2021	<a href="#">Emergency Rule Chapter 3</a>
<p>Maine extended Emergency Rule Chapter 3 to be effective through November 4, 2021 rather than August 16, 2021. This rule is being proposed to allow two new industries in Maine to do business within the State, and it also has code language adopted by the MUBEC Board allowing small summer cabins to be built without a sprinkler system.</p>		
Florida	8/27/2021	<a href="#">Hurricane Committee Code Discussions</a>
<p>On August 27, the Hurricane Research Advisory Committee will discuss and review all relevant guidelines, statutes, local ordinances, standards, and model codes related to building recertification requirements and inspection schedules for existing building.</p> <p>Specifically, the committee will discuss local ordinances related to building safety inspections, recertification, and unsafe structures. Further, the committee will discuss the 2021 International Building Code (IBC 2021), Standard Unsafe Building Abatement Code, and 2021 International Property Maintenance Code (IPMC 2021).</p> <p>Additionally, the committee will evaluate what role, if any, the Florida Building Code could or should have regarding inspections and maintenance of existing high-rise residential buildings and other high-rise buildings as appropriate.</p>		
Massachusetts	8/25/2021	<a href="#">IEBC 2021 Recommendations</a>
<p>On August 25, the Existing Building Code Committee will review and vote on recommendations on the 2021 International Existing Building Code (IEBC 2021).</p>		

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### Fire

State/Body	Date	Title
Oregon	8/17/2021	<a href="#">Residential Fire Sprinklers for New Child Care and Adult Foster Care Facilities</a>
<p>The 2021 Oregon Residential Specialty Code (ORSC) Chapter 1, Section R101.2.1, now requires automatic residential fire sprinkler systems, designed and installed in accordance with National Fire Protection Association's (NFPA) 13D Standard, when locating a new child care facility or adult foster care facility in a residential dwelling, Group R-3 occupancy. This change aligns the ORSC with the existing requirements of the Oregon Structural Specialty Code (OSSC) and treats new child care facilities and adult foster care facilities the same regardless of the building type they are being located in. NFPA 13D is a residential sprinkler design standard focused on one- and two- family dwellings. The intent is to provide an affordable sprinkler system in dwellings while maintaining a high level of life safety.</p>		

### Energy

State/Body	Date	Title
California	8/11/2021	<a href="#">Energy Commission Adopts Updated Building Standards to Improve Efficiency, Reduce Emissions From Homes and Businesses</a>
<p>The California Energy Commission (CEC) adopted the 2022 Building Energy Efficiency Standards (Energy Code) for newly constructed and renovated buildings that will produce benefits to support the state's public health, climate and clean energy goals.</p> <p>The 2022 update will be submitted to the California Building Standards Commission (CBSC), which is scheduled to consider it in December 2021. If approved by the CBSC, it would go into effect on January 1, 2023, giving builders, contractors and other interested parties a year to gear up for the changes.</p> <p>The 2022 Energy Code focuses on four key areas in newly constructed homes and businesses:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Encouraging electric heat pump technology for space and water heating, which consumes less energy and produces fewer emissions than gas-powered units;</li> <li>2. Establishing electric-ready requirements for single-family homes to position owners to use cleaner electric heating, cooking and electric vehicle (EV) charging options whenever they choose to adopt those technologies;</li> <li>3. Expanding solar photovoltaic (PV) system and battery storage standards to make clean energy available onsite and complement the state's progress toward a 100 percent clean electricity grid; and</li> <li>4. Strengthening ventilation standards to improve indoor air quality.</li> </ol>		
Washington	8/20/2021	<a href="#">Code Proposals</a>
<p>On August 20, the Energy Code TAG will discuss key issues and code proposals related to heat pump water heating, C406 proposals, chapter 5 proposals, and miscellaneous proposals.</p>		

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## Recent Activity Alerts



### Electrical/Plumbing

State/Body	Date	Title
California	8/19/2021	<a href="#">Plumbing Code Change Comment Period</a>
<p>The California Building Standards Commission (CBSC), on behalf of the Department of Water Resources, is providing notice of code changes intended for the 2022 California Building Standards Code that were the subject of written comments from the initial 45-day public comment period that began on May 28, 2021, ending on July 12, 2021. CBSC will accept written comments for at least 15 days between August 19, 2021 through September 3, 2021. All written comments must be submitted to CBSC no later than midnight on September 3, 2021.</p> <p>The following proposed actions are affected by the additional 15-day public comment period: Department of Water Resources: DWR 01/21 – 2022 California Plumbing Code, Part 5: Item 5, Chapter 15 - "Alternate Water Sources for Nonpotable Applications," Section 1505.0 Recycled Water Supply Systems in Buildings.</p>		

### Misc.

State/Body	Date	Title
South Carolina	8/19/2021	<a href="#">Modification Requests</a>
<p>As of August 16, 2021, the Council has received 36 modification requests. All modification requests submitted as of August 16, 2021, are on the agenda for the BCC Code Study Committee meeting scheduled for August 19, 2021, at 10:30am. Modification requests will be accepted through September 22, 2021, the final Study Committee meeting is scheduled for September 28, 2021, at 10:30am. The Council will vote on the Study Committee recommendations at their meeting on October 6, 2021.</p>		
Wisconsin	8/24/2021	<a href="#">Plumbing Code Changes</a>
<p>On August 24, the Plumbing Code Advisory Committee will discuss and consider administrative rule matters. Specifically, the committee will review plumbing code changes: SPS 381 (Definitions and Standards), SPS 382 (Design, Construction, Installation, Supervision, Maintenance, and Inspection of Plumbing), and SPS 384 (Plumbing Products). Further, the Committee will discuss public agenda requests, including proposed Commercial Energy Code Amendments for Horticultural Lighting Efficacy (20-22) and Demand Response (23-25).</p>		

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## Bills with Recent Activity



## Legislation

State	Bill #	Bill Title	Primary Sponsor	Last Action	Date
MA	<a href="#">H 4081</a>	<b>An Act concerning the expansion of renewable heating fuels and renewable thermal heating</b>	Tom Golden, Jr.	Senate concurred	8/19/2021
<p>This bill establishes a fund known as the Renewable Heating Fuels Development Fund to be administered by the commissioner of energy resources. The purpose of the fund shall be to increase the supply of heating renewable energy credits available for compliance use by obligated entities, as defined in section 1 of chapter 164C. There shall be credited to the fund all alternative compliance payments made by obligated entities as provided in section 2 of said chapter 164C. Amounts credited to the fund shall be expended without further appropriation.</p>					
CA	<a href="#">AB 1329</a>	<b>Building codes: earthquakes</b>	Adrin Nazarian	In committee: Referred to suspense file.	8/16/2021
<p>The bill would require the Building Standards Commission to develop, adopt, and publish building standards that would require new construction of buildings, except for buildings regulated by the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development or the Division of the State Architect, to be designed and built to a functional recovery standard, as defined, for earthquake loads. The bill would specify that if a functional recovery standard is not completed in time for inclusion in the building code with an effective date of January 1, 2026, engineered buildings, as defined, will be assigned to Risk Category IV, as defined in the building code.</p>					
CA	<a href="#">AB 33</a>	<b>Energy Conservation Assistance Act of 1979: energy storage systems and transportation electrification infrastructure.</b>	Phil Ting	In committee: Referred to suspense file.	8/16/2021
<p>This bill would prohibit new public buildings for which construction begins on or after January 1, 2022, to have natural gas connections.</p>					

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## State Rules & Notices



## State Rules & Notices

State	Pub. Date	Type	Title
<b>NC</b>	<b>8/16/2021</b>	<b>Notice</b>	Incorporating Changes In The NC State Building Codes As A Result Of Rulemaking Petitions Filed With The NC Building Code Council And Changes Proposed By The Council
This proposed rule adds definitions to double walls, common walls, and provides other general definitions as established by the NC Building Code Council.			
<b>NJ</b>	<b>8/16/2021</b>	<b>Final</b>	Uniform Construction Code
<p>The proposed rule would make the following changes to the Uniform Construction Code:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At N.J.A.C. 5:23-2.6(b)4, proposed amendments would specify that hospitality rooms, as defined by the Emergency Shelters for the Homeless rules, N.J.A.C. 5:15, are not considered a change of use under the Uniform Construction Code. This language aligns with the current text of the New Jersey International Fire Code, 2015 edition.</li> <li>At N.J.A.C. 5:23-2.15(f), proposed amendments would address engineering plans for Class 3 structures. This subsection was originally drafted to permit smaller, lesser hazard buildings (classified as Class 3) to allow the licensed plumber or electrician to submit design plans. Over the years, more licenses have been established to ensure a multitude of trades have continuing education. Therefore, these proposed amendments would modify this subsection, as well as N.J.A.C. 5:23-2.15A(b)4ii, which includes the regulations for construction permits for single-family dwellings, to be all-inclusive of licensed professionals submitting design plans for Class 3 structures. For example, in addition to the plumbing and electrical trades, certified fire protection equipment installers and licensed heating, ventilating, air conditioning, and refrigeration contractors would be able to design and submit plans for Class 3 buildings.</li> <li>At N.J.A.C. 5:23-2.15A(b)4i, proposed amendments would correct an inconsistency between N.J.A.C. 5:23-2.15, Construction permits—application, and 2.15A, Construction permit for a single-family residence. The former was amended in 2013, to implement a flood design exception for general plan submittal. The proposed amendments would add the same exception for plan submittal for single-family residences.</li> <li>At N.J.A.C. 5:23-2.38(b), proposed amendments would reflect the standard operating procedure throughout other Department rules regarding barrier free subcode recreation complaints. Instead of requiring the Department to perform fact finding for each case, the proposed amendments would allow for the Department to refer a complaint to the Office of Administrative Law for an initial decision, as is standard throughout other programs over which the Department has jurisdiction.</li> </ol>			