

Monthly Update

INSIDE

It costs nothing to sign up
ICC Membership Councils offer networking opportunities
Page 2

Chapter Leadership Academy
Special annual event set for April 17-18 in Hartford, Connecticut
Page 3

Birdhouse building night
Lenexa event schools kids and parents on Building Safety Month
Page 4



Code Council's Chapters and supporters prepare for the 2026 Building Safety Month with events

Building Safety Month, an annual public awareness campaign led by the International Code Council (ICC), returns on May 1 with this year's theme, "**Built to Last.**" The campaign highlights how modern building codes, safety professionals and resilient construction practices protect homes and communities around the world. Each year, ICC, its members and global communities celebrate building safety through proclamations, educational events, community gatherings and more. This year's weekly themes are:

- Week One (May 1–10): "**Safe Homes, Strong Communities**" focuses on simple actions homeowners can take to improve safety at home
- Week Two (May 11–17): "**Voices of the Built Environment**" spotlights building safety professionals and the roles they play in keeping communities safe
- Week Three (May 18–24): "**Prepared to Protect**" encourages community preparedness and highlights how disaster-resilient building codes protect people and property
- Week Four (May 25–31): "**Communities Without Limits**" showcases the importance of accessibility in building construction and design

[Click here](#) to download the 2026 poster. Over the coming weeks, ICC will publish resources to help promote Building Safety Month including safety tips, promotional graphics and resources for teachers.

Also, make sure you [register here for a special webinar](#) Tuesday, March 24, to help you and your colleagues make your local Building Safety Month event an outstanding success. It starts at 2 p.m. Eastern/1 p.m. Central and includes what's new in 2026, event tips, using social media effectively, the 2026 LEGO prize giveaway, and a Q&A session. *(Please note this webinar is not eligible for International Code Council Continuing Education Units)*

[Read more here](#) →

UPDATE YOUR CALENDAR

2026 Public Comment Hearings – Group A & B April 19–28, 2026
The Connecticut Convention Center, Hartford CT

2026 ICC Annual Conference and Expo October 18 – 21, 2026
Gaylord Opryland Resort Nashville, TN

Volunteers urged to sign up for 2030 Code Cycle by April 1

There is less than one month remaining to apply for the 2030 Code Cycle by April 1. By serving on these committees, you will help shape the 2030 International Codes, advancing building safety through model codes used by your communities and others globally. Your involvement directly influences the safety and well-being of approximately 2 billion people worldwide, ensuring that our communities benefit from up-to-date, effective building codes. [Check out the list of committees and the code development schedule by clicking here.](#) Are you interested in capitalizing on your professional experience, gain new colleagues and expand your knowledge? [Then click here to register.](#)

- Due to requests from committee members, the IAC and the Codes and Standards Committee (CSC) we have added the option to indicate that you are willing to serve where needed in addition to selecting specific committee preferences.

- Travel expenses for code development committee (CDC) members are funded by ICC for the committee action hearings (CAHs).
- If there are others you know who may be interested in serving on a code development committee, please forward this newsletter to them!

If you have questions please contact codeapps@iccsafe.org.

WOMEN IN CONSTRUCTION: Texas' Dejanee Cheery offers insights

Dejanee Cherry, Electrical Assistant Project Manager for specialty subcontractors [CEC Facilities Group](#) in Irving, TX, has worked in the building safety industry since 2022. While she's held a few different positions over the past few years, Cherry currently manages and oversees material submittals and liaises among the project managers, field superintendents, subcontractors and clients. She makes sure that the team is up-to-date with submissions and related materials. As a professional wrapping up her first few years working in building safety – and with big goals for the future – here Cherry shares insights from her career experience and gives advice for other women interested in joining the field. [Click here to read about the 2026 Women in Construction Week](#) which runs March 1-7.

[Read more here](#) →



Join ICC's Membership Councils: Stay plugged in, informed and involved

When you join a discipline-specific Membership Council, you can take your ICC membership and profession to the next level. This unique opportunity allows you to stay informed, access resources, and connect with colleagues in your field. Enjoy the benefits:

- Free to all ICC members
- Career development
- Staying informed
- Access to regular meetings
- Networking opportunities
- A chance to make an impact

Also free for ICC members is access to the ICC Member Community App, your gateway to a community of building safety professionals and a wealth of knowledge. Get the app and it's just a click away! Whether you're looking to expand your network, stay informed or get involved, [check out the ICC Member Community App](#).

[Read more here](#) →

Here are four more important March deadlines to remember

There are some important deadlines to keep in mind affecting activities through the rest of 2026. They are:

March 15 – Last day to accept nominations for honorary members and for the [International Code Council's annual awards](#) to outstanding individuals, organizations, ICC Chapters and jurisdictions. [Read more here](#) →

March 20 – Last day to submit an application to serve on the openings on various Exam Development Committees.

Apply to help contribute to the development and maintenance of various ICC Certification exams. [Read more here](#) →

March 30 – Public comment period ends for the draft of ICC 1100 – *Standard for Spray-applied Polyurethane Foam Plastic*. [Read more here](#) →

April 1 – Last day to submit applications for serving on the **2030 IWUIC Code Development Committee** through the [ICC Committee Application portal](#) under "Online Applications for Codes." [Read more here](#) →

Get involved to address 'middle housing' in the code development process

Demand for cost-effective housing options continues to grow across the United States. One housing type drawing increasing attention is small, multifamily buildings that fall outside the scope of the International Residential Code® (IRC), often referred to as "middle housing." This category includes duplexes, triplexes, fourplexes and small apartment buildings that provide diverse and relatively affordable housing options for households across a wide range of incomes. The International Codes® (I-Codes®) already include model provisions that span the full spectrum of multifamily building types, supporting developers, designers and jurisdictions in delivering safe, affordable and efficient housing. These provisions are intentionally risk based, recognizing that different building types present different life safety considerations and therefore warrant different regulatory approaches. The International Building Code® (IBC), for example, clearly differentiates between larger, multistory apartment buildings and smaller, low-rise multifamily buildings. A two-story, 16-unit apartment building in which each dwelling unit exits directly to the exterior is regulated differently than a five-story, 40-unit apartment building with a shared interior means of egress. This differentiation reflects meaningful differences in fire, egress and life safety risk, and ensures that the IBC does not

apply a one-size-fits-all approach to the varied construction types it addresses. Middle housing remains an active and evolving topic in the code development process. For instance, the *IBC – Means of Egress Code Development Committee* has approved a proposal relevant to middle housing that would permit single exit up to four stories (see E24-24). That proposal and others will be debated during the I-Codes Public Comment Hearings beginning April 19th in Hartford, CT. [Click here](#) for additional information on those proceedings and how to participate. Another topic needing attention by stake holders is high density multifamily housing. The Building Code Action Committee (BCAC) has launched a working group focused on high density multifamily housing. Interested parties can sign up through the [ICC Committee Application](#) page by selecting “Interested Party Lists” and requesting to be added to the *BCAC – Residential – High Density Multifamily Housing* list.

[Read more here](#) →

New code enforcement program to help departments remain effective

The International Code Council’s (ICC) [new comprehensive code enforcement program](#) is an all-in-one toolkit for professional excellence and acts as a centralized resource for any team’s training, credentialing and membership requirements. The ICC Code Enforcement Program offers access to a wide range of tools designed to help building department personnel stay ahead in the ever-evolving field of code enforcement, regardless of being new to code enforcement or an experienced professional. These include professional credentials that validate expertise, provide flexible training options and essential publications. This comprehensive approach empowers jurisdictions to cultivate skilled and certified code professionals, ensuring effective enforcement of vital housing, property maintenance and zoning regulations. ICC recently launched two new credentials under this program: the **Code Enforcement Technician** and **Code Enforcement Officer**. The Code Enforcement Technician Credential must be completed first in order to obtain the Code Enforcement Officer credential. The **Code Enforcement Manager** credential will be launched later this year.

ICC Training looks forward to another successful year of Chapter services

The ICC Training department is looking forward to another year of partnership with ICC Chapters to provide top-tier educational opportunities for members. Last year was successful— a model we plan to exceed in the upcoming year. In 2025, ICC provided 133 days of complimentary Chapter Education Benefit (CEB) days. **Remember:** All you have to do to earn a 2026 CEB day is to complete a Chapter Annual Report this year. (See [here](#) for more information.). ICC’s Training department continues to add new choices for your CEB day. To see the latest training opportunities, go to [learn.iccsafe.org](#) and choose “Schedule Your CEB Today” from the “waffle” menu in the top right corner of your screen. We are streamlining a few procedures this year to make getting class attendees their CEU information as efficient as possible. As part of these measures, blank certificates are no longer be provided in the sponsor packets sent out to training organizers. Electronic versions of the certificates will continue to be offered through each person’s myICC account. Remember that ICC provides pre-registration links that attendees fill out their information prior to the class. You should distribute this link to any potential attendees. Marketing items, flyers, and emails are great ways to communicate this link to your members. Encouraging electronic preregistrations benefits members in many ways:

- Using the link is the fastest, most efficient way of processing CEUs and attendance.
- We will provide an attendee list before your seminar date so that checking attendance is easy.
- Members can reach out to your seminar coordinator to ask how many people have pre-registered, helping you plan catering, seating, book orders and room sizes.

Preregistration links will be provided by your seminar coordinator. Please note that if you do not use the preregistration links, the only option is completing the sample spreadsheet sent by your seminar coordinator. Keep in mind that use of the Excel spreadsheet might delay the processing of CEUs and attendance. Handwritten, scanned, or any other format cannot be processed. Feedback is encouraged. Contact Karla Higgs, Vice President, Enforcement Training, Her email is kphiggs@iccsafe.org and her cell number is 205-746-7274.



Chapter Leadership Academy is April 17-18 in Hartford, Connecticut

Held in conjunction with [ICC Leadership Week + Hearings](#), the 2026 [Chapter Leadership Academy](#) in Hartford, Connecticut, offers valuable resources for chapter success, Don't miss this excellent opportunity to earn CEUs, connect and collaborate with peers, share best practices, and develop new leadership skills. Qualifying Chapter officers will be reimbursed for

travel to the Academy plus lodging expenses for check-in on April 16 through check-out on April 18. To qualify for reimbursement, be sure to **quickly and easily** [submit your Chapter Annual Report](#). If you have any questions on how to complete and submit a Chapter Annual Report, email [Grayce McGregor](#). A Chapter in good standing may choose between sending an officer to either the:

- Chapter Leadership Academy, for which ICC will provide
 - One complimentary registration.

- Reimbursement for the chapter officer's travel.
- Reimbursement for the chapter officer's lodging.

Or to the ICC Annual Conference, for which ICC will provide one complimentary registration.

SPECIAL NOTE: If you are new to participating in ICC code hearings and plan to attend the 2026 Public Comment Hearing starting April; 19 in Hartford, [use this link to sign up to team up](#) with veteran code hearing participants at the Group A and B hearings. The Emerging Leaders Membership Council and the Building Membership Council are coordinating mentor/mentee meetings for the hearings. Just click on the link and fill out the form.

Expanded use of stationary generators heightens concerns for safety

Stationary generators are products permanently installed outside the home or other structures to provide power in the event of a loss of utility power. Stationary generators for residential installations are alternatively referred to as residential, home, whole-home, house, backup, standby, home standby (HSB), emergency, fixed, or permanent generators. A stationary generator has an engine that converts the chemical energy of the fuel powering the engine into rotational energy, which, in turn, is converted into electrical power. The engines in residential stationary generators are fueled by either natural gas (NG) or liquid propane (LP), and like all combustion engines, their exhaust contains CO, a toxic gas.

[Read more here](#) →

Code Council works with major groups to probe housing affordability issues

The United States is facing a shortage of 4 to 7 million homes, driving housing prices to record highs. How can we build the homes American families need? The answer lies in modernizing our zoning and permitting processes. In this video, leaders from the International Code Council, Pew Charitable Trusts, National League of Cities, and American Planning Association come together to discuss actionable solutions to promote housing affordability across the country. Visit iccsafe.org/permitting-zoning-2025 to access the toolkit and help shape the future of housing in your community.

[Watch video here](#) →



Lenexa, Kansas, city staff adds some family fun to Building Safety Month

Building bird houses won't make anybody rich, but permit technician supervisor Amy Barenklau and the building safety staff at Lenexa, Kansas, know how building a bird house can enrich children and parents on the importance of building safety codes and Building Safety Month. [This year's event will be May 6](#) at the Lenexa Public Market.

"Educating the public is a big part of who I am. It's a big part of what we do on the job with permitting, inspections and working with contractors and the public," Barenklau said.

The Lenexa Community Development Department staff has hosted a Building Safety Month table display at the city's farmers market on the first and third Saturdays of May for several years.

"We have had the table loaded with information about building codes, an activity book, crayons, swag and even treats for the four-legged visitors," Barenklau said. "Last year we had a 'plinko' style game that encouraged more interaction with those who stopped by. You never know what kinds of questions you will get, or who will stop by,"

She and Senior Plans Analyst Dave Byl also worked on more traditional activities such as formal signings of the 2025 Building Safety Month proclamations by Lenexa Mayor Julie Sayers and by Kansas Governor Laura Kelly. They also dropped off coloring books and materials celebrating Building Safety Month at public libraries.

All of those projects were great, she said, but then the staff grabbed an opportunity last year to host a Family Night at the Lenexa Public Market. They supplied materials to build bird houses and young imaginations went to work.

"We purchased some birdhouses that could be assembled without tools or special knowledge and provided markers, stickers, and other decorative items for the families to 'bling' or 'glam' up the birdhouse. We purchased 100 birdhouses and ran out in less than an hour!" Barenklau said. "We could have provided more, but we were extremely pleased with our first Building Safety Month family activity night."

ICC Plumbing, Mechanical, and Fuel Gas Updates

WATER REUSE TECHNOLOGY: Are solutions already out there?

Hosted by Tom Roberts, Global Director of PMG for the International Code Council, this series takes listeners on a global building safety journey, exploring key topics in the plumbing, mechanical and fuel gas industries. In Episode 7 of *The Pipeline*, Tom Roberts sat down with Nick Post, Water and Regulations Specialist from the Netherlands, to explore new technologies available for reusing greywater in buildings. They also highlighted that the new technology to solve water scarcity may already be available, but posed the question, *Are the regulations a barrier to new solutions?*

[Read more here](#) →

ICC Family of Solutions Updates

ICC-ES Global Concierge Service provides a guided, end-to-end approach

Expanding into global markets and new product categories can be complex—but it doesn't have to be. The [ICC Evaluation Service \(ICC-ES\) Global Concierge Service](#) provides a guided, end-to-end approach to help manufacturers navigate international certification, testing, and regulatory requirements with clarity and confidence. Designed for manufacturers seeking efficient access to new countries worldwide, the Global Concierge Service offers personalized guidance, coordination, and oversight throughout the certification journey—reducing risk, saving time, and simplifying decision making. When there isn't a clearly defined path, ICC-ES works with innovative manufacturers to help products meet applicable requirements and move forward with confidence. As a non-profit public service organization, ICC-ES is dedicated to advancing building safety worldwide. We work with hundreds of international clients from more than 70 countries and maintain memorandums of understanding (MOUs) and strategic relationships with conformity assessment bodies (CABs) across the globe, supporting efficient global market access. The ICC-ES Global Concierge Service covers a range of [building products](#), [plumbing products](#) and [electrical products](#).

[Contact ICC-ES here](#) →

March 17 live webinar will explain ICC-ES programs and answer questions

Join ICC-ES for a live webinar at 2 p.m. ET/11 a.m. PT on Tuesday, March 17, that reveals how our industry-leading testing, inspection, and certification pathway streamlines the product approval process to give manufacturers the credibility they need to win in today's marketplace. The webinar will feature Justin Mann, Technical Program Manager for ICC-ES. Here are some key take-aways:

- What defines a certified, approval-ready product
- How product certification helps manufacturers
- The process from inquiry, to inspections, to certification
- The difference between Acceptance Criteria and Consensus Standards
- How sampling and testing is conducted in ICC-ES labs
- Tips and tricks for navigating the process

There will be a Q&A section to answer the audience's product approval questions.

[Register for the webinar here](#) →