

ICC Government Relations' Monthly Update



INTERNATIONAL
CODE
COUNCIL®

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Code Council coordinating with members and local governments to support Kentucky flood efforts

The International Code Council extends its deepest sympathies to all those affected by recent floods in Kentucky, particularly those who lost loved ones. Kentucky is still recovering from last year's tornadoes, so the floods hit particularly hard as the Code Council wraps up final planning with our state and local partners in Kentucky for September's Annual Conference and Expo in Louisville. We continue to coordinate with our member organizations as well as with federal, state, and local partners to support any requests for support or assistance. This includes coordinating resources for post-disaster building safety assessments, supplemental staffing, or other needs as they might arise. We also encourage you to review our [Flood Safety and Recovery resources](#) on incorporating disaster-resilient provisions of the International Codes (I-Codes) during flood recovery, reconstruction, and in future flood prevention and mitigation efforts. [Read more on this and the Disaster Response Alliance here](#).

Collect points! Earn savings! Help build ICC stronger, bigger and better by recruiting new members!

Share information about Code Council membership, and you'll get 25 points (equal to \$25) to use toward Code Council product purchases for each successful referral. Here is all you need to do:

- Let your friends know about your experience with ICC membership benefits including:
 - FREE Digital Codes Premium subscription (based on member category)
 - 10-25% off code books, specialized publications and training materials
 - Discounts on training and educational programs that earn CEUs
 - Member pricing on certification exams, resource materials and renewals
 - Membership digital badge for social media and your resume
 - Technical support and code opinions (based on membership category)
 - Access to participate on the Code Council's six discipline specific [Membership Councils](#)
- Go to your [myICC account and login](#). After the login, there will be a pop-up that displays the following: **I want to be part of the Membership Drive Incentive Program**.
- You will be given a unique URL to share with your friends. The URL contains a membership application that can be completed by your referral. This unique URL will allow us to know that the new member came from you. Once the referral is officially a member, you will be rewarded 25 points (equal to \$25) to use toward Code Council product purchases from the [ICC Store*](#).

There is no limit on how many points you can earn! Just make sure that you take advantage of this program before December 31. [Read more here](#) about the Membership Drive Incentive Program.

Code Council launches major redesigns to the ICC website aimed at improving the user experience

Have you visited the Code Council's online home at [www.iccsafe.org](#) to see the new design? The changes – including a streamlined homepage with an updated and simplified navigation menu – is intended to improve the user experience. If you're interested in ICC's Government Relations activities, be sure to click on the aqua blue "Adopt" button on the front page, or visit [www.iccsafe.org/advocacy/](#), and click on the "Resources & News" menu at the top of the page for the latest on Code Council activities. And be sure to check out our friends at PMG Technical Team by visiting the [PMG resources page](#). Let us know what you think of the changes by emailing us at [advocacy@iccsafe.org](#).

Education sessions are set for September 13 during ICC Annual Conference in Louisville, Kentucky

Grow your knowledge and expertise with the most comprehensive building safety education sessions. Education sessions take place Tuesday, September 13. Please [click here](#) for session times, class descriptions and instructor bios. *Education sessions will be on a first-come first-serve basis, so be sure to arrive early to ensure a seat.* [Building](#) and other tours are available on Sunday, September 11 and Tuesday, September 13 (sign up for these tours during the registration process). [Read more here](#).

2022 Group B Public Comment Hearings schedule, set for September 14-18, is now available online

The 2022 Group B Public Comment Hearings will start at 1 p.m. Wednesday, September 14, following the activities of the International Code Council Annual Conference in Louisville. ([Click here for the Group B Final Action Results.](#)) The Group B schedule anticipates that the hearings will be completed by 7 p.m. Sunday, September 18. For information on the Group B PCH schedules, [read more here.](#)

WICED and PTN to host the 8th Annual Day of Service for Habitat for Humanity on September 10

Celebrating their tradition, the Women in Code Enforcement and Development (WICED) and PermitTechNation (PTN) chapters of the Code Council will be holding their annual Day of Service on Saturday, September 10, for the Metro Louisville [Habitat for Humanity](#). Every year since 2014, WICED and PTN chapters have donated their time and energy to volunteer with Habitat for Humanity. Some years, volunteers are on on-site, helping in the construction or restoration of homes; other years, volunteers work at Habitat ReStores. [Read more here.](#)



Ron Burton Annual Golf Outing set for September 11 at Louisville's Heritage Hill Golf Club

The Code Council's Past Presiding Officers will hold its annual fundraising event, the Ron Burton Annual Golf Outing, in conjunction with the ICC 2022 Annual Conference in Louisville. The tournament will be a shotgun-start at 8 am on Sunday, September 11, 2022, at the [Heritage Hill Golf Club](#), 1040 Valley View Drive, Shepherdsville, KY 40165. Transportation, breakfast, lunch and beverage cart will be provided. The event includes sponsorship opportunities and funds raised will go towards training and resources for the next generation of code officials. The tournament celebrates the life and work of William Ronald "Ron" Burton, a renowned code expert. [Read more here.](#)

Special webpage created for ICC membership to review candidates for ICC's Board of Directors

Learn more about who is running for the 2022–2023 International Code Council's Board of Directors. The Code Council has created a special candidate webpage for use by the membership and the Nominating Committee to view support letters, resumes and other materials prior to the Annual Business Meeting on Monday morning, September 12. [Read more here.](#)

August 15 is the deadline for applications for Governmental Member Voting Representative status

Applications, whether new or updated, for Governmental Member Voting Representative (GMVR) status must be received by the Code Council 30 days prior to the commencement of the first day of the Public Comment Hearing — **Monday, August 15** — in order for designated representatives to be eligible to vote. Per [CP19 Governing the Conduct of Elections](#), this date is also the deadline for new and changed voters for the Annual Business Meeting. The Electronic Voter Validation site is located on the Governmental Member's "Primary Contact's myICC" page. [Read more here.](#)

Code Council joins other industry leaders August 17 at the 2022 Off-Site Construction Summit

The International Code Council will join leading off-site, modular and prefab construction experts at this year's Off-Site Construction Summit on Wednesday, August 17, 2022, in Washington, D.C. The event features presentations and exhibits highlighting the off-site construction industry's ability to create accessible, high-quality and affordable housing; it provides diverse networking and learning opportunities for those in attendance. [Read more here.](#)

ABC Collaborative releases reports on the benefits of using ICC/MBI Off-Site Construction Standards

The Advanced Building Construction Collaborative Working Group on Codes, Standards, Permitting, Testing, and Accreditation [released a brief](#) detailing the role of newly developed Off-site Construction Standards 1200-2021 and 1205-2021 in transforming the construction industry. The brief highlights the current fragmented landscape of code compliance pathways for off-site construction inspections and approvals. The resource suggests the opportunity to provide uniformity and consistency for future projects through widespread implementation of the off-site construction standards—further driving off-site construction forward as an advanced building construction strategy. Developed by the International Code Council (ICC) and Modular Building Institute (MBI), ICC/MBI Standards 1200 and 1205 are a coordinated set of standards that cover the entire off-site construction process, capturing best practices and supporting a consistent approach to verifying compliance. [Read more here.](#)

International Wildland-Urban Interface Code (IWUIC) is recommended by the U.S. Fire Administration

The U.S. Fire Administration released its Wildland-Urban Interface: A Look at Issues and Resolutions report. It identifies 33 strategic challenges across 13 key wildland-urban interface (WUI) fire issue areas. These areas include public health and safety, the effects of climate change on WUI fires, community planning and resiliency, infrastructure and utilities, and socioeconomic impacts. The report calls on the [Wildland Fire Leadership Council](#) — an intergovernmental committee of federal, state, tribal, county and municipal government officials convened by the secretaries of the Interior, Agriculture, Defense, and Homeland Security — to evaluate and develop strategies for local communities and state governments to adopt model building codes, specifically the Code Council's [International Wildland-Urban Interface Code](#) (IWUIC), for wildfire resiliency. The report recommends the development and implementation of beyond-code, next-generation standards such as the forthcoming [ICC 605 Standard for Residential Construction in Regions with Wildfire Hazard](#). [Read more here](#).

HUD develops new toolkit to support adoption and implementation of resilient building codes

Given increased spending through Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery and Mitigation Funds, and HUD's explicitly authoring these grants to pay for resilient code adoption and implementation, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development recently released a Resilient Building Codes Toolkit on the [HUD Exchange](#). It provides information to public officials, the general public and the building and construction sector on the aspects of resilience captured in provisions of modern building codes. The Toolkit highlights the shifting buildings codes landscape from strictly a life-safety focus to an increased incorporation of both resilience and sustainability in response to the growing frequency and intensity of extreme natural hazard events. The Toolkit highlights the resilience measures captured throughout the International Code Council's International Codes. [Read more here](#).

Hire Vets Now Fellowship Program in Virginia helps military veterans transition to civilian careers

An innovative program in Norfolk, Virginia — the [Hire Vets Now Fellowship Program](#) (HVNFP) — is helping U.S. military veterans who are transitioning out of service to find rewarding civilian careers where they can put their hard-earned skills and experience to good use, including in the construction and building safety trades. The HVNFP connects veterans with internships of up to six months at certified employers prior to their separation from service, at no cost to them or the employers. Norfolk also hosts a similar Military Spouse Fellowship Program (MSFP) available to military spouses as well. The program has successfully placed several military veterans and military spouses in positions in the city of Norfolk, including its planning department. [Read more here](#).

Deadline to register is August 8 for FEMA's E2460 series course on flood and wind mitigation topics

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will offer its E2460: Advanced Building Science Flood and Wind Mitigation Series course August 22–26 at the Emergency Management Institute in Emmitsburg, Maryland. The course promotes the adoption and enforcement of hazard-resistant provisions and mitigation implementation for increased resiliency against flood and wind hazards. Course content is focused on the 2021 and 2018 International Codes and latest reference standards, as well as the most up-to-date FEMA programs and policies. Best-practice guidance on coordinating building codes and flood provisions will be addressed, as well as technical flood mitigation topics, including elevation retrofit, floodproofing non-residential structures, and designing for future conditions. The deadline to register for this course is Monday, August 8. [Read more here](#).

New free solar PV training courses for efficiency and safety launched by IREC and a team of partners

The Interstate Renewable Energy Council (IREC) and a team of partners launched a free series of self-paced, interactive, online professional development courses on the plan review and permitting process for residential solar photovoltaic (PV) systems. It covers primary tasks to confirm electrical, structural and fire code compliance of residential roof-mounted PV systems prior to issuing a permit. The series was developed in partnership with clean energy codes and building safety experts at the International Code Council, the International Association of Electrical Inspectors, the National Association of State Fire Marshals, the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, and others. [Read more here](#).

New video provides insight on the Code Council's standards development process and transparency

The Code Council recently developed a new video to outline its standards development process and to encourage participation in standards committees. Having a voice at the table for standards development helps support the codes and the safety mission of the Code Council. [View the video here](#) and please share it with your colleagues and stake holders. To learn more about the process, visit the Code Council's [dedicated webpage on the Standard Development Process here](#).

GOT PULSE? Living with Fire: How America's Wildland-Urban Interface fires impact everyone

Episode 47: Through a series of interviews with Code Council experts and U.S. fire service professionals, this quarter's episode explores wildfires in the Wildland-Urban Interface, or in short, the WUI. When it comes to wildfire, do you know your risk? And how can we prepare our communities to become more fire-adapted? [Just listen here](#). And make sure your colleagues listen to it, too.

Code Council's Dottie Mazzarella discusses IPMC and code development with GCI's Dan Johnson

Listen as, Dan Johnson, Senior Consultant for [GCI Consultants, LLC](#) speaks with Dottie Mazzarella, Vice President of Government Relations for the International Code Council. They discuss the International Building Code development and the International Property Maintenance Code. [Listen here](#).



[ICC Plumbing, Mechanical and Fuel Gas updates](#)

Expansive soil: PHCP PROS magazine takes a sneak peak at the 2024 International Plumbing Code

According to a [1982 Federal Emergency Management Agency report](#), expansive soils are the costliest natural hazard in the United States, causing more damage than all other natural hazards combined, including earthquakes, floods, tornadoes and hurricanes. This damage occurs more in areas with a combination of highly expansive clay and cycles from very dry to very wet climates, which cause the soil volume to change. While expansive soil isn't specifically mentioned in current plumbing codes, it will be included in the 2024 International Plumbing Code. [Read more here](#).

Plumbing Inspectors Association of Michigan is designated as the newest ICC PMG state chapter

There's a new ICC Chapter in Michigan dedicated to providing training and professional support to a statewide membership of plumbers, the 90-year-old [Plumbing Inspectors Association of Michigan](#). Its current Past Chair Nate Foltz of Lansing led the effort to submit its recently approved charter to the ICC Board of Directors. Its current president is Andy Kloss of Harbor Springs and the vice president is Mike Thompson of Lansing.

Free webinar set for August 15 on IECC hot water distribution requirements in commercial buildings

Co-sponsored with Kemper Water Control Systems, the International Code Council will present a free hour-long webinar — Navigating the International Energy Conservation Code Requirements for Hot Water Distribution in Commercial Buildings — on Monday, August 15. The webinar will focus in detail on the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) specific provisions for distance from the hot water source to the end of the fixture supply pipe. Understanding IECC Section C404 will allow participants to properly identify compliance during plan review and perform field inspections. [Read more here](#).

Legislation aims for research to improve safety, efficiency and resilience of aging plumbing systems

The U.S. Senate recently passed the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Plumbing Research Act as part of a broader legislative push to enhance U.S. economic competitiveness. The act directs NIST, working in concert with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), to conduct research on premise plumbing systems to improve their safety, efficiency and resilience. The research will be coordinated among academia, the private sector, the International Code Council, and federal agencies. The Code Council, through its leadership role on the High-Performance Building Coalition, [strongly supported this legislation's advancement](#). [Read more here](#).

ICC PMG Team's Jim Cika discusses his insights on code changes affecting A2L refrigerants

Major code changes on A2L refrigerants are fast-approaching. During the 2021 Group A code cycle, several proposed changes were submitted for the International Building, Fire and Mechanical Codes that

would permit the usage of A2L refrigerants. In HPAC Engineering's "On the Air" podcast, Jim Cika, director of PMG technical resources for the International Code Council, offers his insight on refrigerants and previews major code changes upcoming on A2L refrigerants that will impact our industry much sooner than many may realize. [Read more here.](#)



ICC Evaluation Services updates

ICC-ES and ACI enter a Memorandum of Understanding agreement on carbon-neutral concrete

ICC Evaluation Service (ICC-ES) and American Concrete Institute (ACI) signed a Memorandum of Understanding to effectively collaborate efforts on issues related to carbon-neutral concrete. The partnership will include ICC-ES and ACI Center NEU working together in supporting carbon-neutral concrete technologies, developing and advocating the adoption of codes and standards, and development of Acceptance Criteria to promote the use of carbon-neutral concrete. [Read more here.](#)

New IRC Equivalency Evaluation Report program streamlines building permit process

The first Equivalency Evaluation Report (EER) has been issued to [Helix Steel](#) for Helix® Micro Rebar®. The report highlights the residential application of this concrete building product, focusing on the end use application and compliance with the IRC. An innovative new offering from ICC-ES, an International Residential Code® (IRC) EER indicates the findings of a particular end use application or design of a building product for compliance with prescriptive requirements of the IRC. An ICC-ES EER aids building officials in the approval of products evaluated by ICC-ES for single-family houses, two-family houses (duplexes) and buildings consisting of three or more townhouse units. It also helps contractors, homeowners and architects by providing prescriptive designs evaluated by ICC-ES that can be used for building permit applications, streamlining the permit process. [Read more here.](#)