



CODE WORKS!

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Winter 2014

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WORDS FROM DIRECTOR IRVIN J. POKE, AIA

Effective February 4, 2014, 2013 PA 150, provides for the registration of “fire protection system” inspectors and plan reviewers by amending 1986 PA 54, the Building Officials and Inspectors Registration Act. These inspectors and plan reviewers are limited to inspection and plan review of fire protection systems. The Michigan Building Code (MBC), Chapter 9, defines “fire protection system” as “approved devices, equipment and systems or combinations of systems used to detect a fire, activate an alarm, extinguish or control a fire, control or manage smoke and products of a fire or any combination thereof.”

The bureau has modified the Building Officials, Inspectors and Plan Reviewers registration application to add the two new categories and the information required by the act. The revised application requests the appropriate NFPA or ICC certification as fire inspector I or II and plans examiner. The application also includes attestation as required by MCL 338.2311(3)(b) and MCL 338.2311(4)(b).

A person seeking registration as a fire protection system inspector or plan reviewer must do the following:

1. Be employed by an enforcing agency as defined in 1972 PA 230, the Stille-DeRossett-Hale Single State Construction Code Act.
2. Submit an application endorsed by the building official of the enforcing agency within 30 days of employment.
3. Execute the statement of attestation of understanding of the building code.
4. Provide copies of the appropriate NFPA or ICC certification.
5. Pay the appropriate fees.

Once a completed application and the fee is received, it is reviewed by staff and if all is in order, the applicant’s name will be put on the list of individuals recommended to the Construction Code Commission (commission) for approval. After commission approval the applicant will receive the registration documents and number. If an application is deficient, the applicant will be notified of a recommendation to the commission for denial and his/her options.

Continued on page 2

WORDS FROM DIRECTOR CONTINUED

When an individual is registered as a fire protection system inspector or plan reviewer he/she must operate under 1972 PA 230, 1986 PA 54 and the MBC. The inspections and plan reviews are performed for the enforcing agency and at the discretion and direction of the building official. Registration under 1986 PA 54 does not convey authority to perform duties of code enforcement under 1972 PA 230. The authority is granted to the enforcing agency which must hire properly registered personnel under 1986 PA 54. The use of fire protection system inspectors and plan reviewers shall not change the permitting process and fees charged. As prescribed in MCL 125.1522 all fees generated by the enforcing agency must be used only for enforcing agency operation or construction board of appeals. The department will need to amend the rules for registration and re-registration of fire protection system inspectors and plan reviewers. A review committee will be established soon to review the rules to incorporate appropriate continuing education for registration.

In conclusion, fire protection system inspectors and plan reviewers must be employed by an enforcing agency. Registration under 1986 PA 54 does not convey authority under 1972 PA 230. New applicants shall submit a complete application, the fee, the attestation document and the NFPA or ICC certificates.

Questions may be addressed to the Building Division at (517) 241-9317 or bccbldg2@michigan.gov.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEW BOILER CHIEF

By Keith Lambert, Deputy Director

It is with great pleasure that I announce that Mark Moore has accepted the Chief position of the Boiler Division. Mark received his National Board Inspectors Commission in 2006. He has served as both an inspector and assistant chief for the bureau since 2004. Prior to joining the bureau, Mark managed a state facility heating department as a stationary engineer for the Florida Department of Corrections before his retirement in 2000. Mark also worked in the plumbing/pipefitting industry as well as a high pressure boiler operator for 30 years after receiving an honorable discharge for his service in the U.S. Army from 1972-1975. His appointment as Chief was effective October 13, 2013.



PLAN REVIEW DIVISION

BARRIER FREE REQUIREMENTS FOR EXISTING BUILDINGS

By **Todd Y. Cordill, NCARB, Chief**
Plan Review Division

1966 PA 1, Utilization of Public Facilities by Physically Limited (the act), is the statute that provides for the accessibility and usability by physically limited persons of facilities used by the public. Section 3 of the act prescribes the enforcement of the act to the enforcing agency having jurisdiction, whether local or state government. Section 2 of the act requires that buildings existing before July 20, 1975, need not comply with barrier free design requirements until they undergo a change in use group, occupant load, or alteration. The extent of required compliance is dependent on the scope of work versus the total area of the building.

Under section 2 of the act, the threshold for partial or total accessibility is whether or not a change in use group, occupant load, or alteration involves less than 50% of the floor area or 50% or more of the floor area.

Section 2 (2)(a) of the act states:

“If the change in use group or occupancy load, or alteration, involves less than 50% of the floor area of the public facility or facility used by the public which can be used by the public or employees, only the area affected, and areas necessary to provide a continuous and unobstructed route of travel to and from the affected areas from and including the nearest entrance, shall be required to meet the barrier free design requirements of the state construction code.”

Thus, the barrier free design requirements apply only to the area to be altered and an accessible route from the nearest entrance.

Section 2 (2)(b) of the act states:

“If the change in use group or occupancy load, or alteration, involves 50% or more of the floor area of the public facility or facility used by the public which can be occupied by the public or employees, the entire public facility or facility used by the public shall meet the barrier free design requirements of the state construction code.”

This provision of the act requires that a building be brought into complete compliance with current code requirements for barrier free design. Repairs and in-kind replacement of finishes and fixed equipment are not considered alterations, unless they involve the reconfiguration of space within a building. The removal and in-kind replacement of plumbing fixtures and fixed equipment are not deemed alterations. A change in building occupant is not a change in use or occupancy. A change in use or occupancy is a change in use group as classified in the Michigan Building Code. The barrier free design accessibility requirements apply to all buildings except private one- and two-family dwellings, high hazard uses, and public utility structures.

If compliance with the code requirements for barrier free design cannot be met, then an exception to the design requirements may be requested. Only the Barrier Free Design Board can grant such a request for exception. It cannot be done through a local board of appeals or the State Construction Code Commission. Per Section 5a of the act, the Barrier Free Design Board shall grant a request for an exception only after the board has found compelling need for the exception. Compelling need may be determined by the board if the literal application of barrier free design requirements in the code would result in exceptional, practical difficulty. Compelling need could be present with one or more of the following jurisdictional conflicts and/or limitations: structural, site, economic, and technological, as well as historic structures, under conditions prescribed by rule of the Construction Code Commission.

The process for an exception begins with a citation of noncompliance by a local code enforcing agency either in a plan review or field inspection report. The [Application for Barrier Free Design Rule Exception](#) shall be submitted with supporting documentation. A hearing will be held in Lansing before a state administrative law judge if an exception is sought in lieu of code compliance.

If you have questions concerning this matter contact the Plan Review Division at (517) 241-9328 or bccplanreviewcodemail@michigan.gov.

ELEVATOR DIVISION

HOISTWAY AND MACHINE ROOM FIRE RATING REQUIREMENTS

By Cal Rogler, Chief
Elevator Division

The Elevator Safety Division has received several calls regarding the fire rating required for the elevator hoistway and machine room. We submit the following information for your consideration.

The American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) A17.1-2007 Edition, Safety Code for Elevators and Escalators, is the National Standard we are currently using along with the Michigan Elevator Laws and Rules for regulating these devices in Michigan. ASME A17.1-2007, Section 2.1, Construction of Hoistways and Hoistway Enclosures, Section 2.1.1.1, Fire-Resistive Construction, refers the reader to the requirements of the building code. For machinery spaces, machine rooms, control spaces, and control rooms, Section 2.7.1.1, Fire-Resistive Construction, also refers the reader back to the building code. The building code currently in use is the 2009 Michigan Building Code (MBC) and Chapter 30 covers Elevators and Conveying Systems. Section 3002 of the Michigan Building Code addresses the requirements for hoistway enclosures and states in part “hoistway enclosures shall be shaft enclosures complying with Section 708.”

MBC Section 3006 covers machine rooms and Section 3006.4 states in part:

“spaces shall be enclosed with fire barriers constructed in accordance with Section 707 or horizontal assemblies constructed in accordance with Section 712, or both. The fire-resistance rating shall not be less than the required rating of the hoistway enclosure served by the machinery. Openings in the fire barriers shall be protected with assemblies having a fire protection rating not less than that required for the hoistway enclosure doors.”

The 2009 Michigan Building Code is the document that determines if the elevator hoistway or machine room is required to be of fire-resistive construction and to what specifications. Questions relating to the necessary fire-resistive rating requirement for a particular hoistway or machine room should be directed to the local code enforcing agency (building official or building inspector) for that jurisdiction.

Questions about this article may be addressed to the Elevator Division at (517) 241-9337 or elevsafety@michigan.gov.



MECHANICAL DIVISION

DRIP LEGS VS. SEDIMENT TRAPS

By Norwood Bates, Senior Inspector
Mechanical Division

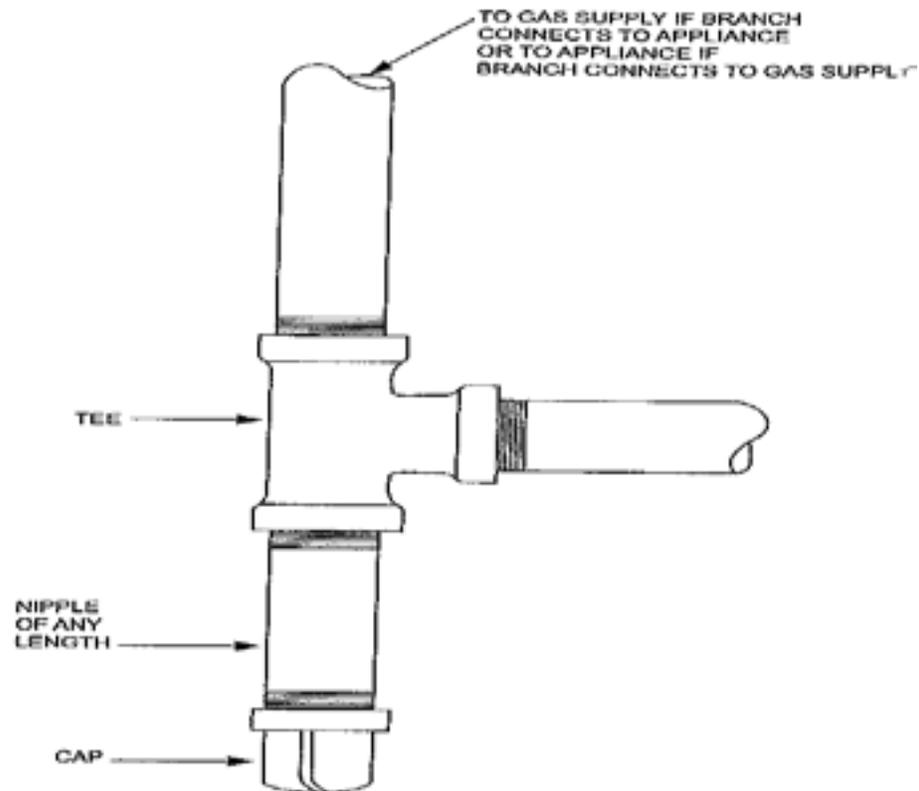
Section 408.2 of the 2012 International Fuel Gas Code states in part “a drip shall be provided at any point in the line of pipe where condensate could collect.”

Drips, often referred to as “drip legs” are distinct from sediment traps. Modern gas supplies and distribution systems are typically dry; thus, drips would be required only when recommended by the gas supplier.

The rules that regulate gas suppliers limit the amount of moisture to 7 lbs (less than one gallon) per one million cubic feet of gas supplied.

A sediment trap, often referred to as a “debris leg” is intended to protect the appliance from debris in the gas supply. They help to eliminate pipe chips, oils, soil, dirt, pipe joint tape, and compounds from entering the operating gas valve to the unit.

Section 408.4 of the 2012 International Fuel Gas Code states in part “a sediment trap shall be installed downstream of the appliance shutoff valve and as close to the inlet of the appliance as practical. The sediment trap shall be either a tee fitting having a capped nipple of any length installed vertically in the bottommost opening of the tee or other device approved as an effective sediment trap.”



The above diagram depicts the correct installation of a sediment trap. Illuminating appliances, ranges, clothes dryers, decorated vented appliances for installation in vented fireplaces, gas fireplaces, and outdoor grills need not be equipped with a drip leg or a sediment trap. Questions may be directed to the Mechanical Division at (517) 241-9325 or bccmech@michigan.gov.

BOILER DIVISION

BOILER PERMIT APPLICATIONS, EMERGENCY INSTALLS AND REPAIRS

By Mark Moore, Chief
Boiler Division

Sections 17 and 18 of the Boiler Act, 1965 PA 290, state a person shall not install, alter, or repair a boiler without first securing a permit from the Boiler Division.

A permit application must be received by the division before the work begins and must be filled out completely. Be sure to include the following to assist us in expediting the process:

1. Original signature
2. Three copies of the application
3. Clearance drawings
4. The boiler ASME stamp
5. The boiler's use
6. If a variance is requested enter the work being performed
7. If for a repair, include the inspector's name as well.

Be aware there may be other permits required from mechanical, plumbing, and electrical jurisdictions.

Section 18 governing repairs specifically addresses emergency situations. Typically, an emergency is considered the failure of a boiler to provide hot water heat to a building, steam for heat or electricity, or supply hot water for domestic use.

Once it is determined by the boiler owner that emergency replacement or repair of the boiler is required and work must commence prior to a permit being secured, notification is required to the Boiler Division, a deputy inspector, or if insured to a special inspector from the insurance company. If the emergency occurs after regular business hours, notice to the Boiler Division should be made to bccblr@michigan.gov.

Although Section 17 governing installations does not address emergency situations, the same rationale and process applies.

Notification of an emergency install or repair does not exclude the requirement for a permit application to be submitted to the Boiler Division within five business days.

Please contact the Boiler Division at (517) 241-9334 or bccblr@michigan.gov with any questions.

MICHIGAN CODES & RULES CURRENTLY IN EFFECT

2013 Boiler Rules	12/02/2013
2009 Building/Residential Codes (Part 4)	03/09/2011
Building Officials, Plan Reviewers, and Inspectors	04/24/2013
2011 Electrical Code (Part 8)	07/01/2013
2007 Elevator Safety - General	06/21/2010
Manufactured Housing General Rules	09/02/2008
2012 Mechanical Code	09/27/2013
2012 Plumbing Code (Part 7)	01/17/2014
2009 Rehabilitation Code	03/09/2011
State Boundary Commission	07/01/2013
Subdivisions of Land	06/16/2008
Survey and Remonumentation General Rules	06/21/2013
2009 Uniform Energy Code	03/09/2011

FOR CODE/RULE UPDATES - Visit [BCC's website](#) to monitor updates on code review processes.

ELECTRICAL DIVISION

2011 ELECTRICAL CODE UPDATE CLASSES

**By Dan O'Donnell, Chief
Electrical Division**

Just a reminder that an approved code update course is required for all licenses issued by the Electrical Division for 2015. There are nearly 125 approved 2011 code update courses currently listed on the bureau's website at www.michigan.gov/bcc. Click on "Divisions" then "Electrical Division" and scroll down to "Examination & Licensing Information." The Electrical Division encourages all licensees to complete their code update early to avoid a delay in processing their 2015 license renewal.

ELECTRICAL REQUIREMENTS FOR RESIDENTIAL SEWAGE LIFT STATIONS

**By Dan O'Donnell, Chief
Electrical Division**

The requirements regarding electrical installations for residential sewage lift stations can be found in the standards published by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). NFPA 820 is the standard for Fire Protection in Wastewater Treatment and Collection Facilities.

The technical committee on wastewater treatment plants for NFPA 820 determined that no documented reports of explosion or fire had occurred in residential systems and made changes to the requirements in the 1995 edition of NFPA 820. The data also reported that residential sewage systems were vented through the dwelling plumbing system and provided adequate ventilation of methane gas, which is lighter than air. This resulted in changes in wet well and dry well classification to unclassified, for the purposes of NEC - Area Electrical Classification. This is indicated in Table 4.2 of the 2008 edition of NFPA 820. The table also places a condition on the classification, which is the pumping equipment shall not serve more than five dwellings.

Prior to the 1995 changes to the NFPA 820 standards, residential sewage lift stations were classified as class 1 division 2 and the electrical wiring requirements were much more stringent and cost prohibitive. As a result of the changes, wiring methods for this type of installation are permitted to comply with Chapters 1 through 4 of the National Electrical Code which reduced the cost and simplified the electrical installation. Some other code requirements to be mindful of when wiring these types of systems are as follows:

- Flexible cords must be protected from physical damage.
- Wet wells contain hydrogen sulfide gas, which is corrosive.
- Article 430 requires a disconnect within sight of the pump motors.

The area classification referred to in this article is only applicable to residential applications as stated in the standard. Commercial and industrial sewage systems are also covered in NFPA 820 and in most cases those areas are hazardous locations with respect to the requirements in the NEC. It is important to understand the type of system that is being utilized and employ the proper wiring method for that application.

Questions about this article may be addressed to the Electrical Division at (517) 241-9320 or bcelec@michigan.gov.

OFFICE OF LAND SURVEY AND REMONUMENTATION

NOTICES PERTINENT TO THE LAND DIVISION ACT

By Chris Beland, P.S., Director

Office of Land Survey and Remonumentation

Notice No. 1

Pursuant to the passage of 2013 PA 178, i.e., House Bill No. 4585, the Occupational Code, 1980 PA 299, MCL 339.2007 and MCL 339.2008 have been amended to provide for the use of an electronic seal and an electronic signature where a licensed surveyor shall apply his or her seal and signature to a plan, specification, plat, or report, issued by the licensee and filed with a public authority, effective February 25, 2014.

Pursuant to Section 112(2)(w) of the Administrative Rules affecting Subdivisions of Land, being 2008 MR 10, R 560.112(2) (w), subdivision plats submitted for review and approval by the Office of Land Survey and Remonumentation in accordance with the Land Division Act (LDA), being 1967 PA 288, MCL 560.101 et. seq. are required to contain the affixed surveyor's seal and original signature, in durable pigment based black ink to each sheet.

Pursuant to the above, all subdivision plats submitted to the Office of Land Survey and Remonumentation for review and approval in accordance with the Land Division Act on and after February 25, 2014, may contain a surveyor's electronic seal but must still contain a surveyor's original signature in permanent durable black ink.

Notice No. 2

Please be advised Commercial Blueprint is no longer providing digital copy services to make mylar prints or copies for the subdivision platting process. We have researched and identified Capital Imaging, of Lansing, as a provider capable of meeting the requirements pursuant to Michigan Admin Code, R 560.104. We will be coordinating with Capital Imaging to procure the subdivision plat copies required under Section 171 of the LDA and Michigan Admin Code, R 560.104. As with Commercial Blueprint we will arrange for the copies to be made; however, it is the surveyor's responsibility to coordinate payment for the copies with Capital Imaging.

Capital Imaging's contact information is:

Website: www.capital-imaging.com

Phone: (517) 482-2292

Email: customerservice@capital-imaging.com

Please be aware that it is the surveyor's responsibility to make sure their original print of the subdivision plat meets the requirements of Michigan Admin Code, R 560.104(2).

Below are links to the respective statutes and administrative rules referenced in these notices:

[Land Division Act](#)

[Administrative Rules Affecting Subdivision Plats](#)

[Occupational Code:](#)

[1980 PA 299, MCL 339.2007](#)

[1980 PA 299, MCL 560.2008](#)

If you have any questions, please contact the Office of Land Survey and Remonumentation at bccolrs@michigan.gov or (517) 241-6321.

PLUMBING DIVISION

2012 PLUMBING CODE UPDATE COURSE

By Joe Madziar, Chief
Plumbing Division

The 2012 Michigan Plumbing Code will go into effect on January 17, 2014. The 2012 Michigan Residential Code is still in the committee review process and will be adopted at a later date. The adoption of the 2012 Michigan Plumbing Code brings the requirement for code update classes for master and journey license holders. The holder of a plumbing contractor license is not required to take the update course. The State Plumbing Act, 2002 PA 733, Sections 23(2) and 25(3) require master and journey plumbers to complete code update classes for license renewal within one year of the code change. Master and journey licensed plumbers will have until January 17, 2015, to complete the course. The State Plumbing Board has determined that the class shall be a minimum of 4 hours for the 2012 update. Course completion is necessary for license renewals.

A list of approved code update instructors may be found on the Bureau of Construction Code's web site at www.michigan.gov/bcc by clicking on "Divisions" then "Plumbing Division." Students should contact an instructor directly to schedule their update course.

Individuals who would like to become an approved instructor can find the application form and complete code update summary outline at the bureau's web site by clicking on "Forms" then "Plumbing Division." The person applying is required to summarize each code change listed on the outline form provided. This outline form is also to be provided to the update course student by the instructor which the student can use to take notes or use for further reference.

Questions concerning the code update course may be directed to Joe Madziar, Plumbing Division, at (517) 241-9330 or bccplbg@michigan.gov.



Providing for Michigan's Safety in the Built Environment



BCC Contact Information

TELEPHONE NUMBERS:

Administration (517) 241-9302
 Office of Administrative Services (517) 335-2972
 Office of Management Services (517) 241-9313
 Boiler Division (517) 241-9334
 Building Division (517) 241-9317
 Act 54 Registration (517) 241-9317
 Electrical Division (517) 241-9320
 Elevator Safety Division (517) 241-9337
 Mechanical Division (517) 241-9325
 Office of Land Survey & Remonumentation (517) 241-6321
 Plan Review Division (517) 241-9328
 Plumbing Division (517) 241-9330

FACSIMILE NUMBERS:

Administration & Office of Administrative Services (517) 241-9570
 Office of Management Svcs, & Plumbing Division (517) 373-8547
 Building, Electrical, Mechanical, Plan Review (517) 241-9308
 Office of Land Survey & Remonumentation, Elevator Safety & Boiler Divisions (517) 241-6301

MAILING ADDRESSES:

P.O. Box 30254 (First Class Mail **without** currency)
 P.O. Box 30255 (First Class Mail **with** currency)
 Lansing, MI 48909

COURIER OTHER THAN US POSTAL SERVICE:

2501 Woodlake Circle, Okemos, MI 48864

EMAIL ADDRESSES:

Administration - bccinfo@michigan.gov
 Office of Administrative Services - bccoas@michigan.gov
 Office of Management Services - bccpermits@michigan.gov
 Boiler Division - bccblr@michigan.gov
 Building Division - bccbldg2@michigan.gov
 Electrical Division - bcelec@michigan.gov
 Elevator Division - elevsafety@michigan.gov
 Mechanical Division - bccmech@michigan.gov
 Office of Land Survey & Remonumentation - bccolsr@michigan.gov
 Plan Review Division - bccplanreviewcodemail@michigan.gov
 Plumbing Division - bccplbg@michigan.gov



2014 Board and Commission Meetings

<u>MEETING</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
Barrier Free Design Board	Jan 17, Mar 21, May 16, July 18, Sept 19, Nov 21	9:30 am	Okemos Conf Room 3
Board of Boiler Rules	Mar 11, June 10, Sept 9, Dec 9	9:30 am	Okemos Conf Room 3
Construction Code Commission	Jan 8, Apr 2, July 9, Oct 1	9:30 am	Okemos Conf Room 3
Electrical Administrative Board	Feb 20, May 22, Aug 7, Nov 6	9:30 am	Okemos Conf Room 3
Elevator Safety Board	Jan 24, Mar 28, June 6, Aug 22, Nov 7	9:30 am	Okemos Conf Room 3
Manufactured Housing Commission	March 19, June 18, Sept 17, Dec 17	10:00 am	Okemos Conf Room 3
Board of Mechanical Rules	Feb 12, May 14, Aug 20, Nov 26	9:00 am	Okemos Conf Room 3
State Boundary Commission	Feb 5, Apr 16, June 11, Aug 13, Oct 8, Dec 10	1:30 pm	Okemos Conf Room 3
State Plumbing Board	Feb 25, June 3, July 16, Sept 16, Dec 2	10:00 am	Okemos Conf Room 3

Dates and times are subject to change. Visit the [BCC website](http://www.michigan.gov/bcc) for updates.

ATTENTION READERS!

If you know of an organization or individual that would benefit from the information posted in BCC's newsletter, please direct them to our website at www.michigan.gov/bcc. Under the "Publications, Bulletins & Advisories" heading, click on the Code Works! link for more information on how to subscribe and receive an electronic notification of when each quarterly newsletter is posted.

2014 License Examination Dates

<u>EXAMINATION</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>DEADLINE</u>
Boiler Installer and Repairer	Mar 5 & 6	Okemos	Feb 7
	June 4 & 5	Okemos	May 9
	Sept 3 & 4	Okemos	Aug 8
	Dec 3 & 4	Okemos	Nov 7
Fire Alarm Spec. Tech./Sign Spec.	Mar 18	Lansing	Feb 18
	July 15	Lansing	June 17
	Nov 13	Lansing	Oct 14
Electrical - Journeyman	Feb 26	Lansing	Jan 29
	May 29	Lansing	May 1
	Aug 14	Lansing	July 17
	Sept 16	Escanaba	Aug 18
	Nov 19	Lansing	Oct 22
Electrical - Master	Feb 26	Lansing	Jan 29
	May 29	Lansing	May 1
	Aug 14	Lansing	July 17
	Sept 16	Escanaba	Aug 18
Electrical - Contractor	Nov 19	Lansing	Oct 22
	Jan 14	Lansing	Dec 11
	Mar 18	Lansing	Feb 18
	May 13	Lansing	Apr 15
	July 15	Lansing	June 17
	Sept 16	Escanaba	Aug 18
Elevator Contractor/Journeyperson Certificate of Competency	Sept 23	Lansing	Aug 26
	Nov 13	Lansing	Oct 14
	Jan 24	Okemos	Dec 27
	Mar 28	Okemos	Feb 28
	June 6	Okemos	May 10
Mechanical Contractor	Aug 22	Okemos	July 25
	Nov	Okemos	Oct 10
	Mar 11	Lansing	Feb 7
	June 10	Lansing	May 9
Plumbing - Contractor	Sept 9	Lansing	Aug 8
	Dec 9	Lansing	Nov 7
	Mar 26	East Lansing	
	June 25	East Lansing	
Plumbing - Master and Journey	July 17	Escanaba	
	Sept 24	East Lansing	
	Dec 17	East Lansing	
	Feb 26	East Lansing	
	June 4	East Lansing	
	July 17	Escanaba	
	Sept 17	East Lansing	
	Dec 3	East Lansing	

Dates and times are subject to change. Visit the [BCC website](#) for updates.

LARA is an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids, services and other reasonable accommodations are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

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Code Works! is a quarterly publication of the Bureau of Construction Codes within the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs

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Created under the authority of 1972 PA 230.