



# CODE WORKS!

[WWW.MICHIGAN.GOV/BCC](http://WWW.MICHIGAN.GOV/BCC)

FALL 2010

## ATTENTION READERS!

In an attempt to reach more organizations and individuals involved in code inspections, we're asking for your help in getting the word out! 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](http://www.michigan.gov/bcc). Then, click on the "Publications/Bulletins/Interpretations/Advisories" link for more information on how to subscribe to and receive an electronic notification of when each quarterly newsletter is posted.

### \*\*CODE UPDATES\*\*

The following Michigan codes will take effect March 9, 2011:

2009 Building Code  
2009 Residential Code  
2009 Uniform Energy Code  
2009 Rehabilitation Code for Existing Buildings

BCC OFFICES CLOSED:  
NOVEMBER 25 & 26  
DECEMBER 23, 24, 30, 31

## WORDS FROM DIRECTOR IRVIN J. POKE, AIA

On December 23, 2002, Act 628 of the Public Acts of 2002 amended the Construction of School Buildings Act, 1937 PA 306. The law requires school building construction to be reviewed and inspected under The Stille-DeRossett-Hale Single State Construction Code Act, 1972 PA 230, and the Michigan Fire Prevention Code, 1941 PA 207. Since 2003, school buildings have been reviewed, constructed, and inspected in a unified process that provides for the safety of all school children and facility staff.

In accordance with Section 1b (1) of 1937 PA 306, the Bureau of Construction Codes is responsible for the administration and enforcement of 1972 PA 230. However, Section 1b (5) allows local school boards and the governing bodies of governmental subdivisions to submit a joint request to the department for the delegation of school inspection authority. Absent approval of a delegation to the local enforcing agency, the Bureau of Construction Codes is responsible for construction code enforcement of school buildings throughout the state of Michigan.

Section 1b (5) of 1937 PA 306 provides:

"The department shall delegate the responsibility for the administration and enforcement of this act to the applicable agency if both the school board and the governing body of the governmental subdivision have annually certified to the department, in a manner prescribed by the department, that full time code officials, inspectors, and plan reviewers registered under the building officials and inspectors registration act, 1986 PA 54, MCL 338.2301 to 338.2313, will conduct plan reviews and inspections of school buildings."

Only those governmental jurisdictions which certify that full-time inspectors and plan reviewers are enforcing the complete range of building, electrical, mechanical, and plumbing construction codes may qualify for a delegation of school construction inspection authority. The bureau has determined that in order for a governmental subdivision to satisfy the intent of Section 1b (5) of 1937 PA 306, its enforcing agency must have full-time code officials to perform plan reviews and inspections to facilitate the standard construction schedule. The delegation application is being revised to capture office and inspection service times providing a clear understanding to all parties of full-time hours of service for that particular unit of government.

Our economic conditions continue to challenge the ability of local enforcing agencies to provide full-time inspection and plan review services. However, the review, construction, and inspection of school facilities within the state of Michigan must be conducted in accordance with 1937 PA 306. Additional information regarding the process for the delegation of school inspection authority may be found on the [bureau's website](http://www.michigan.gov/bcc) under School Construction.

# ADMINISTRATION

## TENNISON BARRY RETIRES AFTER 20 YEARS AS MICHIGAN'S MECHANICAL CHIEF

By Beth Aben, Deputy Director  
Administration

The bureau congratulates Tennison Barry on his retirement from state government. Tennison began his state career as an inspector in 1988 and quickly moved to the bureau's central office as the assistant chief of the division. He was appointed as acting chief in 1991 with the official appointment following in 1992. Prior to his state service, Tennison worked as a plumbing and mechanical inspector for the City of Saginaw. He also owned his own plumbing and heating business and spent several years as a plumbing/pipe fitter before becoming an inspector.

While Tennison certainly could choose to relax after his state government retirement, he has elected to take on a new business challenge that allows him to stay active in the industry. He indicated that he is certain our paths will cross as he pursues his new venture. We look forward to those opportunities. We thank Tennison for his many years of dedicated service to the plumbing and mechanical industry.

## KEVIN KALAKAY APPOINTED MICHIGAN'S MECHANICAL DIVISION CHIEF



By Beth Aben, Deputy Director  
Administration

Kevin Kalakay has been named as the chief of the Mechanical Division effective October 4, 2010. Kevin has served as the assistant chief since May 2008. Prior to his management appointment, Kevin served as both an inspector and senior mechanical inspector. Before accepting a position with state government, Kevin worked for several years as a mechanical contractor. Kevin is a valued member of the bureau's management team and is well suited for his new role as chief. Kevin indicated he is very excited to take on this new challenge and looks forward to working with our industry and local government partners to assure the safety of Michigan citizens.

## BOARD AND COMMISSION MEETINGS

<u>Meeting</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
Barrier Free Design Board	Jan 14	9:30 am	Okemos – Conf Room 3
Board of Boiler Rules	Dec 7	9:30 am	Okemos – Conf Room 3
Construction Code Commission	Jan 5	9:30 am	Okemos – Conf Room 3
Electrical Administrative Board	Nov 18, Feb 24	9:30 am	Okemos – Conf Room 3
Elevator Safety Board	Jan 21	9:30 am	Okemos – Conf Room 3
Manufactured Housing Commission	Dec 15, Feb 16	10:00 am	Okemos – Conf Room 3
Board of Mechanical Rules	Feb 23	9:00 am	Okemos – Conf Room 3
State Boundary Commission	Jan 20	1:30 pm	Okemos – Conf Room 3
State Plumbing Board	Dec 14	10:00 am	Okemos – Conf Room 3

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

# ELEVATOR SAFETY DIVISION

## HOISTWAY REQUIREMENTS WHEN USED AS MACHINERY SPACE

By Cal Rogler, Chief  
Elevator Safety Division

A situation occurred on an elevator which had the elevator machine located within the hoistway. Due to a combination of temperature and moisture in the hoistway, the car moved when it should not have. This movement did not result in an injury; however, it certainly could have.

The Elevator Safety Division is providing the following information to assure that machine spaces in elevator hoistways are code compliant. In the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) A17.1 – 2007, Safety Code for Elevators and Escalators, in Section 1.3, the definition for machine space, elevator, dumbwaiter, material lift is “a space inside or outside the hoistway, intended to be accessed with or without full bodily entry, that contains elevator, dumbwaiter, or material lift mechanical equipment, and could also contain electrical equipment used directly in connection with the elevator, dumbwaiter, or material lift. This space could also contain the electric driving machine or the hydraulic machine.”

Recently, many elevator manufacturers have produced new equipment designs which have the elevator machine located within the hoistway. Sometimes the machine is located at the top of the hoistway above the car and other times it is located at the bottom of the hoistway in the pit. One design has the machine located in the hoistway adjacent to the top floor landing, not quite at the top of the hoistway. In each of these situations, the hoistway is transformed from a regular elevator hoistway to a machine space.

Due to these new equipment designs, temperature and humidity may become an issue. ASME A17.1-2007, Sections 2.7.9 and 2.7.9.2 address these concerns. Specifically, Section 2.7.9.2 states, “Machinery spaces, machine rooms, control

spaces, and control rooms shall be provided with natural or mechanical means to keep the ambient air temperature and humidity in the range specified by the elevator equipment manufacturer to ensure safe and normal operation of the elevator. The temperature and humidity range shall be permanently posted in the machine room, control room, control space, or where specified by the equipment manufacturer, in the machinery space.”

Elevator hoistways with elevator machines located outside the hoistways, usually have an open air vent located at the top of the hoistway, and for many years, this type of venting complied with the building code and was also compliant with ASME A17.1. However, the new designs which place the elevator machine in the hoistway have resulted in requirements to maintain the hoistway (machinery space) to within specific ranges of temperature and humidity. This cannot be accomplished with open air venting at the top of the hoistway, as open air venting allows temperature and humidity in the hoistway to fluctuate with the outside air. A power closed damper over the vent at the top of the hoistway would still not provide the temperature and humidity control necessary to comply with the requirements in Section 2.7.9.2.

To address the situation above, the Elevator Safety Division will require elevator contractors that submit applications for elevator installation permits (for the elevators that have the elevator machine in the hoistway), to provide documentation from the architect explaining the means they will provide to keep the elevator hoistway (machinery space) ambient air temperature and humidity in the range specified by the elevator equipment manufacturer.

If you have questions regarding this article, please contact the Elevator Safety Division at (517) 241-9337.

### JOINT TRAINING EFFORT

The Code Officials Conference of Michigan (COCM) and the Bureau of Construction Codes are working on their second annual joint effort to provide educational and training programs to meet the requirements of the Building Officials and Inspectors Registration Act (1986 PA 54).

Classes will be offered for building, electrical, mechanical, and plumbing officials, inspectors, and plan reviewers and will be held January 25 and January 26, 2011, in Lansing, MI. Once finalized, information regarding the training can be obtained by visiting [COCM.org](http://COCM.org).

# OFFICE OF LAND SURVEY AND REMONUMENTATION

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## LAND DIVISION ACT SECTIONS 108-109 – AUTHORITY, GUIDANCE, & VIOLATION

By Keith Lambert, Director

Office of Land Survey & Remonumentation (OLSR)

As discussed in the Fall 2009 issue of Code Works!, the Office of Land Survey and Remonumentation (OLSR) is often contacted by municipalities inquiring as to the approval of certain land division applications pursuant to Sections 108 and 109 of the Land Division Act, 1967 PA 288, MCL 560.101 et seq. OLSR, historically, has offered advice concerning proposed divisions and whether the minimum requirements of PA 288 have been met.

At times, the local authorities would question OLSR's determinations due to their understanding of PA 288. After providing our interpretation of PA 288 regarding specific inquiries, some municipalities made us aware their decision was made contrary to the State's for various reasons.

Recently, we since directed local officials to contact the Michigan Township Association, the Michigan Municipal League, and/or legal counsel when seeking advice regarding proposed division applications. This advice correlates with PA 288, since it is the municipality's responsibility to approve or disapprove land division applications based on whether or not the requirements of Sections 108 and 109 of PA 288 have been met. [MCL 560.109(1)]

However, in an effort to provide additional guidance to municipalities, we are providing the following information in the hope it will allow local authorities to enhance their standards, promote a more uniform application process, and avoid further confusion.

Some local authorities have required surveys be performed in accordance with the Certified Surveys Act, 1970 PA 132, MCL 54.211 et seq., for applicants seeking division. In a July 7, 2003, opinion, the Attorney General concluded municipalities do not abuse their discretion in requiring these surveys for division applications. This advice is consistent with MCL 560.109(1) which states in part, "An application is complete if it contains information necessary to ascertain whether the requirements of Section 108 and this section are met."

Public Act 132 surveys provide the following benefits: (1) accurate determination of acreage, (2) clear concise description of the land, (3) depth to width ratio, (4) exact locations of parcel boundaries identified with bearings and distances, (5) parcel accessibility, (6) uniform map requirements, (7) all corners monumented with permanent markers, and (8) the survey may be used for assessment, taxation, devise, descent, and

conveyance if recorded. If requested, these surveys provide the necessary information required by Sections 108 and 109 to lessen application review time and add clarity to division decisions from both the approval authority's perspective as well as that of the applicant.

Additionally, surveys performed in accordance with PA 132 provide assurance that the health, safety, welfare, and individual property rights of Michigan citizens are protected due to the placement of permanent monuments discerning parcel boundaries. In *Lindsey et al v Hawes*, 67 US 554, 2 Black 554 and *Britton v Ferry*, 14 Mich 53, both the United States and Michigan Supreme Courts recognize the importance of monuments which control over bearings and distances shown on maps. Interested parties rely upon recorded surveys and monument placement to distinguish property rights; otherwise, to not require this standard invites confusion and possible litigation between the purchaser and seller. *Adams v Hoover*, 196 Mich App 646, 650; 493 NW2d 280 (1992) confirms this importance by stating, "Public policy favors that monumented boundaries dictated by recorded surveys should be left in repose."

Suspected violations of PA 288 are to be referred to the county prosecuting attorney by the assessing officer according to Section 53 of the General Property Tax Act, 1893 PA 206. Please note the penalties and enforcement for violations of PA 288 are addressed in Sections 264-266. Section 265 of PA 288 specifies which local authorities may bring an action to restrain or prevent a violation from occurring.

If "subdivision" has occurred as defined in PA 288, a plat is required to be made, consistent with the provisions of PA 288. In certain instances, where substantial development has been completed, an assessor's plat may be ordered by the local unit of government. If a subdivision plat is necessary, the OLSR has the statutory responsibility of reviewing the subsequent plat for compliance with PA 288 according to Sections 151 and 171.

Building permits may be denied on any parcel divided or created in violation of PA 288 according to Attorney General Opinion No. 5526. Refer to Michigan Supreme Court Docket No. 123430 concerning division rights of parent parcels/tracts.

Questions or information requests concerning this article may be directed to the OLSR at (517) 241-6321 or [bccolsr@michigan.gov](mailto:bccolsr@michigan.gov).

# BUILDING DIVISION

## MANUFACTURED HOUSING COMMUNITIES/LOCAL ENFORCING AGENCY INSPECTION REQUIREMENTS

By Larry Lehman, Chief  
Building Division

Due to recent information and questions received in this office regarding confusion on the responsibilities of local enforcing agencies related to licensed manufactured home communities (MHC). The following will provide guidance on several issues:

1. What are the permit and inspection requirements for the set up of manufactured homes, alterations and additions to manufactured homes, and permit and inspection requirements for the construction of accessory structures in a licensed MHC?

Answer: The local enforcing agency that has administration and enforcement authority for construction codes within their governmental subdivision has the legal authority for all buildings and structures within a MHC in accordance with the Stille-DeRossett-Hale Single State Construction Code Act, 1972 PA 230. This includes building, electrical, mechanical, and plumbing permits for the set up and installation of new homes, accessory structures, other structures such as community buildings, and additions to these buildings and structures.

2. What are the permit and inspection requirements for manufactured homes being demolished within a MHC?

Answer: The local enforcing agency again has the legal authority and is responsible for the administration and enforcement of the code within their governmental subdivision for all buildings and structures within a MHC. If a manufactured home is being demolished in a MHC, building permits are required in accordance with Sections 105.1 and R105.1 of the Michigan Building Code (MBC) and the Michigan Residential Code (MRC). A demolition permit and inspections are required to insure the home being demolished and the site are safe for the general public during and after the demolition project and to insure all utilities are properly disconnected and locked off.

3. What are the local enforcing agency responsibilities if they receive a report of an unsafe structure including a manufactured home in a MHC?

Answer: The local enforcing agency again has the legal authority and is responsible for the administration and enforcement of the code within their governmental subdivision for all buildings and structures within a MHC. The Stille-DeRossett-Hale Single State Construction Code Act, 1972 PA 230, Section 4 (3)(e), states a requirement of the Act is “[t]o insure adequate maintenance of buildings and structures throughout this state and to adequately protect the health, safety, and welfare of the people.” Section 115.2 of the MBC requires the building official to cause a report to be filed on an unsafe condition identifying the unsafe condition(s) and specifying the required repairs or improvements to be made to abate the unsafe conditions, or that requires the unsafe structure to be demolished within a stipulated time. The MRC, R102.7, legally references the International Property Maintenance Code (IPMC), which has very similar language to the MBC for the maintenance of buildings and structures, to provide for the general welfare and safety of the public and occupants. As such, the local enforcing agency shall utilize the IPMC to review and investigate a report of an unsafe structure.

In closing, it is also important to note that while buildings and structures shall be maintained in accordance with the IPMC, manufactured homes were typically constructed to the Manufactured Home Construction and Safety Standard whose construction standards are different. Therefore, a manufactured home is not required to be updated to the MRC or IPMC, just restored to a safe condition as it was originally constructed.

Questions on this article can be directed to the Building Division at (517) 241-9317.



# MECHANICAL DIVISION

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## INSTALLATION OF PRE-FAB FIREPLACES

**By Tennison Barry, Chief (Retired)**  
**Mechanical Division**

Over the last year, I have had several questions regarding the installation of pre-fabricated fireplaces. This is an attempt to clear up any confusion as to what should be looked at on the rough inspection and why. I will also explain why the mechanical contractor is responsible for that part of the installation that he/she doesn't usually complete (hearth, surround, mantel, and framing).

On the rough inspection, the fireplace should be installed as well as the venting system and hearth insulating board. I am aware that many contractors do not put the insulating board in place at the time of the rough installation due to the fact it is destroyed before the hearth is installed on top of it. The reason we must know which type of insulating board is installed is because different fireplaces require different R-Values under the hearths. Therefore, without the hearth board in place, the inspector has no way of knowing if the installation is in compliance with the installation instructions.

Several contractors have inquired, "Why am I responsible for clearances to combustibles? If the carpenter put the framing too close to the fireplace, why am I getting a violation?" The

violation relates to the mechanical equipment installations; therefore, the violation must be issued to the mechanical permit holder. It is the responsibility of the mechanical permit holder to assure the carpenter maintains the proper clearances to the equipment.

The biggest question I usually get is, "When I leave the job after the rough inspection, the fireplace is ready to operate, so why do I need two inspections on the fireplace?" The reason the fireplace requires two inspections is after the rough inspection is complete there is other work that must be completed for the installation to comply with the installation instructions. Either of which, if not installed properly, would cause the installation not to be approved. This would include the surround, mantel, and hearth.

In conclusion, it is the responsibility of the mechanical contractor who installs the fireplace to assure compliance with all requirements of the manufacturer's installation instructions.

Questions regarding this article, may be directed to Kevin Kalakay, Mechanical Division at (517) 241-9325.

# BOILER DIVISION

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## BOILER CLEARANCES

**By William Vallance, Chief**  
**Boiler Division**

Boiler Rule 408.4197 states in part, "a minimum clearance of 24 inches is provided between a boiler, its controls, firing equipment, and appurtenances and the building walls and partitions or other boilers or machinery." A boiler installation with clearances of less than 24 inches between boilers may be approved "by submitting drawings to the chief inspector for his review and approval before installation of their boilers." The applicant requesting deviation from the requirements of this rule "shall be notified by the chief inspector of the approval or denial. . . ." If denied, the chief inspector shall indicate the reasons of such denial.

The drawing only needs to be a bird's eye view of the installation showing the distance from boilers and associated equipment. The installation must provide for access around the boiler in order for an inspector to make a proper inspection or for service and maintenance personnel to work.

Boiler manufacturer installation manuals allow for clearances far less than the 24 inches required by the rule. This becomes an issue when the boiler cannot be properly inspected, tested, or serviced. In this situation, the deputy or special inspector has to make an on-site determination whether or not to require the installation be rearranged to meet the minimum requirements.

The portion of the rule: "between a boiler, its controls, firing equipment, and appurtenances and the building walls and partitions or other boilers or machinery. . ." is sometimes passed over during the mechanical design layout and auxiliary equipment is placed too close to the boiler so accessing it becomes impractical. The complete footprint of the boiler and associated equipment shall be taken into account by the designer and installing contractor.

Questions regarding this article, may be directed to the Boiler Division at (517) 241-9334.

# ELECTRICAL DIVISION

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## CODE UPDATE REQUIRED FOR 2011 LICENSE RENEWALS

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

License renewal time is upon us once again. In order to renew a 2011 license for master electrician, journeyman electrician, and fire alarm specialty technician, an approved 15-hour code update course on the 2008 Michigan Electrical Code must be completed. Sign specialists are required to complete an approved 8-hour code update course. Each instructor approved to teach the code update course is required to submit the original roster of course attendees to the Electrical Division. Since the rosters contain the names and license numbers of the course attendees, it is important the names and license numbers are legible, so the information

can be transferred correctly to each licensee's computer profile for use in renewing their license. If a profile does not indicate that the licensee has completed an approved code update course, we will be unable to issue a new license until the code update course is completed. If the licensee has not already completed a 2008 code update course, it is important they do so as soon as possible in order to prevent a delay in the issuance of their 2011 license. For a complete list of approved 2008 code update courses, visit the [bureau's website](#), click Divisions, click Electrical Division, and the courses are listed under Examinations and Licensing.

For questions regarding the code update process, contact the Electrical Division at (517) 241-9320.

## RELATED TECHNICAL INSTRUCTION REQUIRED FOR ELECTRICAL & FIRE ALARM SPECIALTY TECHNICIAN APPRENTICES

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

Effective September 1, 2010, the Bureau of Construction Codes (BCC), Electrical Division, implemented the statutory requirements set forth in 1956 PA 217, the Electrical Administrative Act. MCL 338.883e (1) and (2) and MCL 338.883h (1) and (2) of PA 217 requires apprentice electricians and fire alarm specialty technician apprentices in the state of Michigan to be participating in a training program approved by the Electrical Administrative Board (EAB) and implemented by BCC, Electrical Division. The EAB authorized the US Department of Labor, Office of Apprenticeship (USDOL/OA) to be the approving agency for training programs throughout Michigan in conjunction with the statutory requirement as they have a long history of experience in the apprenticeship arena across many different disciplines. Electrical and fire alarm contractors and the apprentices they employ must register with the USDOL/OA and set up their individual apprentice training programs.

Electrical and fire alarm apprentices who have completed their related technical instruction (RTI) or had previously taken related courses through accredited programs prior to the September 1, 2010, implementation date will receive credit for the related instruction. The apprentice electrical and fire alarm training programs commencing after September 1, 2010, must

be done while an electrical or fire alarm apprentice is sponsored by an employer. Individuals are not discouraged from taking electrical or fire alarm training courses prior to being sponsored by an employer; however, the core requirements must be completed while an apprentice is indentured in an approved electrical apprenticeship training program. The core subject matter approved by EAB may contain many different levels of competency to facilitate the different needs of students the RTI providers may encounter. An individual may be credited up to 1,000 hours of related RTI toward the journey electrician examination.

It is important that electrical apprentices maintain their registration within the state of Michigan on an annual basis as required by statute. An electrical or fire alarm apprentice, journey electrician, or master electrician shall not perform electrical work if their license or registration is not current. Any hours accrued on a license or registration that is not current will not be credited toward examination.

Questions regarding the requirements for electrical apprentices or any other electrical licensing issues may be directed to the Electrical Division at (517) 241-9320.

**PROVIDING FOR MICHIGAN'S SAFETY  
IN THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

# PLAN REVIEW DIVISION

## PRELIMINARY PLAN REVIEW

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

The Plan Review Division can perform preliminary review services at the request of the applicant. The applicant's preliminary plans can be reviewed for compliance with the State construction codes (building, energy, residential, electrical, mechanical, and plumbing). These reviews will only be performed for proposed projects that are under the jurisdiction of the bureau. For general construction projects, the bureau publishes a statewide jurisdiction list that is posted on the [bureau's website](#). Otherwise, the bureau has jurisdiction for schools (Kindergarten through 12th grade) unless a Delegation of Authority has been granted by the bureau to a local enforcing agency for construction code enforcement. A list of school delegations may also be found on the bureau's website. In addition, the bureau has construction code jurisdiction for all projects at State of Michigan-owned facilities.

In order to request a preliminary plan review, an applicant shall complete either the "Application for Plan Examination"

for general construction and state projects or the "Application for School Building Projects and Plan Examination" for Kindergarten through 12th grade school projects. When requesting a preliminary plan review the applicant shall write "PRELIMINARY" at the top of the application. The drawings submitted with the application shall either be design development or construction document drawings, bearing the original seal and signature of the architect or professional engineer in responsible charge of the project. The resulting plan review will be performed giving our findings with respect to code compliance but not approval or disapproval. In keeping with our fee schedule, fees for the preliminary plan review will be charged at an hourly rate of \$125.00. The plan review applications can be obtained on the [bureau's website](#) under Forms, Plan Review Division.

Questions may be directed to the Plan Review Division at (517) 241-9328.

### MICHIGAN CODES & RULES CURRENTLY IN EFFECT

Boiler Fees	09/04/2007
Boiler Rules - General	07/27/2010
Boiler Operators & Stationary Engineers Qualification & Registration Program Rules	07/30/2010
Building/Residential Codes (Part 4)	08/01/2008
Electrical Code (Part 8)	12/02/2009
Elevator Safety - General	06/21/2010
Manufactured Housing General Rules	09/02/2008
Mechanical Code	10/21/2010
Plumbing Code (Part 7)	08/20/2010
Rehabilitation Code	08/01/2008
Subdivisions of Land	06/16/2008

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

## 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  
(includes State Boundary Commission)  
Plan Review Division (517) 241-9328  
Plumbing Division (517) 241-9330

### Facsimile Numbers:

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

### Mailing Addresses:

P.O. Box 30254 (Codes: general correspondence)  
P.O. Box 30255 (Codes: permits, licenses, and other documents  
containing payment)  
P.O. Box 30704 (Office of Land Survey & Remonumentation)  
Lansing, Michigan 48909

# PLUMBING DIVISION

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## ENFORCEMENT OF THE NEW 2009 MICHIGAN PLUMBING CODE

By Robert Konyndyk, Chief  
Plumbing Division

The 2009 edition of the Michigan Plumbing Code (MPC) was effective August 20, 2010. Our previous article in the Summer Code Works! newsletter discussed a portion of the changes. Additional 2009 MPC changes will be summarized in this article to aid installers and code officials.

- Sections 110.1 General, 110.2 Conformance, 110.3 Temporary utilities, and 110.4 Termination of approval (Temporary equipment, systems and uses). The new sections address the permitting and inspections of equipment and systems which are installed that have a limited service life. These could include temporary restrooms or water conditioning equipment brought in by trailers to sit outside the building. They may contain portions which do not have full code compliance such as pipe hangers which would have to be installed under normal conditions. When the need for these limited life systems is completed, the code officials will terminate approval.
- Section 301.7 Conflicts. This code change has one of the greatest impacts on installers of all the changes. It specifies, that when differences between the code and manufacturers instructions occur the more restrictive provisions apply. For example, this could affect how water heaters and backflow preventers are installed by requiring additional tempering devices or location changes than previously listed in the code.
- Sections 312.9 and 417.5.2 Shower Liner Test. The code requires shower pan liners to be made water tight. This code change mandates testing will be conducted with water which will provide visual assurance that leaks are not present and has additional information on how the test will be conducted.
- Table 403.1, Minimum Number of Required Plumbing Fixtures. A new Assembly, A-5, outdoor educational and municipal venues less than 3,000 spectators has been added to the code for smaller school sporting events which reduces the number of required fixtures to those of previous code cycles.
- Section 403.1.1 Fixture Calculations. The new text provides clarity on how to calculate fixture count numbers. In most

cases, the occupant load is divided in half between each sex, and an occasional approved difference, based upon approved statistical data, is acceptable.

- Section 410.2 Prohibited Locations. The code now clarifies that no drinking water outlets (drinking fountains and water coolers) shall be located in public restrooms. This, of course, helps to prevent contamination as restrooms having greater privacy are less likely to be monitored.
- Section 412.2 Floor Drain. This code change modification prohibits floor drains from being installed in locations where they are not serviceable such as under water heaters. It also recognizes an exception where floor drains are located under refrigerated display cases which occur on a regular basis.
- Table 605.5 Fittings [water supply and distribution]. An ASSE standard, which addresses the performance requirements for Push Fit Fittings used with several different piping materials, is now included in the code.
- Section 608.8.2 Color. The code now provides greater clarification that pipes which convey nonpotable water shall be identified by the color purple.
- Section 909.1 Horizontal Wet Vent Permitted. This clarification states that all fixtures shall connect independently to a horizontal wet vented system. It assures the necessary venting from the system's vent will not have a negative effect by another fixture which could be connected to its branch.
- Section 1002.4 Trap Seals. The code clarification identifies that the trap seal primer connection shall be above the trap seal to insure the device will work properly with the trap.

There are, of course, many more code changes than this and the Summer articles have covered. Licensed journey and master plumbers will have the benefit of reviewing them in the required code update classes taught throughout the state.

Questions on these matters may be directed to Robert Konyndyk, Plumbing Division, (517) 241-9330.

# LICENSE EXAMINATION DATES

## BCC ONLINE SERVICES

[Manufactured Home Affidavit of Affixture  
Online Lookup](#)  
[Online License Search](#)  
[Disciplinary Action Report](#)  
[Easy Access to Permit & License Verification](#)  
[Statewide Search for Subdivision Plats](#)  
[Statewide Search for Remonumentation Data](#)  
[County Remonumentation Data Entry](#)  
[Building System Approval Reports](#)  
[Online Code Training Series](#)

## BCC QUICK LINKS

[Online Permitting](#)  
[Online License Renewals](#)  
[Codes & Standards Order Form](#)  
[Statewide Jurisdiction List](#)  
[Local School Construction Enforcement List](#)  
[Product Approvals](#)

## CIVIL SERVICE WEBSITE

[State Job Postings](#)

Code Works! is a quarterly publication of the Bureau of Construction Codes within the Department of Energy, Labor & Economic Growth.

### Editor in Chief

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Deborah Young  
Hillary Cushman

Created under the authority of  
1972 PA 230.

<u>Examination</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Deadline</u>
Boiler Installer and Repairer	Dec 1, 2	Okemos	Nov 5
Fire Alarm Spec. Tech./Sign Spec.	Nov 17	Okemos	Oct 19
Electrician - Journeyman	Feb 17	Lansing	Jan 20
Electrician - Master	Feb 17	Lansing	Jan 20
Electrician - Contractor	Jan 18	Lansing	Dec 14
Elevator Journeyperson	Nov 23 Jan 25	Okemos Okemos	Nov 2 Jan 4
Elevator Contractor/Cert. of Comp.	Jan 21	Okemos	Dec 24
Mechanical Contractor	Dec 14	Lansing	Nov 12
Plumbing - Contractor	Dec 8	East Lansing	
Plumbing - Master and Journey	Dec 15	East Lansing	

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



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