



CODE WORKS!

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Spring 2014

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Larry Lehman has announced he is retiring from state service effective June 20, 2014, after more than 28 years of state service. Larry has served the state of Michigan, construction industry, and Bureau of Construction Codes in several capacities, most notably as Chief of the bureau's Building Division. As Building Division Chief, Larry has overseen the state building inspection program, the manufactured housing program, registration of code officials and inspectors, and approval of instructors and training programs for code inspectors.

Before joining the bureau as a building inspector in 1985, Larry served in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve and worked as a brick and block mason for nearly 20 years. Larry was promoted to Assistant Chief of the Plan Review Division in 1994, and Chief of the Building Division in 2002.

As a building inspector, Larry was assigned to some very high profile projects such as the Mazda manufacturing facility in Flat Rock for two years and the Chrysler Technology Center in Auburn Hills for seven years. Combined, these two facilities encompassed 9.8 million square feet of space and provided work for thousands of Michigan citizens. Larry's work on these special projects, along with his excellent work as a building inspector, earned him recognition as the bureau's Inspector of the Year in 1990.

Larry has participated in Michigan's building code adoption process since 1994, including stints heading up the rules review committees for the state's residential, building, and energy codes. He was the 2006 president of the Code Officials Conference of Michigan (COCM) and served on their board of directors for seven years (COCM was formed in 2004 from the Building Officials Conference of Michigan and the Michigan International Council of Building Officials). Larry sat on the International Code Council's (ICC) Means of Egress code development committee for two code cycles, and on their ad hoc Interoperability, Membership, and Existing Building Code committees. He also participated in ICC code hearings from 2000 to 2013.

Larry has amassed a wealth of construction and code knowledge over his state career. As a code inspector and manager, his goal has always been to ensure the safety and welfare of Michigan's citizens. He has taught numerous code training sessions and is a seasoned instructor and speaker. His knowledge of the building and residential codes will be sorely missed by the bureau, local enforcing agencies, and the construction industry.

Larry, your commitment and contributions to the Bureau of Construction Codes have been outstanding and I will miss working with you. I wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

PLAN REVIEW DIVISION

FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEM PLAN REVIEW

By **Todd Y. Cordill, NCARB, Chief**

Plan Review Division

The design of fire protection systems is required to be reviewed and approved for compliance with the state construction code prior to system installation. The installation shall be inspected for compliance with the code per the approved system design. The 2009 Michigan Building Code (MBC) has an entire chapter dedicated to the requirements for such systems. Additional requirements are found in the 2012 Michigan Mechanical Code (MMC), the 2012 Michigan Plumbing Code (MPC), and the 2011 Michigan Electrical Code (MEC). Each of these codes has references to various standards that shall also be met. The primary code that may or may not require a fire protection system is the MBC. When reviewing construction documents and shop drawings, code officials shall reference MBC Chapter 9, Fire Protection Systems. The categories of fire protection listed in this chapter are: automatic sprinkler systems, standpipe systems, portable fire extinguishers, fire alarm and detection systems, and smoke control systems.

Throughout the fire protection categories of automatic sprinkler systems, portable fire extinguishers, and fire alarm and detection systems, the requirements to have such systems are listed by use group or occupancy. Specific National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards for system design and installation are listed throughout MBC Chapter 9. In conducting a review of plans and specifications, a code official should be able to determine whether or not certain fire protection systems are required, then how the systems should be designed and installed. The construction document and shop drawing requirements are very specific in Section 907 for fire alarm and detection systems. Complete construction documents and shop drawings shall be submitted for review. Section 903, Automatic Sprinkler Systems, does not list specific construction document requirements. However, the automatic sprinkler system shall be shown on the construction documents and also on shop drawings with information showing the sprinkler head and piping layout, the degree of hazard protection, the ceiling layout, and room uses. Items such as available water pressure, fire pumps, and storage tanks shall also be shown. Water flow calculations shall be included in the submittals.

In order to effectively review a proposed design in accordance with portable fire extinguisher requirements, the 2009 International Fire Code (IFC) shall be consulted (by reference in the MBC) in conjunction with the MBC. NFPA 10 (2007) is referenced by both the MBC and IFC for the technical requirements for portable fire extinguishers. This referenced standard describes the technical and performance aspects of fire extinguishers in detail.

MBC Section 909 contains technical design and installation requirements for smoke control systems. The design requirements include, but are not limited to, special inspections and tests, pressurization, air flow, and exhaust. Special inspections may be required for smoke control systems during construction. An effective plan review for such systems will require engineering data for smoke control systems where a system is required.

Fire protection system requirements beyond the MBC are found in the MEC, MMC, and the MPC. Construction documents and shop drawings that are submitted shall demonstrate compliance with these codes as well as the MBC. Wiring requirements for fire alarm systems are addressed by the MEC. Article 760 of the MEC describes requirements for cable, grounding, circuits, and wiring locations. Article 695 addresses fire pumps, including power sources, switching, circuits, and utility service connections. The mechanical requirements for automatic sprinkler systems and fire suppression systems in the MMC are the same NFPA standards listed in the MBC. The design and installation standards are described in Chapter 16 of the MMC. With an automatic sprinkler system, the potable water supply shall be protected per Section 608 of the MPC. Subsection 608.16.4 specifically addresses connections to automatic fire sprinklers and standpipes.

Plan review for code compliance should begin with the MBC, then progress through the MMC, MPC, and the MEC for any submitted building and system design. If you have questions concerning this matter contact the Plan Review Division at (517) 241-9328 or bccplanreviewcodemail@michigan.gov.

ELEVATOR DIVISION

RESTARTING OF ESCALATORS AND MOVING WALKS AFTER AN ACCIDENT

**By Cal Rogler, Chief
Elevator Division**

The Elevator Safety Division has received several calls regarding the procedure for restarting an escalator or moving walk after the device has been removed from service due to an accident on the device.

Michigan Elevator Rule, R 408.7006 Accident reports, states in part, “The holder of a certificate of operation shall notify the department within 48 hours of every accident involving personal injury or damage to the elevator. The department may investigate all such accidents.” This rule includes escalators and moving walks.

The certificate holder is usually the building owner and they would, of course, be responsible to submit the accident report. Although an accident investigation may not be necessary in every situation, the Elevator Safety Division is aware that many elevator service companies have instituted a policy which requires them to notify and get an approval from the Elevator Safety Division before they put an escalator or moving walk back into service after an accident.

When accidents are caused by a code infraction of the device or the injury is substantial, the device should not be put back into service until the Elevator Division is notified and given the opportunity to perform an accident investigation.

Falls on an escalator or moving walk may be caused by many situations and conditions. On occasion a loose screw or molding may catch a strap or garment and pull someone off balance causing a fall. However, if the elevator service company staff respond to an accident on an escalator or moving walk, and can assure the accident was a trip and fall or lost balance and fall accident which was not caused by the device, the device may be put back into service. The journey person shall review a copy of the accident report completed by the certificate holder and assure the accident report states the accident was indeed a trip or lost balance accident not caused by the device. The journey person shall also remind the certificate holder to send the report to the Elevator Safety Division within the required 48 hours.

Note: The “Escalator or Moving Walk Startup” procedure in ASME A17.1-2007, Section 8.6.11.5, must be performed whenever placing the device into service. Please check all combs when preparing to place a device into service. Combs with broken or missing teeth must be replaced prior to placing a device into service.

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact the Elevator Safety Division at (517) 241-9337 or elevsafety@michigan.gov.

BUILDING DIVISION

ROADSIDE STANDS

**By Larry Lehman, Chief
Building Division**

Public Act 125 was signed by the governor on October 1, 2013, amending 1972 PA 230, the Stille-DeRossett-Hale Single State Construction Code Act, to exempt qualified roadside stands from having to meet the plumbing fixture requirements of the Construction Code Act and the related promulgated Construction Code, and specify that these stands are not required to have electric power. The amendment was created to provide a remedy to a situation that arose in the northern Lower Peninsula where a farmer erected a produce stand alongside a road in place of a tent that previously sheltered the perishables. A building official cited the new structure for violations of the construction code act and rules. The reasoning behind the exemption is specified in the requirements for a “qualifying roadside stand.”

Specifically, the act was amended by adding a definition for “agricultural product” in section 2a(1)(b). “Agricultural product” means a farm product as defined in section 2 of the Michigan Right to Farm Act, 1981 PA 93, MCL 286.472.

Section 10 of the State Construction Code Act is also amended by adding subsection (9) (a) through (d), and subsection (10).

Based on amendments to the act, a qualifying roadside stand would be exempt from the plumbing fixture requirements of the act and the state construction code, and would not be required to have electric power. A qualifying roadside stand that had electric power, however, would have to comply with the electrical code.

These provisions do not exempt a qualifying roadside stand from a requirement to obtain a building permit.

“Qualifying roadside stand” would mean a roadside stand that meets all of the following requirements:

- a. It is used only for seasonal retail trade in agricultural products.
- b. At least 50% of the agricultural products offered for sale at the roadside stand are produced on a farm that is owned or controlled by the person who owns the roadside stand.
- c. It is not larger than 400 square feet.
- d. It is securely anchored to the ground.

A tent meeting the first three requirements above would also be exempt from the act and the state construction code.

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

BOILER DIVISION

SUBCONTRACTING AND THE BOILER LAW

By Dave Stenrose, Assistant Chief
Boiler Division

The Boiler Division has recently become aware of situations where boiler work was performed by unlicensed people.

Section 13(1) of the Boiler Act, 1965 PA 290, states “a person shall not engage in the business of installing or repairing boilers . . . unless the person has obtained a license. . . .”

The division has also encountered frequent situations where boiler installation commenced before a permit to install was obtained. Boiler Rule 33(1)(a) states in part, “a person shall not install, or reinstall, a boiler without holding a proper license and *first securing a permit* from the boiler division of the department [emphasis added].”

A recent investigation revealed that a company employing a licensed boiler installer obtained a boiler installation permit and then subcontracted the work to a company not employing a licensed boiler installer.

Rule 35(1) states “permits shall be issued only to persons licensed as required by the act and these rules. Work shall be performed by or under the supervision of a licensed person.” An individual in the employ of a licensee is not required to be licensed. Rule 101 states “an individual employed by, and working under the supervision of, a licensed boiler installer is not required to be licensed.” This means that the unlicensed person must be in the (direct) employ and under the supervision of a licensed person. A licensed person cannot apply for a boiler permit and then subcontract the actual work to another company not having a licensed person in their employ. The licensee applying for the permit must be in the (direct) employ of the company actually doing the work.

Rule 99(1) requires that an applicant state the business affiliation under which he/she intends to use their license on the boiler installer’s license application. Rule 99 (2) further clarifies that a person shall not engage in installing boilers under the name of more than one business at a time.

If a licensee changes companies, any open permits obtained under the old company affiliation become void and must be closed. The new license holder for the installer must apply for new permits for those boilers whose original permits were voided. When a license holder changes companies, they must notify the Boiler Division of the change in affiliation.

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 bccelec@michigan.gov.

OFFICE OF LAND SURVEY AND REMONUMENTATION

PA 425 OF 1984: AN ALTERNATIVE TO ANNEXATION

By Kevin O'Brien, P.S.

Office of Land Survey and Remonumentation

The Intergovernmental Conditional Transfer of Property by Contract Act, 1984 PA 425, MCL 124.21-29, was passed to encourage local municipalities to work together to promote economic growth. The process of annexation, whereby a city expands to provide urban-type services to land formerly under township jurisdiction, has generated animosity in the past among local governments.

Under a PA 425 of 1984 contract, land is “conditionally transferred” from one, or more, municipalities to another for a set time period. The receiving municipality agrees to extend its services into this area and to share the taxation from this area with the other local unit(s) of government. This arrangement provides a “win-win” for all parties without resorting to an annexation proceeding.

A PA 425 contract must address the following:

- Be used to promote an economic development project (as defined in the statute).
- Specify how taxes will be shared among the contracting municipalities.
- Specify the length of the contract (may not be over 50 years). A contract may be renewed at the end of the contract.
- Methods of enforcement of the contract.
- Specify which local unit has jurisdiction over the transferred area at the end of the agreement.

A PA 425 of 1984 contract must be filed with the county clerk of the county where the local unit is located and the Secretary of State.

Questions regarding this article may be directed to Kevin O'Brien at (517) 241-6320 or bccolsr@michigan.gov.

MECHANICAL DIVISION

EXISTING INSTALLATIONS

By Kevin Kalakay, Chief
Mechanical Division

The Mechanical Division routinely receives questions regarding existing mechanical installations. The most frequent question is whether an entire existing mechanical system must be brought into compliance with the current mechanical code when a change is being made to the system.

The Michigan Mechanical Code, Section 102.2 Existing installations, states “except as otherwise provided for in this chapter, a provision in this code shall not require the removal, alteration or abandonment of, nor prevent the continued utilization and maintenance of, a mechanical system lawfully in existence at the time of the adoption of this code.”

This code section is not intended to require that an existing heating system be brought into compliance with the current code when only a portion of the system (e.g., a furnace) is being replaced. An existing heating system would generally be considered “lawfully in existence” provided that the system met the code at the time of its original construction and it was permitted, inspected, and approved.

Questions may be directed to the Mechanical Division at (517) 241-9325 or bccmech@michigan.gov.

PLUMBING DIVISION

NEW EPA LEAD FREE REQUIREMENTS

By Joe Madziar, Chief
Plumbing Division

The federal Reduction of Lead in Drinking Water Act was passed and signed into law on January 4, 2011, with an effective enforcement date of January 4, 2014. The act amends Section 1417 of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). The “lead free” requirements of the law, in summary, lowers the maximum weighted content of lead in plumbing pipes, pipe fittings, plumbing fittings, or fixtures from 8% to 0.25%. The maximum lead content for solder is 0.2%. This law covers any wetted surfaces of plumbing products that potable water comes in contact with. Potable water under this law is defined as any water suitable for human ingestion.

With the adoption of this new law it became ”unlawful” to manufacture, sell, or install any plumbing pipe, pipe fitting, plumbing fitting, or fixture that is not lead free as of January 4, 2014. Manufacturers and wholesale houses had three years to conform to the new law. Manufacturers have changed their methods of manufacturing their products and wholesale houses have had to purge their inventory of non-compliant materials.

There are no requirements in the “lead free” law for manufacturers to certify or label their products as lead free. The EPA, however, has encouraged manufacturers to provide some sort of marking indicating that the product meets the lead free requirement. To ensure a product is lead free, there are numerous accredited third party certification bodies that certify the products as lead free and provide markings on the products designating they are lead free. Some of these agencies are: CSA Group, ICC Evaluation Services (ICC-ES), IAPMO, Intertek Testing Services, NSF International (NSF), Truesdail Laboratories, and UL. These are a just a few of the certifiers. Generally, any product that is marked with one of the above listed agencies’ markings will be accepted as lead free.

In summary, all parties should familiarize themselves with the new lead free law and how it affects them. Below are links to two documents put out by the EPA that are very good in further explaining and understanding the new law.

The first is titled “[Summary of the Reduction of Lead in Drinking Water Act and Frequently Asked Questions.](#)”

The second is titled “[How to Identify Lead Free Certification Marks for Drinking Water System & Plumbing Materials.](#)”

Questions concerning the EPA lead free requirements 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
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 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

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 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.

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