



For permits, requests for inspections, information on status of permits or just looking for newsletters that have already been published go to

www.inspectnet.org

We will be updating our inspector work area maps soon.

www.cityofws.org/Home/Departments/Inspections/Articles/FormsAndFees



**“WELL DONE IS
BETTER THAN
WELL SAID”**

MECHANICAL MONTHLY

January 2012

Impact protection for commercial equipment

Question : What are the requirements for impact protection on commercial property

Answer : The requirements come from section 312 of the NCFC.

SECTION 312

VEHICLE IMPACT PROTECTION

312.1 General. Vehicle impact protection required by this code shall be provided by posts that comply with Section 312.2 or by other *approved* physical barriers that comply with Section 312.3.

312.2 Posts. Guard posts shall comply with all of the following requirements:

1. Constructed of steel not less than 4 inches (102 mm) in diameter and concrete filled.
2. Spaced not more than 4 feet (1219 mm) between posts on center.
3. Set not less than 3 feet (914 mm) deep in a concrete footing of not less than a 15-inch (381 mm) diameter.
4. Set with the top of the posts not less than 3 feet (914 mm) above ground.
5. Located not less than 3 feet (914 mm) from the protected object.

312.3 Other barriers. Physical barriers shall be a minimum of 36 inches (914 mm) in height and shall resist a force of 12,000 pounds (53 375 N) applied 36 inches (914 mm) above the adjacent ground surface.

2012 Code changes

I will be publishing the 2012 North Carolina Mechanical , Fuel Gas and Energy Code changes in the upcoming newsletters. We have not started publishing this information at this time because we do not have all of the Code books available to us. However, I do want everyone to know that the grace period for the new Codes to become effective has been extended to June 1, 2012. If you should have any questions, please contact me.

Clothes dryer make up air requirements has changed

NC Department of Insurance
Office of the State Fire Marshal - Engineering Division
1202 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1202
919-661-5880

Closet designed for clothes dryer

Code: 2012 North Carolina Mechanical Code

Date: October 31, 2011

Section: 504.5

Question:

Section 504.5 says, "Where a closet is designed for the installation of a clothes dryer, an opening having an area of not less than 100 square inches shall be provided in the closet enclosure or makeup air shall be provided by other approved means." For the purpose of this section, what is the definition of a closet?

Answer:

The purpose of this section is to protect the clothes dryer from overheating. As the hot air is exhausted from the clothes dryer, makeup air must be provided to ensure that the dryer will operate properly without overheating, which can cause a fire. In an adequate size room, air can be drawn in through cracks around doors and other spaces to provide makeup air. Also the heat can be dissipated into the room. In a small space such as a clothes washer/dryer closet, the heat is trapped unless adequate ventilation is provided.

Most domestic clothes dryers exhaust 200 cfm or less. A 100 square inch opening provides enough area to keep the exhaust from creating an unacceptable negative pressure in the room.

Typical clothes washer/dryer closets are approximately 3 feet deep by five to six feet wide, just enough room for the appliances. A laundry/storage room is typically larger and can be entered and walked through by the occupants. A room designed for a clothes dryer with minimum dimensions of six feet by six feet would be considered a laundry room rather than a closet.

Contact information

If you have a occupied dwelling that needs an inspection, please leave us the contact information on the permit and let the owners or tenants know that we will be contacting them to make arrangements to gain access to perform your inspection .**Please Do not tell them when we will be there to do the inspection because we may be running behind a day or we may have someone out** . You can let them know that you have your inspection scheduled and that we will contact them.

Thank you

**If you wish to have your questions included in our monthly newsletter,
Please send to alexe@cityofws.org Alex Ellis, Senior Mechanical Inspector 336-727-2382**

CITY OF WINSTON-SALEM Mayor: Allen Joines City Council: Vivian H. Burke, Mayor Pro Tempore, Northeast Ward;
Denise D. Adams, North Ward; Dan Besse, Southwest Ward; Robert C. Clark, West Ward; Molly Leight, South Ward; Wanda Merschel,
Northwest Ward; Derwin L. Montgomery, East Ward; James Taylor, Jr., Southeast Ward City Manager: Lee Garrity
FORSYTH COUNTY COMMISSIONERS David R. Plyler, Chairman; Debra Conrad, Vice Chair; Beaufort O. Bailey; Ted Kaplan;
Richard V. Linville; Walter Marshall; Gloria D. Whisenhunt County Manager: Dudley Watts, Jr.

