

NEWS FROM THE PLUMBING INSPECTORS



All information herein was referenced for the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Area. If you have questions concerning other Inspection Divisions, please contact that division for your answers.

QUESTIONS FROM CONTRACTORS?

June 2011

Question : Where In the Plumbing Code does it reference how much wood can be cut or taken out of a stud or joist?

Answer : Section 307.2 Cutting, notching or bored holes states that "a framing member shall not be cut, notched or bored in excess of limitations specified in the International Building Code, the North Carolina Residential Code or Appendix F in this code.

Appendix F reads as follows :

[B] F101.1 Joist notching. Notches on the ends of joists shall not exceed one-fourth the joist depth. Holes bored in joists shall not be within 2 inches (51 mm) of the top or bottom of the joist, and the diameter of any such hole shall not exceed one-third the depth of the joist. Notches in the top or bottom of joists shall not exceed one sixth the depth and shall not be located in the middle third of the span.

[B] F101.2 Stud cutting and notching. In exterior walls and bearing partitions, any wood stud is permitted to be cut or notched to a depth not exceeding 25 percent of its width. Cutting or notching of studs to a depth not greater than 40 percent of the width of the stud is permitted in nonbearing partitions supporting no loads other than the weight of the partition.

[B] F101.3 Bored holes. A hole not greater in diameter than 40 per-cent of the stud width is permitted to be bored in any wood stud. Bored holes not greater than 60 percent of the width of the stud is permitted in nonbearing partitions or in any wall where each bored stud is doubled, provided not more than two such successive doubled studs are so bored. In no case shall the edge of the bored hole be nearer than 0.625 inch (15.9 mm) to the edge of the stud. Bored holes shall not be located at the same section of stud as a cut or notch.

The rest of **Appendix F** deals with structural steel framing. If your specific application deals with steel framing please look at the following sections:

-[B] F101.4

-[B] F101.5

-[B] F101.6

OFFICE/PERMIT INFO

Please see page 4 of this newsletter for the current Inspector territory map for the Plumbing Division or visit us on line at www.inspectnet.org click on forms & fees then on Inspectors Territorial Maps.

Visit our website at www.inspectnet.org for permit information or previous newsletters from the Inspections Department.

If you have any questions or wish for your questions to be included in our monthly newsletter please send all questions to : jamesr@cityofws.org . James Rhodes, Senior Plumbing Inspector, Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Inspections 100 E. First St., Suite 328 Winston-Salem, NC 27101

If you are looking for information from NCDOL go to www.ncdoi.com

For licensing questions contact the State Board of Examiners of Plumbing, Heating, and Fire Sprinkler Contractors at www.nclicensing.org

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.



REMINDER

QUESTION : When will the 2012 North Carolina Plumbing Code be enforced?

ANSWER : The 2012 North Carolina Plumbing Code books are supposed to be available to purchase on July 1, 2011. You may contact the North Carolina Department of Insurance or your local Community College to verify that the books have arrived and are ready for purchase. Another reference to check would be the ICC website at : www.iccsafe.org.

As of **September 1, 2011** contractors will be able to obtain a permit under the new code if that is their preference. However they must keep in mind that only one code cycle can be used per job. Part of the job could not be done by the previous code. Once you have decided to start your job by the 2012 Code you will not be able to go back and forth from one to the other. This transition time frame will end as of **March 1, 2012**, that is when the 2012 North Carolina Plumbing Code will be enforced. If you have any questions regarding the new Code please contact us and we will be glad to answer your questions.

SAFE ACCESS GUIDELINES

During the past few months we have seen an increase in turn-downs due to improper or unsafe access to a jobsite or particular areas of a jobsite. In order to help each other with this situation Inspectors have been leaving a copy of the WS/FC Inspections Divisions Safe Access Guidelines on site for the permit holder to have as a reference. Other trades have included this information in their newsletters also. Please see page 2 of this newsletter for the latest edition of the WS/FC Inspections Divisions Safe Access Guidelines for your convenience.

Safe Access Guidelines

(Revised 4/2011)

The City of Winston-Salem's Inspection Division is concerned about the safety of its inspectors in the performance of their duties. In order to eliminate their exposure to unsafe conditions, we are requesting your cooperation in providing safe means to access job sites. As the contractor or owner, you have direct control over the condition of your job site and your assistance is necessary to expedite the inspection process. Listed below are safety guidelines provided by OSHA and the City of Winston-Salem. These guidelines are designed to protect all individuals at the job site. This list contains hazards that are commonly found at job sites and additional safety measures which may be necessary to eliminate hazards that might directly affect the safety of inspectors. We support our inspectors and our customers in job safety.

1. A clear path must be provided inside and outside the building to allow inspectors access to areas and equipment which require inspection. Passageways must be kept clear of debris and materials.

OSHA 1926.25 & .34

2. If stairs have four or more risers a hand-rail will be required on the open side or sides. The handrail must be 36" high. Stairs with exposed 2" X 4" stud framing will not require rails on the side or sides with exposed stud framing.

3. Temporary stair treads must be a true one inch thick wood or other solid material and extend the full width and depth of the tread. An example: two inch by ten inch boards. *(No OSB or plywood stair treads except premanufactured stairs)*

OSHA 1926.1052(b)(3)

4. Raised platforms, balconies or working/walking surface with an open side four feet or more above the adjacent surface below must have a 42-inch (+/-3") high guardrail on each open side. Guardrails must consist of a top-rail and a mid-rail, screen, mesh, vertical members or equivalent structural members.

OSHA 1926.501(b)

5. Walk-boards over open stoops *(when used as an entry point)* must be of substantial solid materials and be so constructed to support expected loads and must not fall due to deflection or movement. They must be secured by nails or other means to prevent movement or displacement. Walk-boards must meet the following requirements:

- 24 -inches wide; and
- Provided with guardrails on each side when the height above the bottom of the stoop is four feet or more.

6. Ramps used to gain access to elevated surfaces must be constructed of structural members totaling 24" minimum in width. The structural members must be uniform thickness and substantial enough to handle anticipated loads. Cleats must be provided to prevent slipping. Ramps must be sloped so that a person may walk up or down in an upright manner. The slope may not exceed 5/12 pitch. A guardrail system must be provided on each open side four feet or more above the adjacent surface below.

7. Ladders must meet ANSI Standards, be in good repair, and be rated for a minimum of 300 pounds, or each step or rung be able to support a single concentrated load of 250 pounds. Ladders must have nonconductive side rails when used near exposed energized electrical equipment.

OSHA 1926.1053

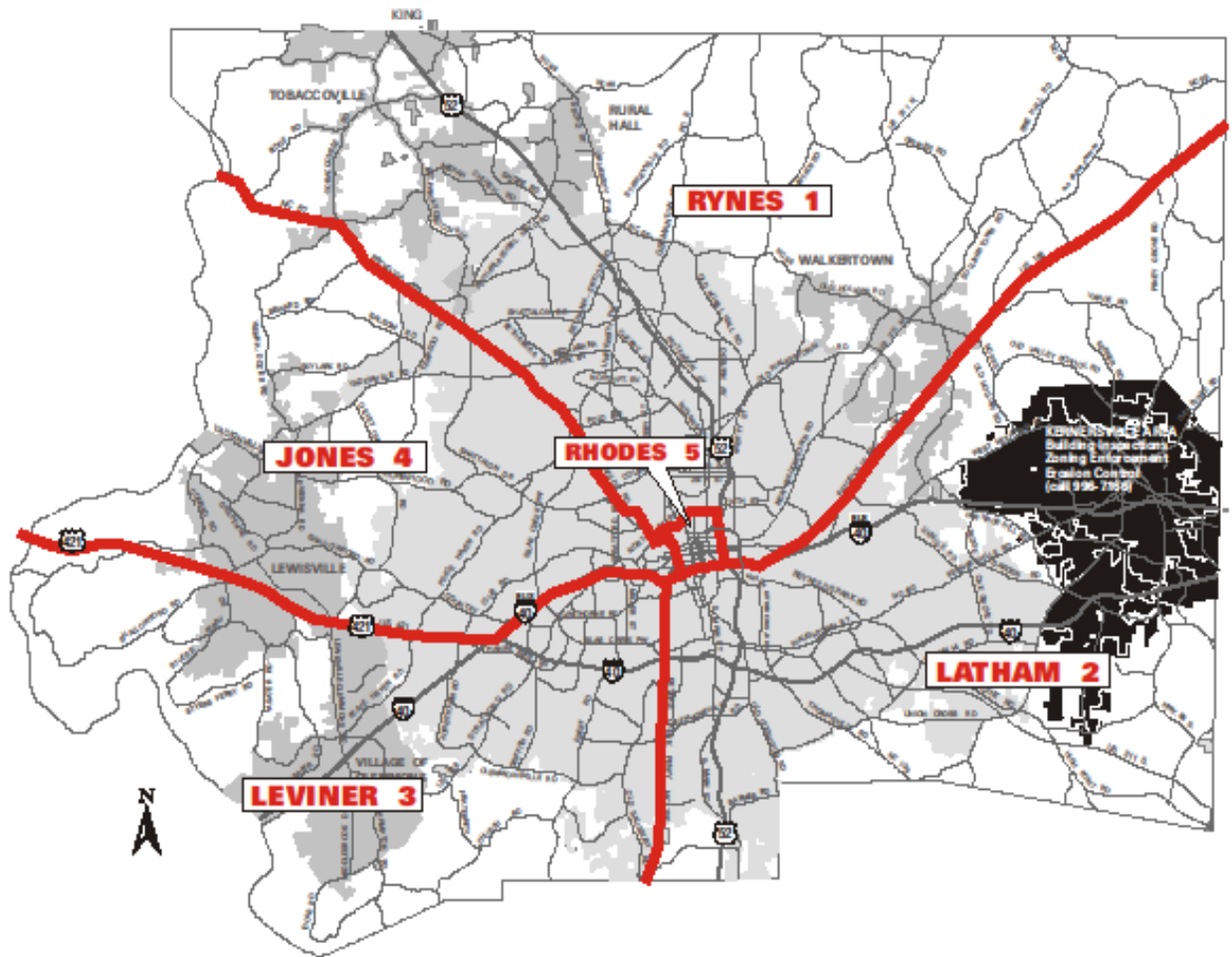
- Straight or extension ladders used to access a landing surface must extend a minimum of three feet above the landing surface. The ladder must be placed on a level surface or secured to prevent accidental displacement.
- When a step ladder must be used to gain access to an attic, the top of the ladder must be no more than one foot below the ceiling or rafter.

8. Scaffolding must meet OSHA standards and be properly installed.

OSHA 1926.451

9. Pull down and disappearing stairs must be in good repair, properly installed according to the manufacturer's installation instructions, secured and in safe working order.

10. Crawlspace must be clear of debris and unsafe conditions that may cause injury. In pre-existing construction if the doorway or clearance between joists and earth is less than 18-inches, the inspector may request the presence of a contractor representative or homeowner during the inspection.



Plumbing Inspector's Work Areas

PLUMBING INSPECTORS	Work Area	Office Phone	Nextel Mobile	Nextel Direct Connect
James Rhodes (Supr.)	5	727-2379	462-7147	150**1129*47
Mike Rynes	1	727-2427	462-7503	150**1129*32
Clint Latham	2	727-2833	399-8871	150**1129*63
Dwight Leviner	3	748-3177	462-7504	150**1129*33
Mark Jones	4	727-2539	462-7505	150**1129*34



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