

# PLUMBING NEWSLETTER



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.

## 2012 NC PLUMBING CODE(S)? "UPDATE"

For the December 2011 meeting the Building Code Council met and voted to extend the dead line for the activation of the 2012 NC Codes from March 1, 2012 to June 1, 2012

### Do we have two(2) NC Plumbing Codes this year?

"Yes". This year there is a NC Commercial and a NC Residential Plumbing Code.

The Commercial Plumbing Code can be purchased from NC DOI already. The Residential Plumbing Code is part of

the NC Residential Building Code Book. This Code Book is on schedule to be out for sale in January 2012.

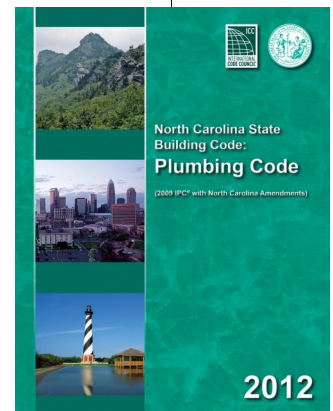
Contractors performing work in residential settings will need a copy of the Residential Building Code Book to reference any code violations listed on their permits.

The Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Inspectors have been instructed to list the code number(s) for violations in the code in which they are found Example: Commercial jobs will have the Com-

mercial Code numbers listed and Residential jobs will have the Residential Code numbers listed.

This will be the same for the 2012 NC Fuel Gas Codes.

To view the Building Code Council's meeting minutes for the 2012 codes go to: [http://www.ncdoi.com/OSFM/Engineering/BCC/engineering\\_bcc\\_minutes.asp](http://www.ncdoi.com/OSFM/Engineering/BCC/engineering_bcc_minutes.asp). Open the September 14, 2010, October 5, 2010 and the December 14, 2010 pdf files.



**THE ONLY THING WORSE THAN AN ALARM GOING OFF**



**IS ONE THAT DOESN'T**



## CARBON MONOXIDE ALARMS

Home Owners and Contractors have asked the same question over and over. **Who's responsibility is it to supply the CO Alarms?**

It is the Contractor's responsibility to meet the requirements of the NC Plumbing Code and/or the

NC Fuel Gas Code when making replacements, repairs, new installations, etc... to fuel fired equipment.

To put it another way. The Inspection Department recognizes that the contractor contracted the job, and it is the contractor that is to be

held responsible for meeting the requirements of the NC Codes.

The contract between the Owner and a Plumbing Contractor should clearly state, who supplies the material and who supplies the labor to complete a code compli-

# CARBON MONOXIDE ALARMS

ant job.

One would think that a Plumbing Contractor would apply good business practices and inform the potential client of all new code requirements that could or would add to the overall price of a job before any agreement was made between the two(2) parties.

NC DOI put out an Interpretation about Carbon Monoxide Alarms. Below is what was sent to the Inspection Department and was part of our February 2011 Plumbing Newsletter.

***This interpretation would include all Residential construction that requires a building permit and the change out or replacement of any fuel-fired appliances, (Water Heaters, Gas Logs, Cook Tops, etc...)***

***Please inform your Builders about these new codes and requirements.***

**NC Department of Insurance**

**Office of the State Fire Marshal  
Engineering Division**

**1202 Mail Service Center, Raleigh,  
NC 27699-1202**

**919-661-5880**

**R313 - Carbon Monoxide Alarms in  
One-and-Two-Family Dwellings and  
Townhouses**

**Code:** 2009 NC Residential Code **Date:**  
January 31, 2011

**Section:** R313

The North Carolina Building Code Council approved an amendment to the 2009 NC Residential Code that revises Section R313 to require the installation of carbon monoxide alarms in new and existing one-and-two-family dwellings and townhouses. The amendment has an effective date of January 1, 2011 and reads as follows:

***R313.1.1 Carbon monoxide alarms.*** *In new construction, dwelling units shall be provided with an approved carbon monoxide alarm installed outside of each separate sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the bedroom(s) as directed by the alarm manufacturer.*

***R313.1.2 Where required-existing dwellings.*** *In existing dwellings, where interior alterations, repairs, fuel-fired appliance replacements, or additions requiring a permit occurs, or where one or more sleeping rooms are added or created, carbon monoxide alarms shall be provided in accordance with Section 313.1.1.*

***R313.1.3 Alarm requirements.*** *The required carbon monoxide alarms shall be audible in all bedrooms over background noise levels with all intervening doors closed. Single station carbon monoxide alarms shall be listed as complying with UL 2034 and shall be installed in accordance with this code and the manufacturer's installation instructions.*

The new carbon monoxide requirements

(NC Residential Code, Section R313) does not include any language that requires the use of hard wired devices. It is the position of this office that the code text allows detectors that are hard wired, battery operated, or plug-in. The detectors must be labeled as compliant with the requirements of UL 2034 and must be installed in accordance with the device manufacturer's installation instructions.

David W. Conner, Sr., P.E.

Chief Residential Code Consultant

Office of State Fire Marshal

NC Department of Insurance

In August the Building Code Council meet to approve an amendment to and add the Carbon Monoxide Alarm requirements to the 2012 NC Plumbing and NC Fuel Gas Code(s).

To view the Building Code Council's meeting minutes about carbon monoxide alarms please go to: [http://www.ncdoi.com/OSFM/Engineering/BCC/engineering\\_bcc\\_minutes.asp](http://www.ncdoi.com/OSFM/Engineering/BCC/engineering_bcc_minutes.asp).

Look for August 22 Council meeting minutes pdf file. And check out the (D) items.



*Auto-graph  
your  
work  
with  
quality*

**"HAPPY NEW YEAR"  
FROM THE WINSTON-SALEM/FORSYTH  
COUNTY PLUMBING INSPECTORS**

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](mailto: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 NCDOI go to [www.ncdoi.com](http://www.ncdoi.com)

For licensing questions contact the State Board of Examiners of Plumbing, Heating, and Fire Sprinkler Contractors at [www.nclicensing.org](http://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.

