

CHAPTER 170: CONSTRUCTION CODES

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TITLE; ADOPTION OF CODES

§ 170.01 ADOPTION OF STANDARDS BY REFERENCE.

The following documents and codes are hereby adopted by reference:

(A) The International Building Code 2021 Edition, as published by the International Code Council, Inc. (ICC), as amended by the Maryland Building Performance Standards;

(B) National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Fire Prevention Code, as adopted by the Maryland State Fire Code;

(C) International Mechanical Code, 2021 Edition;

(D) International Energy Conservation Code, 2021 Edition; **as amended by the Maryland Building Performance Standards.**

(E) International Residential Code, One and Two Family Dwelling Code, 2021 Edition; **as amended by the Maryland Building Performance Standards.**

(F) NFPA 101 Life Safety Code, as adopted by the Maryland State Fire Code;

(G) International Plumbing Code, 2021 Edition;

(H) NFPA 70 National Electrical Code, 2023 Edition (replaces ICC, International Electrical Code);

(I) International Existing Building Code, 2021 Edition; **as amended by the Maryland Building Performance Standards.**

(J) International Fuel Gas Code, 2021 Edition;

(K) Maryland Accessibility Code, COMAR 09.12.53; and

(L) Liquefied Petroleum Gas Code, NFPA 58, 2020 Edition.

(M) International Swimming Pool and Spa Code, 2021 Edition as adopted by the State of Maryland.

(N) **Other Codes and Standards when referenced in the above listed documents.**

| Ground Snow Load | Wind Design | | Seismic Design Category | Subject to damage from | | | Winter D |
|------------------|-------------|---------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|------------------|---------|----------|
| | Speed (mph) | Topographic effects | | Weathering | Frost line depth | Termite | |
| 40 psf | 115 | B or C | A | Severe | 30 inches | M-H | 12 |

*See all relevant footnotes in table 301.2(1) of the code.

(2004 Code, § 97-1) (Ord. 52-D, passed 11-10-1998; Ord. 02-01, passed 1-3-2002; Ord. 04-25, passed 12-22-2004; Ord. 07-06, passed 4-19-2007; Ord. 2010-01, passed 2-25-2010; Ord. 2012-03, passed 5-10-2012; Ord. 2015-05, passed 6-25-2015; Ord. 2017-06, passed 9-7-2017; Ord. 2019-05, passed 10-31-2019)

§ 170.02 TITLE.

The short title of this chapter shall be "Carroll County Construction Codes".

(2004 Code, § 97-2) (Ord. 52-D, passed 11-10-1998; Ord. 2015-05, passed 6-25-2015)

§ 170.03 CONSTRUCTION OF WORDS; ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS.

Wherever the words "Name of Municipality" or "Name of Jurisdiction" appear in the Codes adopted pursuant to § [170.01](#), substitute the words "Carroll County." The enforcement and administration provisions of the codes adopted pursuant to § [170.01](#) shall be the same as the International Building Code 2021 Edition, as amended herein.

(2004 Code, § 97-3) (Ord. 52-D, passed 11-10-1998; Ord. 02-01, passed 1-3-2002; Ord. 2010-01, passed 2-25-2010; Ord. 2015-05, passed 6-25-2015; Ord. 2019-05, passed 10-31-2019)

AMENDMENTS TO CODES

§ 170.15 BUILDING CODE AMENDMENTS.

The International Building Code 2021 Edition is amended as follows:

- (1) Amend Chapter 1, Section 103.1 to read:

"The Bureau of Permits and Inspections of Carroll County is hereby created, and the executive official in charge shall be known as the Building Official or the Chief of the Bureau of Permits and Inspections, or its successor agency."

- (2) Amend Chapter 1, Section 103.2 to read:

"The Building Official shall be a full-time employee who shall enjoy all the privileges afforded all such employees by [Chapter 36](#), Personnel Policies of the County Code."

- (3) Amend Chapter 1, Section 104.4 Inspections, to read:

"The Building Official shall make all the required inspections, or shall accept reports of inspection by approved agencies or individuals in the Building Official's discretion, and all reports of such inspections shall be in writing and certified by a responsible officer of such approved agency or by the responsible individual. The Building Official is authorized to engage such expert opinion as deemed necessary to report upon unusual technical issues that arise subject to the approval of the appointing authority. The Building Official shall resolve any ambiguity which may arise regarding any issue dealing with inspections, and said shall be final."

- (4) Amend IBC Chapter 1, Section 105.2 Work exempt from permit as follows:

- (a) Delete subparagraph one, and amend to read as follows:

"One story detached residential accessory structures constructed on skids and movable, used as tool and storage sheds, playhouses and other similar uses, provided the floor area is not greater than 150 square feet. Sheds must not be in drainage or utility easements or within five feet of a side or rear property line and must meet all applicable zoning, health and building code regulations." "Membrane covered cable structures and membrane covered frame structures, however these structures shall

comply with the setbacks required by [Chapter 158](#) of the County Code, when they are an accessory to an R-3 use."

(b) Amend No. 2 to read "Fences not over 10' in height, however they shall comply with the applicable County, City, and Town zoning regulations. All fences 10' or higher shall be designed to comply with the wind loads as adopted by Carroll County."

(c) Amend No. 9 to read: "Storable swimming or wading pool - those that are constructed on or above ground and are capable of holding water to a maximum depth of 42 inches, with non-metallic, molded polymer walls or inflatable fabric, regardless of dimension." Compliance with all safety standards shall apply and is subject to investigation upon a formal complaint being submitted.

(d) Amend No. 12 to read: "Window awnings, retractable awnings that project from the exterior wall and do not require additional support of R-3 and U occupancies."

(e) Add No. 14 to read: "Replacement of existing light fixture switches."

(f) Add No. 15 to read:

"Decks not exceeding 200 square feet, that are not more than 24" above grade at any point, are not attached to any building or pool, do not serve any door to any structure, and do not have any footings" when accessory to a residential dwelling unit.

(g) Add No. 16 to read: "Installation of low voltage wiring of 50 volts or less when not associated with a fire protection system" ."

(h) Add No. 17 to read: "Replacement of individual residential plumbing fixtures" (excluding kitchen and bathroom remodeling, water treatment devices, solar and heat pump water heaters).

(i) Add No. 18 to read: "Replacement of individual residential LP or Natural gas fixtures" (excluding furnaces and hot water heaters).

(5) **Amend 105.3 Application for permit**, add #8: "All applicants listed as the contractor of record shall be licensed.

Exceptions:

1. Individual homeowners may be listed as the contractor provided the property is listed in public record as their primary residence (homeowners shall submit a signed affidavit prior to issuing the permit that the property is the owner's primary residence.
2. For a commercial permit, a tenant may be listed as the contractor when only minor or no alterations are planned.

(6) Chapter 1, Section 105.3.1, add four new subsections

105.3.1.1 Prerequisites to issuance of permit. No permit shall be issued under this code until all PWAs required for the site have been executed by the County Commissioners.

105.3.1.2 Prior to issuance of a building permit, a copy of all applications for building permits shall be furnished to any agency deemed necessary by the Building Official, the Zoning Administrator, the Carroll County Health Department, and the Supervisor of Assessments and any other agency deemed necessary by the Building Official.

105.3.1.3 All approvals by the offices or agencies specified in Section 105.3.1.2 above shall be made prior to the general approval of a building permit by the Building Official.

105.3.1.4 Well requirements. No permit for any structure for which plumbing is intended to be installed may be issued unless served by a public water system, or the property has located and installed upon it a lawfully constructed well.

(6.1) Amend Chapter 1, Section 105.3.2 to read:

105.3.2 Time limitation of application. An application for a permit for any proposed work shall be deemed to have been abandoned six months after the date of filing, unless such application has been diligently prosecuted or a permit shall have been issued. The Building Official may extend the time limit noted herein for good cause."

(7) Amend Chapter 1, Section 105.5 to read:

"Cancellation of permit. Any permit issued shall become invalid and void if the period for which it was issued expires; or if the authorized work is not commenced within one year after issuance of the permit; or if the work has not been completed within two years of the date of issuance; or if there have been no inspections made of the authorized work within any six month period after the commencement of the work. The Building Official may extend the time limit noted herein for good cause."

(8) Amend Chapter 1, to add new subsection 105.6.1 to read as follows:

"The Building Official shall revoke a permit or approval issued under the provisions of this code in cases of any false statement or misrepresentation of fact in the application or on the plans on which the permit or approval was based or in case of a revocation of an approval by any agency or office whose approval is required pursuant to Section 105.3.1.2."

(9) Amend Chapter 1, Section 105 - PERMITS, to add a new subsection to read:

105.6.2 Withholding permits. Whenever the Building Official shall find that any person, corporation, LLC, partnership, contractor or owner is in violation of the provisions of this code or of the rules and regulations of any other department or agency of the County in connection with the erection, maintenance or repair of buildings, structures, lands or equipment thereon or therein, or has failed to perform any PWA between himself or herself and the County, the Building Official may refuse to grant any further permits to such person, corporation, LLC, partnership, contractor, or owner or the principals in the corporate entity in violation or any other person whose name is required on an application, until all violations have been corrected, or until satisfactory bond has been given to the County Commissioners.

105.6.2 Withholding inspections. Whenever the Building Official shall find that any person, corporation, LLC, partnership, contractor or owner is in violation of the

provisions of this code or of the rules and regulations of any other department or agency of the County in connection with erection, maintenance or repair of buildings, structures, lands or equipment thereon or therein, or has failed to perform any PWA between himself or herself and the County, the Building Official upon 15 days' notice may stop work on all active permits that the person, corporation, LLC, partnership, contractor, owner, or the principals of the corporate entity in violation or any other person whose name is required on an application, has outstanding until all violations have been corrected, or until satisfactory bond has been given to the Board of County Commissioners.

(10) Amend Chapter 1, to add new subsection 107.2.6.2, Grading, to read:

"Grading shall be done in accordance with [Chapter 152](#) of the County Code."

(11) Amend Chapter 1, to add Section 107.6 to read:

107.6 Private sewage disposal system. The site plan shall indicate the location of the private sewage disposal system where a public sewer is not available.

(12) Amend Chapter 1, Section 107 to add a new subsection to read:

107.7 Private water systems. If no public water supply is available and to be used, the site plan shall indicate the proposed location of a private well or wells which are to be installed to serve the property.

(13) Amend Chapter 1, Section 109.2, Fee schedule, to read:

"The Commissioners shall adopt a schedule for the determination of permit fees which shall be a part of the official minutes of the Board of County Commissioners, and such schedule shall be posted in the office of the Building Official at all times."

(14) Amend Chapter 1, Section 109.2 to add a new subsection:

109.2.1 A building owned by the state or federal government is not subject to this code; however, any such government may apply without charge for inspection and approval of work on an informal basis.

(15) Amend Chapter 1, Section 109 - FEES to add new subsections to read:

109.4.1 Fees where construction started without a permit. When a person applies for a permit after having performed work without a permit, the permit fee shall include the amount assessed as a fine, if not previously paid, and up to an additional \$500.00 for the issuance of the permit and up to an additional \$500.00 for each inspection which would have been required to have been made had the permit been issued before work began.

109.4.2 Fees where required inspections have been missed. If the person to whom the permit is issued fails to contact the Building Official for a required inspection, in addition to all other requirements of this code, a fine up to an additional \$500.00 may be assessed and required to be paid for each missed inspection before the issuance of a use and occupancy permit.

109.4.3 In addition to all other fees incurred, at the discretion of the Building Official, additional fees may be assessed for services outside the scope of the adopted fee schedule for things such as the extension of a permit application, an extension of a permit, the issuance of a temporary use and occupancy permit or when additional inspections are requested.

(16) Amend Chapter 1, Section 109.6, Refunds, to read:

"In the case of a revocation of a permit or cancellation of permit pursuant to Section 105 or abandonment or discontinuance of a building project, the portion of the work actually completed shall be computed, and any excess fee for the incomplete work shall be returned to the permit holder, within 30 days from the date of cancellation. All plan examination, inspections, permit process fees, and penalties that have been imposed on the permit holder under the requirements of this code, and the applicable administrative fee shall first be collected."

(17) Amend Chapter 1, Section 110.3, Required inspections, to read:

"The Building Official shall conduct such inspections as deemed necessary by the Building Official during and upon completion of the work for which the Building Official has issued a permit. The Building Official shall maintain a record of all examinations and inspections and of all violations of this ordinance. The Building Official shall determine whether the owner shall provide for special inspections in accordance with Section 1704."

(18) Amend Chapter 1, Section 110.3 to add two new subsections:

110.5.1 Inspection requests. Requests for inspections must be made at least one business day prior to the day on which the inspection requested is to be conducted. A request for inspection shall be made to the Bureau of Permits and Inspections. The contractor whose name appears as such on the permit must notify the Bureau of Permits and Inspections and request an inspection following each of the phases of construction. The contractor shall not proceed with the construction of the next phase unless the inspection for the prior phase has been completed and approved.

110.5.2 Re-inspections. A re-inspection fee may be charged for each failed inspection.

(19) Amend Chapter 1 to add new Section 110.7, Agricultural buildings:

110.7 Agricultural buildings shall be inspected for compliance with building, plumbing and electrical codes.

(20) Amend Chapter 1, Section 111 by adding a new Subsection 111.1.1 to read:

111.1.1 In the event final grading of the site has not been completed, or is not in accordance with [Chapter 152](#), Grading and Sediment Control, of the County Code, the approved site plan and the Land Grading Specifications of the 1994 Maryland Standards and Specifications for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control, no certificate of

use and occupancy shall be issued. A temporary certificate of use and occupancy may be issued to the owner of the property upon presentation of suitable guaranties, as determined by the Building Official, guaranteeing the completion of the grading within a time specified by the Building Official.

(21) Amend Chapter 1, Section 111 - CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY, to add a new sentence at the end to read: Prior to issuance of a use and occupancy permit all approvals by municipalities or other County or state agencies, where required, must be received by the Building Official.

(22) Amend Chapter 1, Section 113.1, Board of Appeals, to read:

113.1 General. In order to hear and decide appeals of orders, decisions or determinations made by the building official relative to the applications or interpretations of this Code, there shall be and is hereby created a Board of Appeals. The Board of Appeals shall be the County Commissioners or not less than three persons whom the County Commissioners may designate.

(23) Amend Chapter 1, Section 113, to add a new subsection to read:

113.4 Filing fees. Any person filing an appeal shall include a nonrefundable filing fee of \$ 150.00.

(24) Amend Chapter 1, Section 113, Board of Appeals, to add a new subsection 113.5 to read:

113.5 Time for filing appeal. An appeal shall be filed within 30 days of the date of the written notice provided by the Code Official of the decision.

(25) Amend Chapter 1, Section 113, Board of Appeals, to add a new subsection 113.6 to read:

113.6 Notice of meeting. The Board, if the County Commissioners, shall meet at its regular meeting day upon notice of the President promptly after the filing of an appeal. If the Board is not the County Commissioners, it shall meet within a reasonable time of the filing of an appeal or at stated periodic meetings if warranted by the volume of work.

(26) Amend Chapter 1, Section 113, Board of Appeals, to add new subsection 113.7 to read:

113.7 Postponed hearing. When all three members are not present to hear an appeal, either the appellant or the appellant's representative shall have the right to a postponement of the hearing until all members can be present.

(27) Amend Chapter 1, Section 113, Board of Appeals, to add a new subsection 113.8 to read:

113.8 Board decision. The Board shall affirm, modify or reverse the decision of the Code Official by concurring vote of a majority of the Board. Failure to secure a majority vote of the Board in support of the appellant shall be a confirmation of the Building Official's decision. The Board may assess the costs of the appeal against any party to the appeal.

(28) Amend Chapter 1, Section 113, Board of Appeals, to add a new subsection 113.9 to read:

113.9 Court review. Any aggrieved person, whether a previous party to the appeal, shall have the right of an appeal to a court of competent jurisdiction for judicial review of the decision of the Board. The decision shall be on the record. The appeal to the court shall be filed within 30 days of the decision of the Board and shall be governed by Chapter 200 of Title 7 of the Maryland Rules entitled Judicial Review of Administrative Agency Decisions.

(29) Amend Chapter 1, by adding Section 116.1.1, Costs of emergency repairs, to read:

"Costs incurred in the performance of the emergency work shall be paid by and be the responsibility of the property owner. If the property owner is unwilling or unable to make such payment, then the payment may be made on behalf of the property owner from the treasury of the jurisdiction. All charges paid by the local jurisdiction shall be due when incurred and after 30 days from the date due shall bear interests at the rate of 1% per month until paid. All payments and costs incurred by the jurisdiction shall be liens upon the real property. In addition to being enforced by actions at law, the Tax Collector may sell the real property of the delinquent property owner in the same manner as other properties sold at tax sale."

(30) Amend Code by adding to Chapter 1 a new Section 117 captioned "Demolition" as follows:

Section 117 DEMOLITION

117.1 General. The Building Official shall order the owner of any premises upon which is located any structure, which in the Building Official's judgment is so old, dilapidated, or has become so out of repair as to be dangerous, unsafe, unsanitary, or otherwise unfit for human habitation or occupancy, and such that it is unreasonable to repair the structure:

- a. To demolish and remove such structure;
- b. If such structure is capable of being made safe by repairs, to repair and make safe and sanitary or to demolish and remove at the owner's option; or
- c. Where there has been a cessation of normal construction of any structure for a period of more than two years, to demolish and remove such structure.

117.2 Notices and orders. All notices and orders shall comply with Chapter 1.

117.3 Failure to comply. If the owner of a premises fails to comply with a demolition order within the time prescribed, the Building Official shall cause the structure to be demolished and removed, either through an available public agency or by contract or arrangement with private persons, and the cost of such demolition and removal shall be charged against the real estate upon which the structure is located and shall be a lien upon such real estate in accordance with § 3-108 of the Code of Public Local Laws.

117.4 Salvage materials. When any structure has been ordered demolished and removed, the Building Official under the contract or arrangement specified in subsection 117.3 shall have the right to sell the salvage and valuable materials at the highest price obtained. The net proceeds of such sale, after deducting the expenses of the demolition and removal, shall be promptly remitted with a report of such sale or transaction, including the items of expense and the amounts deducted, for the person who is entitled thereto, subject to any order of a court. If such surplus does not remain to be turned over, the report shall so state.³¹⁾ Amend Chapter 2, Section 202, Definitions to add:

AGRICULTURAL BUILDING. A structure designed and constructed to house farm implements, hay, grain, poultry, livestock, or other horticultural products. This structure shall not be a place of human habitation or a place of employment where agricultural products are processed, treated, or packaged, nor shall it be a place used by the public.

(31.1) Amend Chapter 5, Table 508.4, to add a new footnote G to read:

"Tenant Separation - All tenant spaces in a non-sprinklered commercial building shall be separated by one hour fire resistance rated assemblies."

(32) Amend Chapter 9, Section 903.3.5, by deleting the second sentence and replacing with:

"The potable water supply shall be protected against backflow in accordance with the requirements of the International Plumbing Code 2021 Edition."

(33) Amend Chapter 10, Section 1011.1 to add a new sentence "all stairways located on any site shall comply with the provisions of this section" and Section 1015, and to

(33.1) Amend Chapter 10 to add a new subsection 1015.2.2 Retaining Walls:

"Retaining walls that are more than 30 inches (762 mm) measured vertically from finish grade to the top of the wall at any point within 36 inches horizontally to the edge of the wall shall comply with the provisions of Section 1015.2 through 1015.4."

(34) Amend Chapter 11, Section 1101.1 to read:

"Scope: The provisions of this chapter shall control the design and construction of facilities for accessibility to physically disabled persons. Facilities that comply with the Maryland Accessibility Law, COMAR 09.12.53 will be considered accessible and any reference to ANSI A117.1 shall mean COMAR 09.12.53."

(35) Amend Chapter 16, Section 1608, Snow Loads, to read:

"All roofs shall be designed for a minimum snow load of 40 PSF ground snow load and for unbalanced snow loads."

(36) Amend Chapter 18 to add new Section 1804.4.1 to read:

"Safety features: In the event that extreme grade conditions exist, the Building Official may require that appropriate safety devices (e.g., fences, guardrails, retaining walls, etc.) be installed." Guards, when required, shall be installed pursuant to Section 1015.2 and 1015.4 of the International Building Code 2021 Edition or to the appropriate county standard unless otherwise approved by the Building Official.

(37) Amend Chapter 18, Section 1809.5 to read:

"Frost protection: Except where exempted by the Building Official or erected upon solid rock or otherwise protected from frost, foundation walls, piers, and other permanent supports of all buildings and structures shall extend to the frost line, which is 30 inches below grade and spread footings of adequate size shall be provided where necessary to distribute properly the load within the allowable load bearing value of the soil. Alternatively, such structures shall be supported on piles where earth or rock is not available. Footings shall not bear on frozen soils."

(38) Amend Chapter 18, Section 1809.8 to read:

"Plain concrete: In plain concrete footings, the edge thickness shall not be less than eight inches (203 mm) for footings on soil." Delete Exception in Section 1809.8.

(39) Amend Chapter 31, Section 3102.1 General, to read:

"The provisions of this section shall apply to tents, membrane structures, and other structures erected or intended to be erected for more than seven consecutive days and less than 180 days. Such structures shall also be governed by the Maryland State Fire Codes. Those structures erected for a longer period of time shall comply with Section 3102 or with all applicable sections of this code where Section 3102 is not applicable."

(39.1) Amend Chapter 31, Section 3111.3.5 to add a new subsection:

3111.3.5.2 Security Fence. A security fence shall be provided for ground-mounted photovoltaic systems. The fence shall prevent unauthorized entry and enclose the entirety of the system. The fence shall be located outside the required 10 feet clearance around all equipment and have a minimum height of 6 feet above grade at any point.

(40) Amend Chapter 33, Section 3303, DEMOLITION, to add two new subsections to read:

3303.8 Condition of property upon completion. In addition to any other reasonable conditions which the Building Official may impose upon a permit issued to demolish a structure, the permit shall be conditioned upon the complete disposal of all debris resulting from the demolition and a restoration of the site appropriate to grade with stabilized soil.

3303.9 Final inspection. Upon completed demolition of the structure, removal of debris and complete stabilization of the ground, the permit holder shall request a final inspection. If all work is satisfactorily completed, a certificate of completion shall be issued. If not, the permit holder shall satisfactorily complete the work within the time limit

of the permit. If a certificate of completion is not issued in accordance herewith during the time authorized under the permit, the property owner and permit holder (if other than the property owner) shall be deemed in violation of the permit.

(41) Add new Chapter 36, UNDERGROUND FUEL STORAGE TANK PERMIT REQUIREMENTS, to read:

CHAPTER 36

Section 3600.0 UNDERGROUND FUEL STORAGE TANK PERMIT REQUIREMENTS

1. Any person who installs, removes or abandons a commercial underground gasoline or fuel storage tank for petroleum products of any size or a residential tank greater than 1,100 gallons shall obtain a permit from the Bureau of Permits and Inspections before installing, removing or abandoning said tank.

2. The requirements of the current Maryland Fire Prevention Code and Maryland Department of the Environment regulations shall apply.

(42) Add new Chapter 38 to read as follows and add the following text to that chapter with the sections indicated:

CHAPTER 38

Floodplain Construction

3800.1 Definitions.

In this chapter the following terms have the meanings indicated. Any term not defined in this chapter shall have the meaning as defined in [Chapter 153](#) of the Code.

ACCESSORY STRUCTURE - An accessory structure is a structure which is on the same parcel of property as a principal structure and the use of which is incidental to the use of the principal structure.

CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY OR USE - A permit to legally occupy or use a building for the intended purpose.

ELEVATION CERTIFICATE - Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) form on which surveyed elevations and other data pertinent to a property and a building are identified and which shall be completed by a licensed professional land surveyor or a licensed professional engineer, as specified by the Floodplain Administrator. When used to document the height above grade of buildings in special flood hazard areas for which base flood elevation data are not available, the elevation certificate shall be completed in accordance with the instructions issued by FEMA.

FLOOD DAMAGE RESISTANT MATERIALS - Any construction material that is capable of withstanding direct and prolonged contact with floodwaters without sustaining any damage that requires more than cosmetic repair. [Note: See NFIP Technical Bulletin #2, "Flood Damage-Resistant Materials Requirements."

FLOOD OPENING - A flood opening (non-engineered) is an opening that is used to meet the prescriptive requirement of 1 square inch of net open area for every square foot of enclosed area. An engineered flood opening is an opening that is designed and certified by a licensed professional engineer or licensed architect as meeting certain performance characteristics, including providing automatic entry and exit of floodwaters; this certification requirement may be satisfied by an individual certification for a specific structure or issuance of an Evaluation Report by the Increased Cost of Compliance (ICC) Evaluation Service, Inc. [Note: See National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Technical Bulletin #1, "Openings in Foundation Walls and Walls of Enclosures."]

FLOOD PROOFING - Any combination of structural or nonstructural changes which reduces or eliminates flood damage to improved property.

FLOOD PROOFING CERTIFICATE - Form supplied by FEMA to certify that a building has been designed and constructed to be structurally dry flood proofed to the flood protection elevation.

FLOOD PROTECTION ELEVATION (FPE). The freeboard required by Carroll County, which is the base flood elevation plus three feet.

HISTORIC STRUCTURE - Any structure that is:

- (1) Individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places (a listing maintained by the U.S. Department of Interior) or preliminarily determined by the Secretary of the Interior as meeting the requirements for individual listings on the National Register;
- (2) Certified or preliminarily determined by the Secretary of the Interior as contributing to the historical significance of a registered historic district or a district preliminarily determined by the Secretary to qualify as a registered historic district; or
- (3) Individually listed on the Maryland Register of Historic Places.

MANUFACTURED HOME - A transportable building which is built on a permanent chassis and is designed for use with or without a permanent foundation when connected to the required utilities.

NAVD - North American Vertical Datum of 1988 elevation datum set by the National Geodetic Survey.

NEW CONSTRUCTION - Structures, including additions and improvements, and the placement of manufactured homes, for which the start of construction commenced on or after August 1, 1978, the initial effective date of the Carroll County, Maryland Flood Insurance Rate Map, including any subsequent improvements, alterations, modifications, and additions to such structures.

PERMANENT STRUCTURE - Any structure occupying a site for more than 180 days per year.

RECREATIONAL VEHICLE - A vehicle built on a single chassis which is 400 square feet or less at the longest horizontal projection, self-propelled or towable, and designed primarily for temporary living while traveling or camping.

REPETITIVE LOSS - Flood-related damage sustained by a building on two separate occasions during a ten year period for which the cost of repairs at the time of each event, on the average, equals or exceeds 25% of the market value of the building before the damage occurred.

START OF CONSTRUCTION - (1) The date the building permit was issued, provided the actual start of construction, repair, reconstruction, rehabilitation, addition placement, or other improvement was within 180 days of the permit date. The actual start means either the first placement of permanent construction of a structure on a site, such as the pouring of slab or footings, the installation of piles, the construction of columns, or any work beyond the stage of excavation; or the placement of a manufactured home on a foundation.

(2) Permanent construction does not include land preparation, such as clearing, grading and filling; nor does it include the installation of streets and/or walkways; nor does it include excavation for a basement, footings, piers, or foundations or the erection of temporary forms; nor does it include the installation on the property of accessory structures, such as garages or sheds not occupied as dwelling units or not part of the main structure.

(3) For substantial improvements, the actual start of construction means the first alteration of any wall, ceiling, floor, or other structural part of a building, whether or not that alteration affects the external dimensions of the building

SUBSTANTIAL DAMAGE - Damage of any origin sustained by a building or structure whereby the cost of restoring the building or structure to its before damaged condition would equal or exceed 50% of the market value of the building or structure before the damage occurred. Also used as "substantially damaged" structures. [Note: See "Substantial Improvement/Substantial Damage Desk Reference" (FEMA P-758).]

SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENT - Any reconstruction, rehabilitation, addition, or other improvement of a building or structure, the cost of which equals or exceeds 50 percent of the market value of the building or structure before the start of construction of the improvement. The term includes structures which have incurred substantial damage, regardless of the actual repair work performed. The term does not, however, include either:

(1) Any project for improvement of a building or structure to correct existing violations of State or local health, sanitary, or safety code specifications which have been identified by the local code enforcement official prior to submission of an application for a permit and which are the minimum necessary to assure safe living conditions; or

(2) Any alteration of a historic structure, provided that the alteration will not preclude the structure's continued designation as a historic structure.

TEMPORARY STRUCTURE - Any structure completely removed within 180 days from issuance of the permit.

WATER-CONVEYING STRUCTURE. A water conveyance, including but not limited to bridges, culverts, dikes, flumes, or levees.

FLOODPLAIN AND STORM DRAINAGE AREAS SUBJECT TO FLOODING BY SURFACE WATERS OR RUNNING STREAMS.

Section 3800.2. Delineation of the floodplain. For the purposes of these regulations, the minimum basis for establishing special flood hazard areas and base flood elevations is the Flood Insurance Study (FIS) for Carroll County, Maryland And Incorporated Areas dated October 2, 2015, or the most recent revision thereof, and the accompanying Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) and all subsequent amendments and revisions to the FIRMs. The FIS, FIRM, and Flood Boundary and Floodway Map (FBFM) shall be used to guide the County or any other Authority Having Jurisdiction in determining the relative location of the proposed building or development with respect to FEMA mapped streams, floodplains, or floodways. If building or development is proposed in a contested FEMA or unmapped floodplain, the floodplain shall be delineated in accordance with Chapter 153. The FIS and FIRMs are retained on file and available to the public at the Department of Land and Resource Management, or its successor agency.

3800.3 Permits.

(A) It shall be unlawful for any person to begin any development or construction which is wholly within, partially within, or in contact with any flood hazard area, including but not limited to: filling; grading; construction of new structures and additions; the substantial improvement of buildings or structures, including repair of substantial damage; placement or replacement of manufactured homes, including substantial improvement or repair of substantial damage of manufactured homes; erecting or installing a temporary structure, or alteration of a watercourse, until a permit is obtained from the Carroll County. No such permit shall be issued until the requirements of these regulations have been met.

(B) In addition to the permits required in paragraph (A), applicants for permits in nontidal waters of the State are advised to contact MDE. Unless waived by MDE, pursuant to Code of Maryland Regulations 26.17.04, Construction on Nontidal Waters and Floodplains, MDE regulates the 100- year frequency floodplain of free-flowing waters," also referred to as nontidal waters of the State. To determine the 100-year frequency floodplain, hydrologic calculations are based on the ultimate development of the watershed, assuming existing zoning. The resulting flood hazard areas delineated using the results of such calculations may be different than the special flood hazard areas. A permit from Carroll County is still required in addition to any State requirements.

3800.4 Construction of buildings or other structures in floodplains. Construction of buildings or other walled and roofed structures in the floodplain is prohibited. This includes accessory and temporary structures. Water-conveying structures are not included in this prohibition. A variance cannot be requested for relief of this prohibition. CLOMR-Fs and LOMR-Fs cannot be used to circumvent this prohibition and will not be recognized by the County. Critical facilities, including but not limited to, wastewater treatment plants and pumping stations, are exempt from this prohibition. Recreational vehicles may not occupy a site for more than 180 days out of the year and shall be fully

licensed and ready for highway use to be allowed seasonally in the FEMA floodplain. A recreational vehicle is ready for highway use if it is on its wheels or jacking system, is attached to the site only by quick-disconnect type utilities and security devices and has no permanently attached additions.

Section 3800.5. Filling. Filling within the floodplain will not be permitted, unless compelling reasons are submitted to the County and approved through the variance process in accordance with Chapter 153. Only the minimum amount of fill necessary to support the buildings will be allowed. Detailed plans will be necessary to evaluate the effect of any filling. Landfills, rubble fills, dumps, and sanitary fills are not permitted in the floodplain. The use of fill may not increase flooding or cause drainage problems on neighboring properties. A variance shall not be granted for any building or fill which will result in any increase in water surface elevations during the base flood unless the applicant acquires floodplain easements on areas outside the property limits that are affected by any water surface rise resulting from the development. Any land disturbance shall be graded and planted with adequate vegetative cover to prevent erosion immediately after disturbance.

Section 3800.6. Existing buildings, manufactured homes, or other structures in the FEMA floodplain. Existing base buildings, manufactured homes, or other structures in the floodplain are nonconforming with respect to this chapter only and shall be substantially improved only if they can be brought into conformance with Chapter 38 without increasing the footprint. Improvements, Modifications, and additions to existing structures are counted cumulatively for 10 years. Reconstruction and repairs shall also be counted cumulatively for 10 years. Minor additions (less than substantial improvement) shall be elevated at least three feet above the elevation of the base flood on pilings or columns. In the event of substantial damage or repetitive loss, the applicant shall submit an alternative analysis to demonstrate that the building cannot be moved out of the floodplain. If a building is replaced in the floodplain, it shall be limited to the footprint of the previous building. Use flood damage-resistant materials below the elevation of the lowest floor.

Section 3800.7. Construction requirements in the floodplain. All buildings shall be oriented so as to offer the least resistance to the flow of flood waters. Materials which are buoyant, flammable, explosive, hazardous to health, or which at times of flooding may be injurious to human, animal, or plant life, shall not be stored less than three feet above the elevation of the base flood. All buildings shall be firmly anchored in accordance with acceptable engineering practices to prevent flotation, collapse, and lateral movement during flooding. All air ducts, large pipes, and storage tanks located below three feet above the elevation of the base flood shall be firmly anchored to resist flotation.

3800.8. Inspections.

The Floodplain Administrator or designee shall make periodic inspections of development permitted in special flood hazard areas, at appropriate times throughout the period of construction in order to monitor compliance. Such inspections may include:

(A) Stake-out inspection, to determine location on the site relative to the flood hazard area.

(B) Foundation inspection, upon placement of the lowest floor and prior to further vertical construction, to collect information or certification of the elevation of the lowest floor.

(C) Inspection of enclosures below the lowest floor, including crawl/underfloor spaces, to determine compliance with applicable provisions.

(D) Utility inspection, upon installation of specified equipment and appliances, to determine appropriate location with respect to the base flood elevation.

(E) Final inspection prior to issuance of the Certificate of Occupancy.

3800.9. Flood protection setback requirement. Any new or replacement buildings shall be located no less than 100 feet from the top of bank of all FEMA mapped streams measured perpendicular to the stream bank and outside of the area calculated to be within the variable width stream buffer per the Carroll County Water Resource Manual. Natural vegetation shall be maintained in the setback zone, and where natural vegetation does not exist along the banks, high priority shall be given to planting trees in the setback area to prevent erosion and enhance aquatic resources.

3800.10. Certifications.

Certifications and/or technical analyses prepared or conducted by a licensed professional engineer or licensed architect, as appropriate, including:

(A) The determination of the base flood elevations or hydrologic and hydraulic engineering analyses prepared by a licensed professional engineer that are required by the Floodplain Administrator or are required by these regulations for: certain subdivisions and development; development in flood hazard areas with base flood elevations but no designated floodways; and deliberate alteration or relocation of watercourses.

(B) The Floodproofing Certificate for nonresidential structures that are floodproofed as required.

(C) Certification that engineered flood openings are designed to meet the minimum requirement to automatically equalize hydrostatic flood forces.

(D) For nonresidential structures that are proposed with floodproofing, an operations and maintenance plan as specified in Section.

(E) Such other material and information as may be requested by the Floodplain Administrator and necessary to determine conformance with these regulations.

Additional Construction Requirements

Section 3800.11. Elevation requirement. All new or substantially improved buildings or repair or reconstruction of repetitive loss shall have the lowest floor elevated three feet above the elevation of the base flood. Basements are not permitted. Less than

substantial horizontal additions shall be elevated three feet above the elevation of the base flood. The elevation of the lowest floor shall be certified by a registered professional engineer or surveyor on the elevation certificate form and provided to the Code Official. Enclosures below three feet above the elevation of the base flood shall be constructed with water equalizing vents to meet the specifications of Section 3800.12.

Section 3800.12. Flood opening requirement. Buildings which have been elevated but have fully enclosed foundation areas below three feet above the elevation of the base flood shall be constructed with flood openings. This also includes attached garages and accessory buildings which are not fully elevated. These areas below flood level shall be used solely for parking of vehicles, storage, or access to the building. A non-conversion agreement shall be recorded in these cases and the County shall inspect the area once per calendar year. The flood openings shall meet or exceed the following standards:

- a. A minimum of two flood openings on different sides of each enclosed area; if a building has more than one enclosure below the lowest floor, each enclosure shall have two flood openings on exterior walls;
- b. The total net area of all flood openings shall be at least one square inch for every square foot of enclosed area (non-engineered flood openings), or the flood openings shall be engineered flood openings that are designed and certified by a licensed professional engineer to automatically allow entry and exit of floodwaters; the certification requirement may be satisfied by an individual certification or an Evaluation Report issued by the ICC Evaluation Service, Inc.;
- c. The bottoms of all openings shall be no more than one foot above grade;
- d. Openings may be equipped with screens, louvers, valves, or other coverings or devices, provided that they permit the automatic entry and exit of flood waters to equalize hydrostatic forces on the walls; and
- e. If installed in doors, flood openings that meet requirements of paragraphs (a) through (d), are acceptable; however, doors without installed flood openings do not meet the requirements of this section.

Section 3800.13. Utilities.

a. Electric. All electric utilities to the building side of the meter are regulated by this [Chapter 170](#), Construction Codes, and shall be elevated a minimum of three feet above the base flood elevation. Distribution panel boxes shall be a minimum of three feet above the lowest floor. All outlets and electric installations, such as heat pumps, air conditioners, water heaters, furnaces, generators, and distribution systems including duct work, shall be installed a minimum of three feet above the elevation of the base flood.

b. Plumbing. Toilets, sinks, showers, water heaters, pressure tanks, furnaces, and other permanent plumbing installations shall be installed three feet above the elevation of the base flood.

c. Gas. Meters, distribution lines, and gas appliances shall be installed three feet above the elevation of the base flood.

d. Fuel tanks. All propane tanks installed in the floodplain are required to be anchored to prevent flotation in accordance with the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 58, 6.6.1.6 which states: "Where necessary to prevent flotation due to possible high flood waters around aboveground or mounded containers, or high water table for those underground and partially underground, containers shall be securely anchored." This chapter also requires that all tanks installed in floodplain areas be either elevated or adequately anchored to prevent flotation up to the FPE. All fuel oil storage tanks installed in the floodplain shall be either elevated or securely anchored to prevent flotation up to the FPE. Vent pipes shall extend to or above the FPE and fill caps below the FPE shall be screw type with a tight-fitting gasket to prevent mixing of water with oil.

e. Water supply and waste disposal facilities. Distribution and disposal collection facilities shall be designed to minimize or eliminate the infiltration of flood waters into the systems or discharges from the systems into flood waters.

Section 3800.14. Sewers and wells. New individual sewage systems, whether public or private, shall be prohibited from being located within the floodplain. Replacement of individual sewage systems, whether public or private, may be located within the floodplain subject to state rules and regulations and any state or county regulations which prohibit location, or otherwise regulate location in floodplain soils, including horizontal separation distance. New or replacement individual wells may be located within the floodplain, subject to state rules and regulations and the Plumbing Code.

Section 3800.15. Variances to additional construction requirements outlined in Sections 3800.4 through 3800.14. Any variance shall be the minimum necessary, considering the flood hazard, to afford relief. Variances must address § [153.065](#) and § [153.081](#).

A letter shall be sent by the Building Official to the applicant indicating the terms of the variance, identify any increased risk to property in granting the variance, and that increased premium rates for flood insurance coverage may apply.

The Building Official shall maintain a record of all building variances, with a justification for their issuance.

(2004 Code, § 97-4) (Ord. 52-D, passed 11-10-1998; Ord. 02-01, passed 1-3-2002; Ord. 02-19, passed 11-21-2002; Ord. 04-09, passed 4-1-2004; Ord. 04-25, passed 12-22-2004; Ord. 05-06, passed 6-21-2005; Ord. 07-06, passed 4-19-2007; Ord. 2010-01, passed 2-25-2010; Ord. 2010-09, passed 6-10-2010; Ord. 2011-04, passed 5-17-2011; Ord. 2012-03, passed 5-10-2012; Ord. 2014-09, passed 10-30-2014; Ord. 2015-05, passed 6-25-2015; Ord. 2015-06, passed 9-3-2015; Ord. 2015-10, passed 12-8-2015; Ord. 2018-01, passed 3-1-2018; Ord. 2019-05, passed 10-31-2019; Ord. 2022-01, passed 12-16-2021; Ord. 2022-10, passed 8-25-2022)

§ 170.16 RESIDENTIAL CODE AMENDMENTS.

Specific changes to International Residential Code 2021 Edition shall be as follows:

(1) Delete Chapter 1 in its entirety and substitute the language of Chapter 1 "Administration" from the International Building Code 2021 as amended by this chapter and as may be hereafter amended from time to time.

(2) Amend Section R301.6 to read:

"All roofs shall be designed for a minimum snow load of 40 PSF ground snow load and for unbalanced snow loads."

(3) Amend Section R310.7 by adding the language "finished basements completed with permits" between the words "existing" and "undergo".

(4) Amend Chapter 3 Means of Egress, R311 by adding:

"The means of egress path shall continue to the driveway or public way by the installation of a sidewalk, stepping stones or other similar approved method."

(5) Modify R311.7 Exception 2 by adding "when approved by the Building Official"

(6) Amend Chapter 3, Building Planning, to read:

"R313.2 An automatic residential fire sprinkler system shall be installed in new and rebuilt one and two family dwellings."

"R313.3 In existing dwellings where the accumulated refurbishment, renovation, or alteration affects the majority of either the structure's total square footage or existing finished space, then the entire structure and any additions shall be protected throughout with a sprinkler system installed in accordance with NFPA 13D." An exception may be granted by the Building Official provided emergency escape and rescue openings are installed throughout in accordance with the currently adopted code and provided the structure and emergency egress windows do not exceed one story above grade.

"R313.4 Additions, without renovation to the existing structure which are intended to include a majority of elements of a dwelling unit (i.e., bedrooms, bathrooms, kitchens, laundry rooms, HVAC configuration, water/sewer configuration, and separation of areas) or exceeds 50% of the structure's total square footage, shall require a sprinkler system to be installed, within the addition only, in accordance with NFPA 13D." An exception may be granted by the Building Official provided emergency escape and rescue openings are installed throughout in accordance with the currently adopted code and provided the structure and emergency egress windows do not exceed one story above grade. Projects exceeding the 50% limit may be approved to be constructed without sprinklers upon an evaluation by the Building Official based on the proposed scope of work and level of hazard present.

(7) Amend Chapter 3, by adding a new section R331 to read:

R331 Private road construction.

- A. All residential dwelling single use driveways shall be 10 feet wide with a minimum surface type of Crusher Run-6, six inches in depth, and shall not exceed a

maximum driveway grade of 17%. New driveway aprons shall be installed in accordance with currently adopted County specifications. Existing driveway aprons being repaved, reinstalled or reconfigured should also be installed in accordance with currently adopted County specifications where technically feasible and without undue burden.

- B. In the event the driveway entrance has not been completed or is not in accordance with the specifications required, no Certificate of Use and Occupancy or Temporary Certificate of Use And Occupancy shall be issued unless the the applicant, the building contractor or the owner of the property shall post a suitable guarantee in the form of a cash payment, assignment of passbook or a letter of credit in an amount deemed sufficient by the County Commissioners, guaranteeing the construction of the driveway entrance to County or Municipal standards within a period of (6) months from the date of the acceptance of the guarantee by the Count. In the event the driveway entrance is not completed within the six (6) month period the County may complete the construction on the County right-of-way utilizing the guarantee, should the cost of construction exceed the amount of the guarantee the owner of the property shall pay the additional cost to the County, plus an administrative fee of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500) within thirty (30) days of notice to do so. If the costs of construction are less than the amount of the guarantee, the excess funds shall be forfeit to the County as part of the Five Hundred (\$500) Dollar administration fee. If any part of the costs incurred by the County associated with the construction of the driveway entrance are not paid within thirty (30) days, the remaining balance shall constitute a lien of the property.

- (8) Amend subsection R401.3 Drainage to add a sentence at the end to read:

"Surface drainage shall comply with Chapter 152 of the Code and shall be mitigated to limit discharge to an adjoining property or public way."

- (9) Amend Chapter 4, Section R403.1.1 to add the following text:

"Notwithstanding any other provisions of this section, concrete footings shall not be less than eight inches in edge thickness and shall extend a minimum of four inches on each side of the supported wall. Concrete footings shall not be poured through water or on frozen soils. Concrete footings shall be protected from freezing during construction and for a period of not less than five days thereafter. Bottom of footing shall not be less than 30 inches below grade and shall rest on virgin or compacted soil."

- (9.1) Delete R403.1.4.1 Exceptions 1 and 2 and replace with

"Accessory buildings with a floor area less than 200 square feet do not require frost protected footings, accessory structures with a floor area between 200 and 400 square feet require frost protected footings a minimum of 18" below grade, all others require full depth footings"

- (10) Amend Chapter 4, Section R404.1.7 by adding the following language after the text:

"Excavated areas to receive backfill shall be clear of all debris, building materials, tree stumps, etc. Backfilled areas to receive concrete porches, steps, patios, walks, etc., shall be adequately compacted to minimize potential settlement."

(11) Amend Section R405.1, Concrete or masonry foundations, to add a sentence at the end to read:

"Drains shall be provided on the exterior of all concrete and masonry foundations in accordance with the adopted Plumbing Code."

(12) Add new Subsection 405.1.2 to read:

405.1.2 Areaways drains. All open subsurface space adjacent to a building serving as an entrance to the basement or cellar of a building must be provided with a drain or drains. Such areaway drains shall be a minimum of two inches in diameter of either cast iron, PVC (polyvinyl chloride), or ABS (Acrylonitrilebutadiene-styrene) 40-weight plastic pipe glued joints for areaway not to exceed 100 square feet in area and shall be discharged as provided for in this regulation pertaining to subsoil drains not serving continuous flowing springs or groundwater. Areaway drains shall be piped directly to a sump pump pit. When subsoil drains drain to open grade, the areaway drain may be connected to a fitting or the subsoil drain outside the areaway. Areaway drains for areas exceeding 100 square feet shall be sized according to the Plumbing Code.

(13) Delete Section R406.1 in its entirety.

(14) Amend Section R406.2 by adding text to the first sentence to read:

"All structures that have a foundation **retaining soil with a finished grade above the lowest floor elevation** shall be waterproofed in accordance with R406.2 or a system approved by the Building Official."

(15) Amend section R507 Exterior Decks by deleting the entire section and replacing with the Carroll County Bureau of Permits and Inspections Residential Code Compliance Guidelines for Decks.

(16) Amend Section R602.10 Wall Bracing by adding an exception to read: "Additions extending less than 12 feet perpendicular from the main house exterior braced wall line".

(16.1) **Amend section 801.3 by adding an additional sentence to read "The roof drainage shall discharge a minimum of 10' from any adjoining property line and shall not create a nuisance on an adjoining property, street, or public way"**

(17) All electrical work shall be subject to the NFPA 70 National Electrical Code as amended hereby notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein.

(18) Delete International Residential Code Chapters 24, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42 and 43 in their entirety and replace with the adopted, gas, and electrical codes.

(19) Adopt International Residential Code 2021 Appendices AF, AJ, AK, and AM.

(20) Amend appendix AF of the International Residential Code Section AF103.9 by adding the following sentence: "The pipe shall be marked with a continuous orange paint line throughout the structure."

(2004 Code, § 97-5) (Ord. 52-D, passed 11-10-1998; Ord. 02-01, passed 1-3-2002; Ord. 02-19, passed 11-21-2002; Ord. 04-25, passed 12-22-2004; Ord. 07-06, passed 4-19-2007; Ord. 2010-01, passed 2-25-2010; Ord. 2012-03, passed 5-10-2012; Ord. 2015-05, passed 6-25-2015; Ord. 2015-10, passed 12-8-2015; Ord. 2017-06, passed 9-7-2017; Ord. 2019-05, passed 10-31-2019)

§ 170.17 MECHANICAL CODE AMENDMENTS.

Specific changes to the International Mechanical Code 2021 shall be as follows:

(1) Amend Chapter 1, Section 106.5 to read:

"Fees and all mechanical work and inspections conducted hereunder or required hereby shall be in accordance with the schedule required by the currently adopted International Building Code, § 108.2 as amended by § [170.15](#)(14) of the County Code."

(2) Delete Sections 106.5.1, 106.5.2, and 106.5.3.

(3) Delete Chapter 1, Section 108, Violations.

(4) Delete Chapter 1, Section 109, Means of Appeals.

(2004 Code, § 97-6) (Ord. 52-D, passed 11-10-1998; Ord. 02-01, passed 1-3-2002; Ord. 04-25, passed 12-22-2004; Ord. 05-06, passed 6-21-2005; Ord. 07-06, passed 4-19-2007; Ord. 2010-01, passed 2-25-2010; Ord. 2011-04, passed 5-17-2011; Ord. 2012-03, passed 5-10-2012; Ord. 2015-05, passed 6-25-2015; Ord. 2019-05, passed 10-31-2019)

§ 170.18 ELECTRICAL CODE AMENDMENTS.

The National Electrical Code 2023 is amended as follows:

(1) Amend National Electrical Code 2023, to add new Chapter 95 to read:

95-1 REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

No person may install, repair, maintain or erect any kind of electrical wiring, conduits, or wiring to or repair of electrical elements or circuits of machinery and fixed or stationery appliances, motors, fixtures, signs, electrically operated heating equipment, elevators, or any other electrically operated apparatus or device in, on, or about any premises in the county without having obtained a State license or County registration and permit as required by the county or the state, or having otherwise complied with these regulations except:

A. Utility company regulated by the Public Service Commission of Maryland when working on its own property or on the line side of a meter or the outside of buildings when using donut type meters.

B. Radio and television transmitting stations licensed and commissioned by the Federal Communications Commission regulations.

95-1.1 EMPLOYMENT OF REGISTERED ELECTRICIANS

Unless otherwise permitted by this chapter, no person, firm or corporation engaged in the manufacture, assembly or repair of electrical equipment manufactured by such person, firm or corporation or manufactured for such person, firm or corporation by a parent or subsidiary shall be required to hold or to employ the holder of any of the registrations provided for by these requirements solely by reason of such manufacture, assembly or repair. However, all electrical installations for machinery and equipment within such factories shall be performed by either a holder of a master electrician or limited registration or under their direct supervision.

95-2 CLASSES OF REGISTRATIONS

The following classes of licenses are hereby established:

A. Master electrician. A master electrician registration shall authorize the registrant to perform or have performed under the registrant's direction and supervision all types of electrical work in accordance with the applicable code as adopted by the County Commissioners and the State of Maryland. Such registration may only be issued to an individual and may not be issued to a firm or corporation.

B. Limited electrician. Limited electrician registrations shall authorize the registrant employed by a firm or corporation to perform or have performed under the registrant's direction or an alternate representative's supervision any electrical work solely on the premises occupied by the employer of such registration. Such registration shall only be issued to an individual and may not be issued to a firm or corporation. In the event the registrant leaves the employ of the employer, the registration shall become void. Firms or corporations operating under limited registrants are required to have an annual inspection of all work performed by their registrant. A record of such work shall be maintained by the registrant.

C. Restricted electrician. A restricted electrician registration shall authorize the registrant to install, maintain and repair the particular type or types of electrical equipment specified in the registration, including:

- a. Electrically operated air-conditioning and refrigeration and heating equipment.
- b. Electrically operated elevators and dumbwaiters.
- c. Electrical display signs.
- d. Oil burners.
- e. **Single devices for all other mechanical and plumbing equipment.**

Restricted electrician registration shall authorize the registrant to maintain, repair and install electrical household fixed and stationary appliances, and permit the licensee to install electrical wiring from the existing distribution panels to the equipment being installed. This registration does not permit installation of service or change of

distribution of service. A restricted electrician registration shall only be issued to an individual and may not be issued to any firm or corporation.

D. Homeowner's Registration. A homeowner registration shall authorize an individual homeowner to submit a permit application to perform minor electrical wiring (excluding service and solar connections) in his or her own home (excluding rental units), provided the individual homeowner applies for the required permit and signs an affidavit that acknowledges (1) the individual homeowner owns and resides in the property to be subject to minor electrical wiring by the individual homeowner, (2) that the property is not used for any commercial or public purpose, and (3) if the work is deemed to be substantially non-compliant, the County reserves the right to require a licensed electrical contractor to complete the installation. "Minor" is defined as not more than twenty (20) devices (lights, receptacle, switches, and appliances) and a maximum of 20 amps for circuits of 120 volts or a maximum of 30 amps for circuits of 240 volts.

95-3 EXAMINATIONS

A. General. Master registration are granted upon confirming an active state license. To be eligible for other electrical registrations any applicant for a, limited electrician or restricted electrician shall be required to satisfactorily pass an examination, except as hereinafter provided. Such examination shall be standard for each category and qualification for passage shall be determined by three qualified persons designated by the county. Examination and grading procedures shall be established, publicized and made available to interested parties prior to each examination date. Examination results shall be made available at the earliest possible date following the date of the examination but not later than 45 days thereafter. Notice of the decision to grant or refuse a registration shall be sent by certified mail to the person for whom the application was filed.

95-4 REQUISITE QUALIFICATIONS FOR TAKING REGISTRATION EXAMINATIONS

In order to assure that those persons desiring to take the examinations for electrical registrations are qualified through experience in the electrical business, the following eligibility requirements are established:

A. Master electrician. Shall hold a license issued by the state, no county exam is required

B. Limited electrician. To qualify for the examination for limited electrician registration, the applicant must be an employee of a firm or corporation for whom the work is to be done and must have worked under the direction or supervision of a qualified master electrician, or limited electrician for at least two years.

C. Restricted electrician. To qualify for the examination for the restricted electrician, the applicant shall satisfactorily establish that he or she has been actively in charge of electrical installation work under the supervision of a master electrician or restricted electrician for the period of at least two years with respect to tire particular

branch or branches to be covered by the license. Further, the applicant must have received his or her principal source of livelihood from such type or types of work.

95-5 INACTIVE REGISTRATION

The applicant shall comply with all requirements for the type of registration for which he or she is applying as listed in Subsection A, B, or C in Section 95-4. The applicant shall not be required to secure general liability insurance during that time the registration is inactive.

95-6 REGULATIONS FOR THE ISSUANCE OF LICENSES/REGISTRATIONS

A. Application. Each applicant must submit an application on a form supplied by the Building Official. All County master electrical registrations and master plumbing licenses shall require a Maryland state license prior to issuance. In the event the person is applying for restricted or limited registration and is self-employed or employed in an unlicensed jurisdiction, the applicant must show proof of earning a livelihood as an electrician for the requisite number of years of the respective license. Proof may consist of inspection certificates, letters from inspectors, documents and receipts from electrical supply houses, etc. The application shall be accompanied by one or more letters from employers certifying to the character and qualifications of the applicant and the fitness of the applicant for the type of work for which the registration is applied. The application for a limited registration shall be signed by the applicant and by an executive officer of the employee and shall set forth the name and qualifications of the employee or employees whose employment and qualifications entitles the applicant to receive the type of license applied for and under whose supervision all electrical work to be done by the applicant will be performed. The applicant shall be required to certify that he or she will maintain general liability or property damage insurance as required by § 6-604(b) of the Business Occupations and Professions Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland as amended.

B. Examination dates for limited and restricted registrations. Examinations shall be offered during the months of April and October of each year, and special examinations may be provided at such other dates of which due notice is given.

C. Registration fee. A registration fee in accordance with Chapter 1, Sec. 108.2, shall be submitted prior to examination date payable to the County Commissioners. Registration fee will be forfeited if two consecutive examination dates are missed.

D. Renewal. Continuing Education as required by the State Electrical Board regulation for a Statewide License.

95-7 APPEALS FROM REFUSAL OF LICENSE/REGISTRATION

Any person may appeal a decision of the Building Official in the refusal of a license/registration; such appeal shall be filed in writing to the County Commissioners, within 30 days of the date of refusal stating the grounds thereof. The appeal will be considered by a Board of Arbitration consisting of one person selected by the person appealing, one person selected by the County Commissioners knowledgeable in the electrical business, and one person from a list of qualified arbitrators recommended by

the applicable Carroll County Board. The appeal will be studied and the arbitrators may make such additional investigation as deemed necessary, and thereafter a majority vote will determine whether to grant or refuse the request for an license/registration. The decision of the arbitrators shall be final. A fee of \$75.00 shall be filed with each appeal which shall be nonrefundable.

95-8 FEES

- A. Fees shall be determined in accordance with Chapter 1, § 108.2.
- B. Inactive licenses/registrations. Any of the licensees/registrants desiring to be placed on the inactive classification specified in Section 95-5 shall be required to pay 50% the current license fees in order to retain such classification.
- C. Licenses/Registrations shall be renewed every two years prior to July 1, and are effective until June 30 of the second year thereafter.

95-9 EXPIRATION, SUSPENSION, OR REVOCATION OF LICENSES/REGISTRATIONS

The Building Official may suspend or revoke any licensee's/registrant's privileges for good cause after a public hearing, provided that at least 15 day notice is given to the licensee/registrant by first class mail. The Building Official shall refer the matter to the Electrical or Plumbing Board for the applicable Board to conduct the hearing and provide a recommendation for the proper resolution of the matter. The applicable Board may recommend a suspension or revocation of the license/registration. Such suspension or revocation may be for the following causes:

- A. Permitting any unlicensed person, firm or corporation to perform electrical/plumbing work under the authority of a license/registration.
- B. Performing or permitting the performance of defective or dangerous work.
- C. Performing any work for which an application for electrical/plumbing work has not been secured from the county.
- D. Violations of any of the provisions of this chapter.

In lieu of suspension or revocation the Building Official may fine the license holder up to \$500 for each separate violation of items A-D.

Any county license/registration which has been allowed to expire for a period of one year or more shall not be reissued until an examination has been successfully taken and approval given for the reissuance of the said license./registration, unless the applicant holds an active statewide master electrical or plumbing license.

95-10 WORK COVERED BY A LICENSE/REGISTRATION

Any holder of a license/registration issued by the county shall be subject to strict compliance with standards and regulations and any amendments or additions thereto of the Carroll County Construction Codes which pertain to electrical wiring and equipment. Where any conflict shall exist, the latest edition of the National Electrical Code shall

prevail. The Carroll County Bureau of Permits and Inspections is the agency designated to determine such compliance with the standards prescribed within the County Code.

95-11 ELECTRICAL BOARD

The County Commissioners shall, in accordance with § 3-701 of the Code of Public Local Laws, appoint an Electrical Board, and shall in accordance with this chapter create such Board, consisting of three persons knowledgeable and experienced in the electrical business and two persons unrelated to any person in the electrical business. Such persons shall serve for a term of five years, except that initially the first member so selected shall serve for one year, the second two years, the third three years, the fourth four years, and the fifth five years.

The Board shall continue to serve at the pleasure of the County Commissioners and shall be designated the following duties and powers:

- A. To recommend changes in the chapter setting up registration regulations.
- B. To prepare and administer electrical registration examinations for limited and restricted registrations.
- C. To make recommendations for the changes in codes pertaining to electrical work in Carroll County.
- D. To provide up-to-date lists of persons from which arbitrators, when needed, can be so selected.
- E. To aid in the conducting of any hearings as determined necessary by the Board of County Commissioners on electrical regulations.
- F. To recommend enforcement procedures as may be desirable in the Bureau of Permits and Inspections from time to time as it pertains to the electrical inspection program.
- G. To advise the County Commissioners on other functions considered helpful in the control and conduct of electrical business in Carroll County from time to time.

(1.1) Amend Article 110.22 to add a new subsection, 110.22(A)(1) In one- and two-family dwellings when required, the disconnecting means for sprinkler pumps shall be identified with a red cover and labeled "Sprinkler Pump Disconnect"

(2) Amend the NFPA 70 National Electrical Code to add Article 210-5(C)(3) to read:

Identification for branch circuits

- a. Circuits of 250 volts or less shall be colors black, red, blue for ungrounded conductors and white for grounded conductor.
- b. Circuits of more than 250 volts shall be colors brown, orange and yellow for ungrounded conductors and gray for grounded conductor.

(2.1) Amend Article 210.11 to add a new subsection,

210.11 (C)(5) In addition to the number of branch circuits require by other parts of this section at least two additional branch circuits shall be provided for septic systems that require a pump and alarm system. One branch circuit shall supply the pump and the second branch circuit shall supply the alarm system.

(3) Amend NFPA 70 National Electrical Code Chapter 210.52(B)(3) to read:

"Receptacles installed in the kitchen to serve counter top surfaces shall be supplied by not less than two small appliance branch circuits, which shall alternate between outlets (either or both of which shall also be permitted to supply receptacle outlets to the kitchen and other rooms specified in (b)(1) above). Additional small appliance branch circuits shall be permitted to supply receptacle outlets in the kitchen and the rooms specified in (b)(1) above."

(3.1) Amend Article 250.52(A)(3) Concrete Encased Electrode to read:

"An electrode encased by at least two inches (50.8 mm) of concrete, located within and near the bottom of a concrete foundation or footing that is in direct contact with the earth, consisting of at least 20 feet (6.1 m) of one or more bare or zinc galvanized or other electrically conductive coated steel reinforcing bars or rods of not less than ½ inch (12.7 mm) diameter or consisting of at least 20 feet (6.1 m) of bare copper conductor not smaller than No. 4, shall be required when continuous concrete footers are installed. Reinforcing bars shall be permitted to be bonded together by the usual steel tie wires or other effective means."

(4) Amend NFPA 70 National Electrical Code Section 250.62 by deleting any and all references to aluminum or copper clad aluminum.

(5) Amend NFPA 70 National Electrical Code Section 310.3(B)(5) to read:

"Conductors in this article shall be of aluminum, copper clad aluminum, or copper unless otherwise specified. The use of aluminum conductors size AWG 12, 10, 8 and 6 will not be permitted in Carroll County."

(6) Amend NFPA 70 National Electrical Code Section 410.36(B) by adding: Tie wires shall be accepted for support of light fixtures."

(7) Amend NFPA 70 National Electrical Code Chapter 680.26(B)(2)(b) Alternate Means to read:

"In unpaved areas where structural reinforcing steel is not available or is encapsulated in a nonconductive compound, a copper conductor shall be utilized where the following requirements are met."

(2004 Code, § 97-7) (Ord. 52-D, passed 11-10-1998; Ord. 02-01, passed 1-3-2002; Ord. 04-25, passed 12-22-2004; Ord. 07-06, passed 4-17-2007; Ord. 2010-01, passed 2-25-2010; Ord. 2012-03, passed 5-10-2012; Ord. 2015-05, passed 6-25-2015; Ord.

2017-06, passed 9-7-2017; Ord. 2018-01, passed 3-1-2018; Ord. 2019-05, passed 10-31-2019; Ord. 2022-01, passed 12-16-2021)

§ 170.19 PLUMBING AND GAS CODE AMENDMENTS.

PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF PLUMBING REGULATIONS

SCOPE. The provisions of the Plumbing Code (hereinafter Code), shall apply to and govern plumbing as defined herein, including the practice, materials and fixtures used in the installation, maintenance, extension and alteration of all piping fixtures, appliances and appurtenances in connection with any of the following: sanitary drainage or storm water facilities, venting systems and the public or private water supply systems, within or adjacent to any building or other structure, or conveyance; also, the practice and materials used in the installation, maintenance, extension, or alteration of the storm water or sanitary sewerage system of any premises to its connection with any public disposal or other terminal.

PURPOSE. The purpose of this Code is to provide practical plumbing regulations for the safeguarding of persons and property from hazards arising from unsanitary and unhealthy plumbing conditions.

LICENSES. No individual shall provide plumbing services or assist in providing plumbing services in Carroll County unless licensed to do so as provided for in the Business Occupations and Professions Article, Annotated Code of Maryland, §§ 12-101 et seq. as amended, and § 3-108(b) of the Code of Public Local Laws of Carroll County.

LICENSES—HOMEOWNER. A homeowner license shall authorize an individual homeowner to submit a permit application to install plumbing (excluding water service and sewer main installations or alterations that extend more than 3 feet from the exterior wall of buildings) in his or her own home (excluding rental units), provided the individual homeowner applies for the required permit and signs an affidavit that acknowledges (1) the individual homeowner owns and resides in the property to be subject to the plumbing work by the individual homeowner; (2) that the property is not used for any commercial or public purpose; and (3) if the work is deemed to be substantially non-compliant the County reserves the right to require a licensed master plumbing contractor to complete the installation.

RULES, REGULATIONS AND INTERPRETATION. The County Commissioners shall from time to time, make such rules and regulations, and such interpretations as are required to implement the enforcement and operation of this Code.

APPLICATION FOR SERVICE CONNECTIONS. Before any plumbing, drainage, or gas fitting is undertaken, the plumber shall make application at the Bureau of Utilities or jurisdiction of appropriate authority for this installation or extension of the service connections, and to the gas company for the necessary gas service connection.

CHARGE FOR SERVICE CONNECTION. The County may require for a charge for service connections.

COMMITTEE TO ASSIST CODE OFFICIAL. The County Commissioners may appoint a Plumbing Advisory Board to aid in making amendments to these regulations or interpretations thereof. The Board shall consist of four licensed plumbers, one utility contractor, one builder, one person representing the public, a plumbing inspector employed by the county, and an employee of the Carroll County Health Department. Any county or state employee shall be non-voting members.

EMERGENCY WORK. When work of an emergency nature must be performed to rectify a possible health or hazardous condition, the plumber may undertake such work prior to the issuance of a permit, but it will be the responsibility of the plumber to obtain a permit for the work within a reasonable time thereafter.

EXPIRATION, SUSPENSION, OR REVOCATION OF LICENSES (see § [170.18](#)(1)(95-9) of this chapter).

INDIVIDUAL SERVICES. These regulations apply to the introduction, maintenance, and/or extension of the public water supply or sewage service or any appurtenance thereof, in or upon any building, lot, premises, or establishment, provided, however, that it shall not be unlawful where a public water supply is not reasonably available, for any person or persons to install or cause to be installed or operate a water supply for sanitary or other purposes; but no such installations shall be connected to any public water supply unless it shall first be disconnected from its original source of supply and the connection from its original source of supply and the connection shall be made to any private water main or pipe that in turn is connected to any public owned water main or pipe.

INSPECTION. The County Commissioners, as of the effective date of these regulations, may designate the Carroll County Health Department as the Plumbing Inspector for individual sewage disposal systems as well as other phases or portions of these regulations. Such designation may change as the County Commissioners so determines in the best interests of Carroll County. The Building Official may waive the inspection of the plumbing system of any building if a qualified engineer certifies that all work was done in accordance with this Code. In such case, however, the engineer shall have personally supervised the plumbing installations.

Advance Notice. It shall be the responsibility of the plumber to give 24 hours advance notice to the Building Official when the work authorized by the permit is ready for inspection.

Plumber's Responsibility. It shall be the duty of the plumber to ensure that the work performed will pass inspection and any required tests before seeking the inspection.

Retesting. If the work performed fails inspection or a test, the plumber shall be required to make necessary corrections to the work and to resubmit the work for inspection and testing.

Testing. Tests shall be conducted in the presence of the Building Official or his or her duly appointed representative.

INSPECTION OF EXISTING SYSTEMS WHEN UNSANITARY CONDITIONS OR AN ILLEGAL DISCHARGE IS PRESENT. The plumbing system of any building in Carroll County may be inspected by the Building Official, or his or her designee, at any reasonable time and upon notification to the owner. If any defects are found therein, the Building Official shall have the authority to order the repair or reconstruction of such plumbing system in accordance with the provisions of this Code.

PERMIT FEES. The County Commissioners shall adopt a schedule of fees for the issuance of permits for plumbing work.

PERMIT REQUIRED FOR TAPPING SEWERS. A permit is required to tap into sewers or drains in public or private streets, alleys, or private ways, but such permit will not be issued except in emergency cases. When issued, the recipient assumes all risks, damage, injury, or loss resulting therefrom. All work outside of private property or reservations (streets, alleys, avenues, or other thoroughfares) when permitted, shall be installed under the supervision and to the satisfaction of the local jurisdiction.

PIPING THROUGH ADJACENT PROPERTY. Plumbing, piping, or sewer and water piping, shall not be connected to or laid through property other than the property to be served. Plumbing or water supply connections which cannot be made across some border of the property served directly into some adjacent lane, road, alley, street, or thoroughfare, or other land under public jurisdiction, may with the permission of the Code Official be carried through a right-of-way or easement across adjoining property provided that (1) all privileges of such right-of-way or easement are obtained by the property owner, desiring service, without any cost, liability, or damage to Carroll County; (2) that such easement or right-of-way shall meet all requirements and approval of the Code Official; and (3) such easement or right-of-way shall be granted and conveyed by formal deed recorded in the Land Records of Carroll County. This regulation, however, shall not prevent a dwelling and a stable or garage upon the same lot being supplied by the same service pipe.

PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS. The designer of the plans and specifications shall be a master plumber licensed in the State of Maryland, a registered professional engineer licensed to do business in the State of Maryland, or any other person as may be approved by the Building Official. The Building Official may provide for an affidavit of an engineer or architect, certifying that he or she has supervised formulation of the plans and specifications and that such, to the best of his or her knowledge, conformed to all of the provisions of the Code. In such case the Building Official may waive the examination of such plans and specifications.

PROTECTION OF WATER SUPPLY. The County Commissioners shall make such rules and regulations in furtherance of the purposes and not inconsistent with the specific provisions of this Code, for the connections of water supply to, of the discharges of water or waste from water operated or water using equipment, fixtures or devices, as may be deemed necessary to properly protect the public water supply system.

REGISTRATION AND USE OF LICENSE. Prior to doing business in Carroll County, every licensed plumber and utility contractor must register with the Building Official by

his or her name, address of business, and name under which such business is conducted, and shall give immediate notice to Building Official of any change in either. A plumber and utility contractor shall not allow his or her name to be used by another person, firm, or corporation for the purpose of obtaining permits, or for doing plumbing business or plumbing work under his or her license. When an application is made to the Carroll County Health Department for septic systems or to the Bureau of Permits and Inspections for sewer and water connections, the applicant must be a licensed plumber or an approved utility contractor. A utility contractor may be approved (1) by satisfactorily passing an examination administered by the Building Official or his or her designee or (2) by showing proof of good standing under a valid license issued by another jurisdiction in Maryland or the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission. A utility contractor shall sign an affidavit certifying that he or she has adequate liability insurance to cover any business conducted in Carroll County.

REMOVAL OF ORIGINAL PLUMBER. In any case where the plumber who originally signed the permit application and to whom the permit was issued is removed by the owner, the owner must notify the Bureau of Permits and Inspections in writing of the change. If work under the permit has been started, the first plumber will be notified by the Bureau of Permits and Inspections of the proposed change. No transfer of the permit will be made in less than 3 days provided that a transfer may be made in a shorter time pursuant to a written agreement between the first and second plumber. If work under the permit has not been started, the first plumber will be notified by the Bureau of Permits and Inspections of the change and the transfer shall be made immediately. The second plumber must file an application for the permit required and pay a fee as set by the County Commissioners. The new plumber will assume responsibility for the job including the work performed by the original plumber.

REVOCATION OF PERMITS. The Building Official may, at any time, revoke, for good cause, any permit previously issued. The owner of a property may, at any time, in writing, request the revocation of a permit previously issued to a plumber for work to be performed on the owner's property which may be revoked at the discretion of the Building Official. (See paragraph entitled "Removal of Original Plumber" for process.).

RIGHT OF ENTRY. The Building Official shall, after proper identification, have the right to enter any premises in Carroll County for the purpose of inspecting any plumbing system and at such times as may be reasonably necessary to protect the public health.

SEWER NOT ACCESSIBLE. When no public sewer or drain is accessible and the applicant proposes to tap a private sewer or drain, the written permission of the owner of the private sewer or drain shall accompany the application and shall be retained for the office files.

SPECIAL PERMIT FOR "INSIDE PLUMBING ONLY." A special permit for "Inside Plumbing Only" may be issued to any plumber upon proper application for installation of plumbing inside a building and to a point five feet outside the foundation wall for properties abutting upon a street in which a sanitary sewer is being constructed but not available, such as an extension under a PWA.

TRANSFER OF PERMITS. When the plumber wishes to be removed as the plumber of record, the plumber must notify the Building Official in writing, requesting that the plumber be released from responsibility for the part of the work that has not been completed. The plumber will be responsible for the work that has been completed. The Plumbing Inspector's record will indicate the extent of such completed work and such responsibility.

WATER SUPPLY SYSTEMS. When the water supply system is intended to serve more than one building owned by or intended for sale to different individuals or groups of individuals, then the plans for such water supply system or systems shall be submitted to the County Commissioners for approval and the entire work must conform in its entirety with these regulations. Application for a permit shall be made in writing to the County Commissioners prior to the commencement of any work on such system or systems.

WHEN PERMIT IS REQUIRED. It shall be unlawful to construct, enlarge, alter or demolish a structure; or change the occupancy of a building or structure requiring greater strength, exit or sanitary provisions; or to change to another use; or to install or alter any equipment for which provision is made or the installation of which is regulated by this Code, without first obtaining the required permit, except that repairs which do not involve any violation of this Code, shall be exempted from this provision.

WORK DONE BY INSTALLER OF WATER CONDITIONERS, APPLIANCES, APPURTENANCES, AND TREATMENT DEVICES. Any firm, person, or corporation licensed by the Maryland Board of Well Drillers for the installation of water conditioners, appliances, appurtenances, and treatment devices or any other person, firm, or corporation that installs said equipment shall file an application for permit with the Bureau of Permits and Inspections prior to beginning installation and shall have the conditioners, appliances, appurtenances and treatment devices inspected as provided in 2800.11, provided that, whenever said work involves connecting to a sanitary sewer line, the provision of 2800.2 and 2800.3 shall apply. Fees shall be regulated by the County Commissioners. Penalties shall be the same as set forth in the Carroll County Constructions Codes.

(A) Specific changes to the International Residential Plumbing Code 2021 shall be as follows:

(1) Add new sentence at end of Section P2501.1: "All testing requirements in sections P2503.4 through sections P2503.6 shall be at the discretion of the Building Code Official".

(2) Amend Section P2503.7: Delete language after "than" and replace with "an 80 psi hydrostatic pressure test on a 100 psi gauge".

(3) Amend and add sentence at end of Section P2603.5: Change "12 inches deep" to "30 inches deep" and add sentence to the end: "Water lines may be installed within 2x6 exterior walls or larger and must be held to the heated side of the wall".

(4) Fill in blanks of Section P2603.5.1: "18 inches for first blank and 36 inches for second blank".

(5) Amend Section 2801.6 by deleting: "in a location where water leakage from the tank will cause damage"

(6) Amend Section P2804.6.1 by deleting Number 5 and 10.

(7) Amend Section P2804.6.1 by adding Number 15: "Must discharge into a minimum two (2) inch trapped floor drain finishing at floor level or a hub drain finishing two (2) inches above the finished floor. Drains shall be constructed of material set forth in Table P3002.1(2)".

(7a) Amend Sections P2901.1.1, P2901.1.2, P2901.1.3 and P2901.1.4 by adding Section (C) Water Disinfecting Devices below to the corresponding sections.

(8) Add new Section P2902.1.2: "Provide a faucet located between the main water line shut of valve and the water storage or pressure tank, to provide access where a water sample may be taken. The faucet shall be installed at a minimum height of eight (8) inches from finish floor and no higher than sixty (60) inches from finish floor".

(9) Amend and add sentence at end of Section P2903.3: "Delete the wording "insufficient to provide for the minimum pressures and quantities" and replace with "35 psi or less" and add new sentence: " A pressure gauge shall be added after the house valve and before the next device. The gauge shall be rated at a minimum of 20 psi above the working pressure if the water main".

(10) Amend Section P2903.7 by deleting "¾ inch diameter" and replacing with "1 inch diameter".

(11) Amend Section P2903.10 by deleting the "Exception".

(12) Amend Sections P2903.12, P2903.12.1 and P2903.12.2 by adding Section (D) Multiple Well Systems below to the corresponding sections.

(13) Amend Section P2904 by deleting the entire section and refer to "NPDA 13D".

(14) Add new Section P2905.3, Hot Water Temperature Maintenance: "Heated water distribution systems where developed length of heated water piping from the source of the heated water to furthest fixture exceeds eighty (80) feet shall be recirculated to within ten (10) pipe feet of any heated water outlet."

(15) Amend Section P3005.2.6 by adding sentence: "A cast iron clean out shall be required at the property line. Any clean out located in a vehicular travel surface shall be of cast iron and have a lamp hole cover installed".

(16) Amend Section P3005.4 by adding new line: "6. Piping installed below slabs shall be minimum of two (2) inch pipe and all fittings (with the exception of water closet fittings) shall be of the long sweep type".

(17) Amend Section P3007.4 by adding sentence: "Audible alarms shall be installed".

(18) Amend Section P3104.6 by deleting text in its entirety and replacing with: "All new construction shall have a two (2) inch minimum vent installed between the basement and the attic or tied into an existing properly sized vent and capped for future use. The cap must be water tight and identified as a future vent".

(19) Amend Section P3114.1 by adding sentence at end: "Air admittance valves shall be allowed only with prior approval of the Building Official".

(20) Amend Section P3303.1.3, Electrical: "Change wording from Chapters 34 through 43 to NFPA 70 National Electrical Code, 2023 Edition".

(21) Add new Section P3303.1.5: "Drainage from a foundation, a sump pit, a water conditioner, condensation or similar equipment shall be discharged to a storm drain, , approved water course or at grade. When discharged at grade, the discharge shall be at least ten (10) feet from any adjoining property line and shall not create a nuisance on neighboring properties, streets, or public ways".

(22) Add new Section P3304: "With prior approval from the Building Official, private garages housing no more than four motor vehicles are not required to have an oil interceptor if drains are installed. Drains must discharge to grade."

(23) Amend section 3010.2 Applicability: by adding at the end "and shall have sufficient slope in accordance with P3005.3"

(B) Specific changes to the International Commercial Plumbing Code 2021 shall be as follows:

(1) Amend Section 305.4.1: Delete "six (6) inches" and replace with "to eighteen (18) inches", and delete "twelve (12) inches" and replace with "thirty (30) inches".

(2) Add new sentence at end of Section 312.1: "All testing requirements in sections 312.2 through sections 312.9 shall be at the discretion of the Building Official".

(3) Amend Section 312.5: Delete "fifty (50) psi" and replace with "eighty (80) psi on a one hundred (100) psi gauge".

(4) Add new sentence at end of Section 312.10.2: "Testing shall be the responsibility of the building owner or contractor".

(4.1) Add a new section 413.5 Floor Drains: "Floor drains shall be installed in commercial kitchens in accordance with COMAR 10.15.3.21.F, one floor drain shall be provided for each 400sf. of floor area or fraction thereof"

(5) Add new sentence at end of Section 419.5: "Buildings with a use group classifications of Assembly, Business, Educational, and Mercantile, self-closing faucets are required".

(5.1) Add a new section 422.4 Service sinks: "Service sinks located in facilities with commercial kitchens or food prep areas, shall be floor mounted or curbed type."

(6) Add new Section 423.4, Waterless Urinals: "Waterless urinals shall not be installed unless approved by the Building Official and the Carroll County Health Department".

(6.1) Amend section 504.6, Requirements for discharge piping, by deleting number 5 and replacing with:

5. Discharge to a waste receptor or to the outdoors via a 2 inch drain.

(7) Amend Section 603.1: Delete "¾ inch" and replace with "one (1) inch".

(8) Amend Sections 608.18.9, 608.18.9.1, 608.18.9.2, 610.2, 610.2.1, 610.2.2. and 610.2.3 by adding Sections (C) Water Disinfecting Devices and (D) Multiple Well Systems below to the corresponding sections.

(9) Amend Section 708.1.10 by adding sentence: "A cast iron clean out shall be required at the property line. Any clean out located in a vehicular travel surface shall be of cast iron and have a lamp hole cover installed".

(10) Amend Section 712.3.4 by adding sentence: "Audible alarms shall be installed".

(11) Amend Section 903.1 by filling in blank space with "six (6) inches."

(12) Amend Section 918.1 by adding: "Exception: Requires Building Official's approval prior to installing and shall only be considered if it is technically infeasible to install a standard relief vent".

(13) Add new sentence at end of Section 1003.2: "All interceptors shall have an engineered certified drawing with a current engineer's stamp submitted to the Building Code Official. The design shall comply with Section 1003".

(14) Add new sentence at end of Section 1004.1: "All grease lines shall be painted black on the top half of the pipe".

(15) Add new sentence at end of Section 1112.1: "Drainage from a foundation shall discharge to a storm drain, approved water course or at grade. When discharged at grade, the end of the discharge pipe shall be at least ten (10) feet from any adjoining property line and shall not create a nuisance on neighboring properties or public roadways".

(C) *Water disinfecting devices.*

(1) The use of an ultraviolet or a chlorine injection disinfection system requires written approval from the authority having jurisdiction prior to installation.

(2) *Requirements for ultraviolet disinfection units on water supplies.*

(a) The unit shall be designed to permit the user to clean the water contact surface of the jacket.

(b) An automatic flow control valve, accurate within the expected pressure range, shall be installed to restrict flow to the maximum design flow of the treatment unit.

(c) Ultraviolet radiation at a level of 2,537 Angstrom units must be applied at a minimum dosage of 16,000 microwatt-seconds per square centimeter at all points throughout the water disinfection chamber.

(d) Maximum water depth in the chamber, measured from the tube surface to the chamber, shall not exceed three inches.

(e) An accurately calibrated ultraviolet intensity meter, properly filtered to restrict its sensitivity to the disinfection spectrum, shall be installed in the wall of the disinfection chamber at the point of greatest water depth from the tube or tubes. Countdown timers alone do not meet this requirement.

(f) A flow diversion valve or automatic shut-off valve shall be installed which will permit flow into the potable water system only when at least the minimum ultraviolet dosage is applied. When power is not being supplied to the unit, the valve should be in a closed (failsafe) position which prevents the flow of water to the potable water system. THERE CAN BE NO BYPASS OF THIS VALVE. This includes any bypass switch built into the valve.

(g) A valve to allow sampling of the water supply prior to treatment must be installed if it is not already present.

(3) *Requirements for chlorine injection systems on water supplies.*

(a) A retention (blending) tank must be included in the installation that will allow the water to have a minimum of 20 minutes contact time with the chlorine.

(b) A valve to allow sampling of the water supply prior to treatment must be installed if it is not already present.

(c) The residual chlorine level must be maintained between 0.5 and 1.0 ppm.

(D) *Multiple well systems.*

(1) Well lines from multiple well systems shall be brought into the building independently and may not be interconnected outside the building.

(a) The well lines shall be permanently labeled or tagged with the well tag number to readily identify from which well they emanate.

(b) A check valve or other approved backflow prevention device shall be installed in each well line prior to the place where the well lines interconnect to prevent combined water from the plumbing system to flow back into the well lines.

(2) Each well shall be able to be independently sampled.

(a) A sampling faucet shall be installed in each well line prior to the point where well lines are joined together to allow for independent sampling of each well.

(b) Sampling faucets shall be installed at least eight inches above the floor level.

(c) Electrical controls shall allow for each well pump to be operated independently.

(E) *General gas regulations.*

The Building Official shall have the authority to require the Plumber, Gas fitter or Certificate holder to verify and provide certification that all or a portion of the existing gas system be tested and verified to be sound prior to being placed in service.

(1) Requirements for the installation of gas appliance and gas piping shall be in compliance with the International Fuel Gas Code, 2021 Edition,

(2) Amend the International Fuel Gas Code to read: "The test pressure to be used shall be 20 PSI using a 30 PSI gauge".

(2.1) Amend Section 310.2 to read "The use of non-arc-resistance CSST is prohibited",

(2.2) Amend section 310.3 to add a new sentence "The requirements of sections 310.2.1 through 310.2.5 shall apply to arc-resistance CSST"

(3) Amend Section 503.4.1 Marking by adding a sentence at the end to read: "All plastic PVC vent flues and make up air piping shall be color coded yellow. The marking shall start at the appliance and continue to a point in which it exits the structure".

(4) The International Fuel Gas Code as adopted shall not be construed so as to prevent licensed liquefied gas companies and their employees from making minor installation connections of gas appliances for domestic use. Liquefied propane gas installers shall have an issued propane gas certificate referred to in §§ 12-101(e), 12-101(i)(l)(iii), 12-101(i)(2)(v), 12-301(a)(3) of the Business Occupations and Professions Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

(5) Propane installations shall comply with NFPA 58 Liquefied Petroleum Gas Code, 2020 Edition and The International fuel gas code 2021 Edition.

(2004 Code, § 97-7.2) (Ord. 02-01, passed 1-3-2002; Ord. 02-19, passed 11-21-2002; Ord. 04-25, passed 12-22-2004; Ord. 07-06, passed 4-19-2007; Ord. 2010-01, passed 2-25-2010; Ord. 2011-04-A, passed 7-21-2011; Ord. 2011-09, passed 11-10-2011; Ord. 2012-03, passed 5-10-2012; Ord. 2015-05, passed 6-25-2015; Ord. 2015-10, passed 12-8-2015; Ord. 2018-01, passed 3-1-2018; Ord. 2019-05, passed 10-31-2019)

§ 170.20 EXISTING BUILDING CODE.

Amend Exception in Section 101.2 Scope: Remove the words "this code" between the words "shall comply with" and the "International Residential Code".

(Ord. 2019-05, passed 10-31-2019)

§ 170.21 NFPA 13D AND NFPA 13 R AMENDMENTS.

(A) Add new line to Section 6.2.2 "(4) A pump by-pass with double check valve shall be installed when booster pumps are installed".

(B) Delete Section 6.11 Fire Department Connection "Exception: FDC connection is not required on single family dwelling(s) four (4) stories or less".

(C) Add line in Section 10.1 "Residential sprinkler systems shall be designed with a five (5) PSI safety factor on all systems".

(Ord. 2019-05, passed 10-31-2019; Ord. 2022-01, passed 12-16-2021)

§ 170.22 INTERNATIONAL SWIMMING POOL AND SPA CODE

Delete Section 305.1 and replace with "The provisions of this section shall apply to the design of barriers for restricting entry to pools and spas. Where spas and hot tubs are equipped with a lockable safety cover complying with ASTM F1346 the areas where those spas and hot tubs are located shall not be required to comply with sections 305.2 through 305.7".

MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

§ 170.30 CONFLICTS AMONG CODES.

For the purpose of governing conflicts in this chapter as a result of differences between the various codes, the provision which gives the greatest protection to the public and the users of buildings, structures, or facilities and equipment shall prevail and govern. The International Residential Code shall prevail and govern Use Group R-4 on items addressed by the International Residential Code.

(2004 Code, § 97-11) (Ord. 52-D, passed 11-10-1998; Ord. 02-01, passed 1-3-2002; Ord. 2015-05, passed 6-25-2015)

§ 170.31 OFFICIAL TEXTS.

The official texts of all codes and texts adopted hereby shall be maintained by the Building Official. The Building Official may provide copies of all such texts for a charge which may be established from time to time.

(2004 Code, § 97-12) (Ord. 52-D, passed 11-10-1998; Ord. 02-19, passed 11-21-2002; Ord. 2015-05, passed 6-25-2015)

VIOLATIONS AND ENFORCEMENT

§ 170.45 UNLAWFUL CONTINUANCE.

Any person who shall continue any work in or about the structure after having been served with a stop-work order, except such work as that person is directed to perform to remove a violation or unsafe condition, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and liable for a fine of not more than \$1,000 or by imprisonment not exceeding 30 days or both such fine and imprisonment. Each day that work continues in violation of the stop-work order shall be deemed a separate offense. A violation of this section shall be in addition to a violation of § [170.99](#).

(2004 Code, § 97-9) (Ord. 52-D, passed 11-10-1998; Ord. 2015-05, passed 6-25-2015)
Penalty, see § [170.99](#)

§ 170.46 CITATIONS AND ENFORCEMENT.

At the discretion of the Building Official, a notice of violation may be issued to any person in violation of this chapter. Such notice shall impose upon the person in violation a penalty as indicated by the Building Official, which may, at the discretion of the person receiving such notice, be paid to any agency designated by the Building Official within 72 hours in full satisfaction of the violation. In the event that such penalty is not paid within the time prescribed, a criminal charging document shall be initiated before a District Court Commissioner setting forth the nature of the violation.

(2004 Code, § 97-10) (Ord. 52-D, passed 11-10-1998; Ord. 02-19, passed 11-21-2002; Ord. 2015-05, passed 6-25-2015) Penalty, see § [170.99](#)

§ 170.99 PENALTY.

Any person who shall violate a provision of this chapter or shall fail to comply with any of the requirements of this chapter or who shall erect, construct, alter, or repair a building or structure in violation of an approved plan or directive of the Building Official or of a permit or certificate issued under the provisions of this chapter, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of not more than \$500 or by imprisonment not exceeding 30 days, or both such fine and imprisonment. Each day that a violation continues shall be deemed a separate offense.

(2004 Code, § 97-8) (Ord. 52-D, passed 11-10-1998; Ord. 2015-05, passed 6-25-2015)

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