

ICC Government Relations

April 2025

Monthly Update

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UPDATE YOUR CALENDAR

[ICC Leadership Week + 2025 Committee Action Hearings – Group B #1](#) April 27 – May 6, 2025

Doubletree at the entrance to Universal Orlando, FL

- Leadership Forum and Keynote Speaker, April 26
- Building Safety Month Reception, April 26
- Membership Council Meetings April 27
- Committee Action Hearings for Group B, April 27–May 6

[Read more here](#) →

[2025 Annual Conference, Expo & Committee Action Hearings – Group B #2](#) October 19–30, 2025

Huntington Convention Center
Cleveland, OH

Tune in Thursday for ‘Everything You Need to Know’ about Building Safety Month events

Mark your calendar for 2 p.m. Eastern on **Thursday, April 3**, to pre-game with our expert panel on “**Everything You Need to Know**” to make your 2025 Building Safety Month experience a huge success in your community. Here’s what we’ll cover in the webinar:

1. What’s new for 2025 Building Safety Month.
2. The 2025 Building Safety Month website and where to find useful member resources.
3. Tips for hosting community events, creating social media campaigns, accessing teacher outlines and more.
4. Our annual Building Safety Month Competition (Hint: LEGO® set prize giveaway).
5. Q&A session to address your questions.

To register, find our [Virtual discussion via WebEx](#). Building Safety Month is a great way to build and strengthen relationships with policymakers for your community. Utilize the awareness campaign as a launch point for in-person events, which can range from public readings/signings of Building Safety Month proclamations, educational events, or construction site walkthroughs to mock inspections or classroom presentations at a local school. Check out our Chapter Leadership Advocacy Guide for additional information on relationship building with local and state electeds, event planning, and more. We look forward to making sure that you have what you need to celebrate and raise the profile of the building safety community.

Outside review sought to improve IRC’s affordability and usability while sustaining its life safety protections

The International Code Council is committed to advancing housing affordability while assuring buildings are safe and resilient. The International Residential Code® (IRC) is updated through an iterative process and many of the current provisions are prescriptive in nature. The Code Council believes that a wholistic review of the IRC could identify potential changes for consideration that can reduce costs and simplify the code without degrading existing life safety requirements. For these reasons, the Code Council is seeking proposals

from professional consulting service providers and/or academic institutions to conduct a study of the IRC to identify:

1. Changes that should be considered which can reduce costs/simplify the code without degrading life safety requirements;
2. Opportunities to simplify the IRC to ensure its better implementation in the field; and
3. Avenues to improve the overall quality and reduce the size of the IRC.

The project titled, *Promoting Housing Affordability Through the I-Codes*, requires a thorough evaluation of the IRC in its entirety.

[Read more here](#) →

Join the digital transformation virtual focus group set for April 16

The Code Council is inviting you and other code professionals, stakeholders, and industry experts to participate in a virtual focus group dedicated to discussing **the role of digital technology in transforming building and code enforcement practices**. The event will be 1-2:30 p.m. Eastern on Wednesday, April 16. This interactive session seeks to gather valuable insights on the adoption, challenges and opportunities presented by digital advancements to inform ICC's Code Official Digitization and Efficiency Support (CODES) project, funded by the U.S. Department of Energy Resilient and Efficient Codes Implementation program. Participate in this virtual focus group by clicking the link below and registering.

[Read more here](#) →

Hotel discount rate for 2025 Leadership Week in Orlando ends April 3

Registration is free to participate in the 2025 Leadership Week + Hearings April 26-May 6 at the Doubletree at the entrance to Universal Orlando, Florida, but the hotel discount rate ends Thursday, April 3. Leadership Week includes a variety of pre-hearing events that offer Code Council members the opportunity to earn CEUs, network with other building safety professionals and learn from their peers. Key events include:

- **Leadership Forum with Keynote Speaker Amy Williams and Panel Discussion**, April 26 (Attendees will earn 0.2 ICC CEUs)
- **Building Safety Month Reception**, April 26
- **Membership Council Meetings**, April 27
- **Member Meet & Greet with ICC CEO and Board President**, April 27
- **Committee Action Hearings for Group B**, April 27–May 6 (In-person attendance can earn up to 1.0 CEUs.)
- **Lunch & Learn with ICC Community Development**, April 28

For a complete schedule of events throughout the week and hearings, click [here](#).

North Carolina realigns its certification system with ICC's standards

To streamline certification processes and expand professional opportunities, North Carolina now accepts certifications from the International Code Council as the basis for comparable state-issued certifications. The North Carolina Code Officials Qualification Board (COQB) recently aligned its certification system with the Code Council's nationally recognized standards. It marked a pivotal shift in the state's approach to certifying building officials and inspectors and recognizes the growth of the Code Council's credentialing programs in ensuring public safety in the building and construction industry. Code Council certifications are designed to ensure that professionals possess the essential knowledge and skills to enforce building codes and maintain safety standards. These certifications cover a wide array of areas, from residential and commercial inspections to mechanical, plumbing and electrical codes. Certification examinations are maintained to the highest standards, with ongoing reviews by committees of experienced industry professionals to ensure the exams remain relevant and up to date.

[Read more here](#) →

2027 International Energy Conservation Code development schedule set

Following the completion and publication of the 2024 International Energy Conservation Code® (IECC) in the fall of 2024, the development of the IECC moved into a continuous maintenance process for the development of the 2027 IECC. Once published, the 2024 IECC was made available for comment with a call for code change proposals on October 7, 2024, which then closed on December 9, 2024. These initial proposals were collected in a monograph and posted on January 6, 2025. The preliminary pages of the monograph included a summary of the schedule working toward the completion of the 2027 IECC. A total of 395 proposals were received by December 9: 170 proposals on the IECC Commercial and 225 proposals on the IECC Residential. Only proposals that have initial action taken by the consensus committees by June 30, can be included within the 2027 IECC. If you are interested in participating in the code development process in person at hearings or online from your desk, using [cdpACCESS](#), and following the hearings online with video, [check out this summary page with quick links](#) to the many aspects of ICC's code development process.

[Read more here](#) →

CALL FOR COMMITTEE: Volunteers sought for water device standard

The International Code Council is seeking manufacturers, builders, contractors, engineers, code officials, academics and other industry stakeholders to volunteer for a Code Council committee to assist in updating the existing ASABE/ICC 802-202x, Landscape Irrigation Sprinkler and Emitter Standard. Increased emphasis on water conservation and new product designs have led to the need for standards to establish criteria for product performance, design, construction and durability. The development of standards will facilitate the creation of water efficiency specifications for products from programs such as the EPA's WaterSense program. Standards also ensure interoperability of products produced by different manufacturers. This committee will convene to develop the existing ASABE/ICC 802-202x standard. This standard will address the design features, performance testing of sprinklers, bubblers and emitters used in landscape irrigation systems.

[Read more here](#) →

“When Disaster Strikes Institute” focuses on disaster preparedness

The safety and well-being of our communities depend on preparedness, response and an organized recovery effort. The International Code Council's [When Disaster Strikes \(WDS\) Institute](#) provides essential training for those who play a key role in evaluating the safety of structures and helping ensure the safety of occupants in a disaster aftermath. [This program offers valuable instruction, hands-on activities and case studies](#), all designed to prepare building safety professionals to plan for, respond to and evaluate damage to our built environment after a disaster. Don Buckley, Fire Marshal for the Draper City Fire Department in Utah, is a strong advocate for the WDS Institute and its importance for communities across the country. A seasoned expert in fire codes with over 20 years of experience, Buckley has seen firsthand the importance of being prepared for disasters. Buckley saw the WDS program as an opportunity to improve disaster preparedness for Utah's fire marshals, building officials and emergency managers. All WDS Institute training is available for in-person or virtual delivery. To schedule and/or sponsor training, please contact Lizette Chagolla at Ichagolla@iccsafe.org or 1-888-ICC-SAFE (422-7233) x4525. Contact Bill Bracken wbracken@iccsafe.org or Karla Higgs kphiggs@iccsafe.org if you are interested in taking the WDS Institute in Orlando during Leadership Week.

[Read more here](#) →

Region V receives 2024 Regions Spotlight Award for outstanding teamwork

Outstanding teamwork within the International Code Council's [Midwest Region V](#) earned them the [2024 Regions Spotlight Award](#), presented during the Code Council's 2024 Annual Conference. The Code Council's Regions Spotlight Award is bestowed upon a regional chapter that best demonstrates strong cooperation among the Chapters that make up the region, advancement of professionalism among its members, strong community service and growth of membership within the region on its contributing chapters. ICC Midwest Region V currently serves four states and over 20 member chapters across Indiana (Indiana Association of Building Officials), Kentucky (Code Administrators Association of Kentucky), Michigan (Code Officials Conference of Michigan) and Ohio (Ohio Building Officials Association).

[Read more here](#) →

Testing building products supports safety and advances innovation

Building safety is essential to protecting lives and property. From the materials used in construction to the systems and products integrated into buildings, it is important to ensure that every component functions as intended. Testing building products not only supports safety but also advances innovation, trust and compliance in the construction industry. The International Code Council's ICC Pulse Podcast episode 58 explored the testing labs in the construction industry. The episode provides listeners with a comprehensive understanding of how the [International Code Council Evaluation Service](#) (ICC-ES) and [ICC-ES Labs](#) contribute to safety, compliance and the future of building standards. Testing serves as a cornerstone of quality assurance and continuous improvement.

[Read more here](#) →

ICC Plumbing, Mechanical, and Fuel Gas Updates

Code Council and University of Miami release report on water efficiency

The International Code Council and the University of Miami recently released a crucial report titled [Water Conservation and Codes: Leveraging Global Water-Efficient Building Standards to Avert Shortfalls](#). The study underscored the urgent need to adopt water conservation measures outlined in the 2021 International Water Conservation Code Provisions® (IWCCP) for residential buildings, including single-family homes and multi-family dwellings such as duplexes and townhomes. This report built on research that analyzed the water savings potential of adopting four key water conservation strategies across four U.S. cities: Phoenix, Las Vegas, Houston and Des Moines. The focus was on the impact of these strategies within the IWCCP, which included:

1. Efficient plumbing fixtures
2. Rainwater harvesting, treatment, storage and reuse
3. Graywater treatment, storage and reuse

4. HVAC condensate catchment, treatment, storage and reuse

[Read more here](#) →

Austin's permitting center demonstrates the future of water reuse

Water sustainability is becoming one of the biggest challenges of the 21st century, especially for growing cities that are already experiencing drought and other obstacles. The City of Austin, Texas, plans to counter this challenge with [Water Forward](#), an adaptive, 100-year integrated water resource plan that was adopted in 2018. This plan includes multiple strategies, including a requirement for on-site water capture and reuse in new commercial and multi-family buildings. According to Katherine Jashinski, Supervising Engineer of the On-Site Water Reuse Program at [Austin Water](#) (the city's water utility), education is another key strategy for advancing Water Forward. To that end, the utility partnered with Austin's [Development Services Department](#) (DSD) for a pilot demonstration project that would help educate the public about this new initiative. "At the time it was fortunate that DSD was building a brand-new [Permitting and Development Center](#) (PDC)," said Jashinski. "This is where you come get your building trade permits and where all of the development plans are reviewed by the city."

[Read more here](#) →

ICC Family of Solutions Updates

ICC CDS receives the prestigious 2025 Digital Transformation Award

ICC Community Development, a member of the International Code Council's family of solutions, was recognized with the prestigious [Digital Transformation Award](#) at the 2025 Laserfiche® Winners Circle event. This award represents the highest honor given to a solution provider for outstanding sales performance and exceptional client support. Each year, the Laserfiche Run Smarter® Awards recognize outstanding organizations that have used Laserfiche software to improve productivity, innovate processes and achieve exceptional results.

[Read more here](#) →

ICC-ES Supplemental Reports can enhance multiple jurisdictions' approval

With an ICC-ES Supplement Report, users can access multiple jurisdiction approvals with one comprehensive report, simplifying the process of meeting varying regional code requirements. ICC-ES Supplement Reports are designed to show proof of compliance to local and regional building code requirements and can help open doors to new markets across the country. Recognized by code officials, designers, and specifiers, ICC-ES reports provide a mark of excellence, signifying that your product has been rigorously evaluated, enhancing its credibility and streamlining the approval process. With ICC-ES Supplement Reports, users can benefit from:

- ✓ **Nationwide Market Access:** Meet the specific requirements of key local codes like the Los Angeles Building Code, Chicago Building Code, Florida Building Code, Oregon Building Code, and more.
- ✓ **Streamlined Approval Process:** Save time and reduce hassle with code-official-trusted reports that make it easy to demonstrate compliance with local and regional building codes.
- ✓ **Enhanced Credibility:** Show customers and stakeholders that your products meet the highest standards for safety and compliance.
- ✓ **Increased Visibility:** Join the ranks of manufacturers already gaining awareness and trust in new markets nationwide by showcasing compliance to regional codes.

[Read more here](#) →