### State Building Codes & Building Science: "Understanding the Requirements of a Building as a Living Breathing Machine"

## Introduction



### David Ruffcorn, AIA

State Building Code Commissioner Iowa State Fire Marshal's Office State Building Code Bureau

# What is a Building Code? What is it for?

 is a set of rules that specify the minimum standards for constructed objects such as <u>buildings</u> and <u>nonbuilding structures</u>. The main purpose of building codes are to protect public health, safety and general welfare as they relate to the construction and occupancy of buildings and structures.







# Why do we need codes?



# When did Iowa adopt building codes?

State Fire Marshal – 1911



- First Building Codes enforced in Des Moines 1927
- Iowa Association of Building Officials 1959
- State Building Code 1973
- State Energy Code 1975



# What Codes are used

- International Fire Code
- International Mechanical Code
- International Plumbing Code/UPC
- International Existing Building Code
- International Energy Conservation Code
- International Building Code
- International Residential Code
- National Electric Code
- American with Disabilities Act 2010
- NFPA Life Safety Code 101
- State of Iowa Code
- Others



# International Family of Codes

#### Published by the International Code Council

- International Fire Code
- International Mechanical Code
- International Plumbing Code
- International Existing Building Code
- International Energy Conservation Code
- International Building Code
- International Residential Code
- International Green Construction Code
- International Fuel Gas Code
- International Solar Energy Provisions
- International Spa and Pool Code
- International Private Sewage Disposal Code
- www.iccsafe.org



# What Published Year is Used?

- International Code Council Publishes every three years.
- National Electric Code Publishes every three years.
- National Fire Protection Association, Life Safety 101 – Publishes every 6 years.
- American with Disabilities Act Whenever
- State of Iowa Code Yearly if needed

# American Disabilities Act 2010 Adopted Statewide

- Authority: Iowa Code 104A.2
- Applies To: All public buildings and private buildings intended for use by the general public and multipleunit dwellings with four or more units.
  - Exception: Iowa Code 104A.2 does not apply to structures or facilities within the building if the primary use of the building is to serve as a place of worship.
- Applicable Rules:
  - 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design, or:
  - International Building Code Chapter 11 and applicable accessibility provisions contained in IBC 2015.



2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design



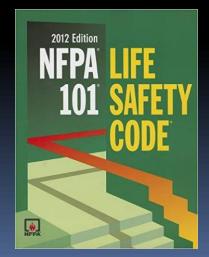
# National Electric Code 2020

### **Adopted Statewide**

- Authority: Iowa Code 103
  - Administrative Code 661-500 to 553
  - Applies To: All public buildings and private buildings.
  - Statewide Inspections Required with a few exceptions
    - Farm Buildings not open to the public.
    - Federal Installations

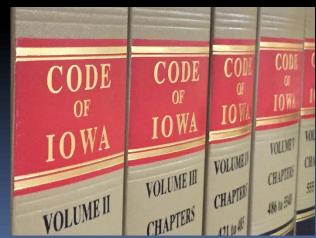
# National Fire Protection Association – Life Safety Code 2012

- Federal Requirement for Licensed Health Care.
  - Iowa Code Section 135B & 135C
  - Administrative Code 661-481 chaper 51
  - Applies To: All public buildings and private buildings.
  - Statewide Inspections Required with a few exceptions
  - \*As of July 1, 2013. any nursing home licensed under lowa Code, Section 135C must comply with the State Building Code in the absence of a local building code.



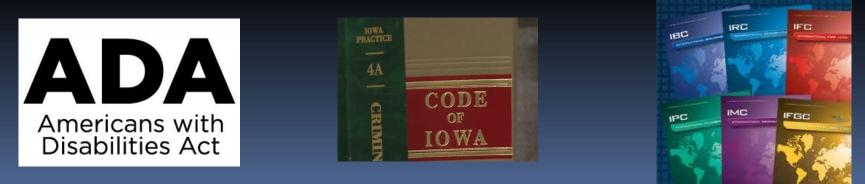
# State Building Code Administrative Rules

- Public Safety 661 Chapters 300-350
- 300- Administration
- 301 General Provisions
- 302 Accessibility
- 303 Energy Conservation
- 310 Sustainable Design Standards
- 315 Weather Safe Rooms
- 303 Energy Conservation
- 350 State Historic Building Code



# Who Adopts Codes?

- Iowa is a Hybrid Home Rule State
  - <u>State Adopts Statewide</u>- Energy Code, Mechanical Code, Fire Code and Electrical Code Statewide
  - IBC, IRC, IEBC, are Home Rule and have various adopted years depending on jurisdiction
  - Creates Implementation Issues with years



# Who has Jurisdiction?

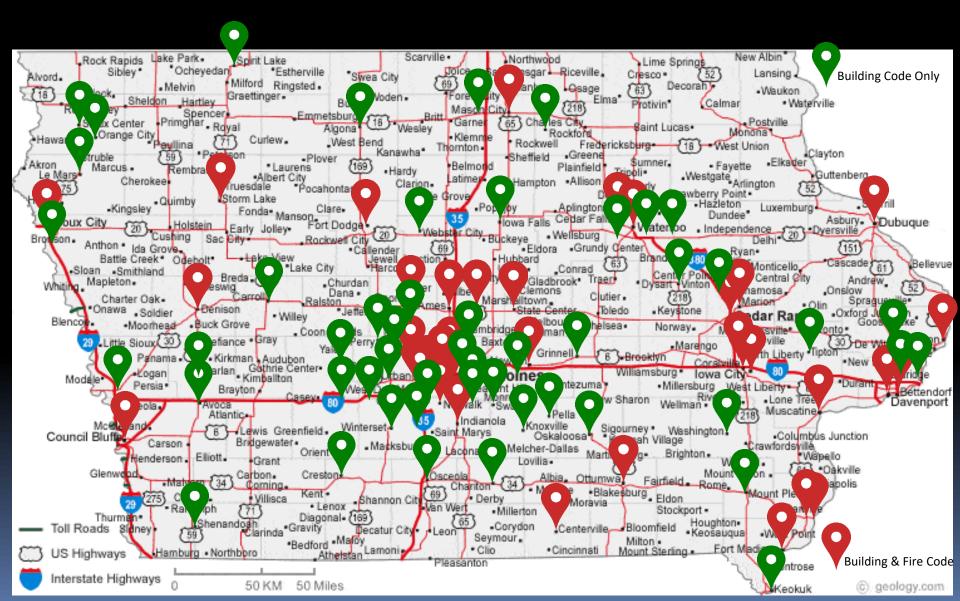
#### Is your project in a town?

- Does this town have Building Code requirements?
- Is there a Building Code review process or just permitting?
- Does the County in which your project is located have Building Code requirements?

#### Does the State have Jurisdiction?

- All Licensed Healthcare
- State Owned Projects
- State Funded Projects
  - Can do in conjunction with local Jurisdiction

#### Iowa Building Code Jurisdictions



# How do I find out what code to use?

City or Town Website

- Google: City of Storm Lake, Iowa
  - Building Department
- Iowa State Fire Marshal's Website
  - Building Code

# Adoption of Codes

- Codes are published on a 3 year cycle
- State of Iowa looks at new codes on a 6 year cycle
- Jurisdictions can adopt or amend codes whenever they want.
- Statewide codes are the State Minimum and can't be amended to be less strict.

### **State Adopted Codes** State Building Code - IAC 103A

- 2015 International Building Code
- 2015 International Fire Code Statewide
- 2015 International Residential Building Code
- 2012 International Energy Conservation Code <u>Statewide</u>
- 2015 International Existing Building Code
- 2012 NFPA 101 Life Safety Code <u>Federal</u>
- ADA 2010 or Chapter 11 IBC 2015 Statewide
- Carbon Monoxide Alarms Administrative Rule Statewide
- 2021 International Mechanical & Plumbing Code under the lowa Department of Public Health – <u>Statewide</u>
- 2020 National Electrical Code Statewide

# Adoption of Statewide Codes

- Staff does not adopt, vote or ask for codes to change you do!
- Statute is the Law written by Legislators.
- Administrative Code is the details of how the Law functions.
- Staff writes administrative code and handles the meetings.
  - Work groups work through possible changes
  - Governors Office Politics
  - Codes Council Have a yes or no vote
  - Hearings Everyone has their say!
  - Legislative Committee Did staff do their due-diligence?



#### **Codes by Other Jurisdictions**

Home Rule Codes
Dates vary by Jurisdiction

- International Building Code By Jurisdiction
- International Residential Building Code By Jurisdiction
- International Existing Building Code By Jurisdiction
- Can be more restrictive with statewide adopted codes.

# What happens if there is NO Jurisdiction?

- There are still Statewide required codes! Just no enforcement.
- Construction Liability



 Statute of Repose for all claims arising out of a defective or unsafe condition of an improvement to real property, 8 years for commercial construction and 10 years for residential construction.

# What Happens If I don't use a Code

- Some locations and types of construction the only Enforcement maybe Electrical Permit Inspections.
  - State Electrical can deny final power from the Utility.
- Even in areas where there are no inspections for Statewide Codes, Contractors still have <u>liability</u> to meet minimum code requirements.
  - Court cases have gone against Contractors in all cases I'm aware of.

## Do I need an Architect?

https://plb.iowa.gov/sites/default/files/documents/Handbook%20Final%202019.pdf

#### Iowa Building Code Official's Handbook

#### INTRODUCTION

The charge given an lowa Building Official is the same as that given the lowa Architectural Examining Board, the lowa Engineering and Land Surveying Examining Board, and the lowa Landscape Architectural Examining Board: safeguarding the health, safety and welfare of lowa citizens by assuring the adequacy of buildings and their surroundings constructed in this state.

Although the charge is the same, the approach must differ. Building officials review construction documents, authorize construction of new buildings, and monitor existing structures for code compliance. The Boards assure the public that design professions have met minimum standards. We rely on you, the Building Official, to assist in compliance with the laws governing the practice of architecture, engineering, and landscape architecture in Iowa. Building officials may, in turn, rely on the architectural, engineering and land surveying, or landscape architectural boards as a source of information and support.

There exists, however, some confusion among some design professionals and building officials as to the requirements of the laws governing the practice of architecture, engineering, and landscape architecture. This handbook is a guideline to assist in the application of the governing regulations but does not attempt to address all the questions concerning the practices of architecture, engineering, and\_landscape architecture.

This document is not a substitute or replacement for the lowa Code or rules governing the practice of architecture, engineering or landscape architecture in lowa. Please refer to the pertinent lowa Code and lowa Administrative Code rules for the complete text of the items cited in this guide.

This guide has been updated by a workgroup of representatives from Iowa's three professional regulation boards (Iowa Architectural Examining Board, Engineering & Land Surveying Examining Board and Landscape Architectural Examining Board), the Iowa State Fire Marshall's Building Code Bureau and the Iowa Association of Building Code Officials to provide guidance for both design professional and local code officials, with regard to the interpretation of certain aspects of Iowa professional licensing laws.

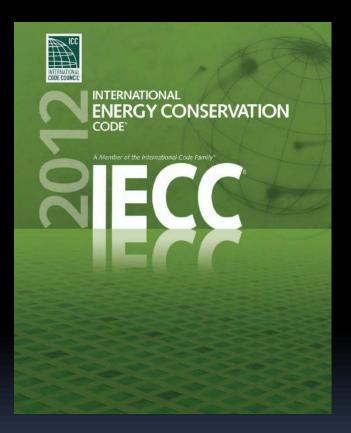
## Do I need an Architect?

#### https://plb.iowa.gov/sites/default/files/documents/Handbook%20Final%202019.pdf

BUILDINGS NEW CONSTRUCTION						
Building Use Type	Description	Architect Required	Architect May Not Be Required	Engineer Required	Engineer May Not Be Required	
Agricultural use	Including grain elevators and feed mills		x			
	Facilities for private use only and individually owned and operated facilities including grain elevators and feed mills				×	
	Corporate-owned facilities or publicly owned facilities including grain elevators and feed mills			×		
Churches and accessory buildings whether attached or separate	One or two stories in height, up to a maximum of 2,000 square feet in gross floor area		×		x	
	Any number of stories in height, greater than 2,000 square feet in gross floor area	x		×		
	More than two stories in height	x		х		
Commercial use	One story in height, up to a maximum of 10,000 square feet in gross floor area		x		x	
	One story in height, greater than 10,000 square feet in gross floor area	x		x		
	Two stories in height, up to a maximum of 6,000 square feet in gross floor area		x		×	
	Two stories in height, greater than 6,000 square feet of gross floor area	x		x		
	More than two stories in height	×		×		
Detached residential use	One, two or three stories in height, containing 12 or fewer family dwelling units		x		×	
	More than 12 family dwelling units	х		x		
	More than three stories in height	x		х		
	Outbuildings in connection with detached residential buildings		x		x	
Educational use		х		х		

#### APPENDIX A Architectural/Engineering Combined Matrix

#### The International Energy Conservation Code 2012

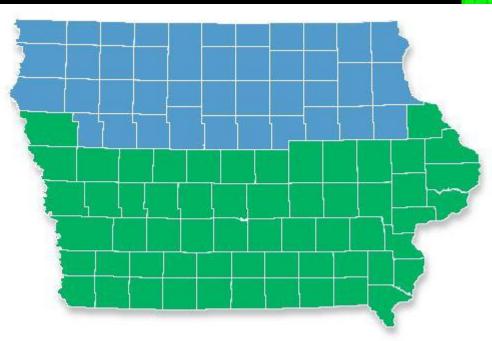


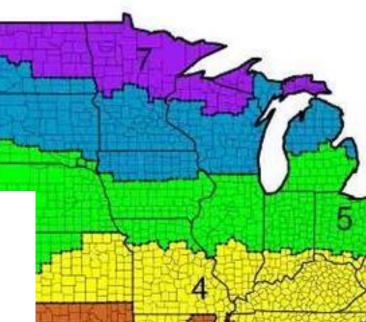
#### Statewide mandatory since June of 2014

### Energy Code Compliance, Iowa's Two Climate Zones

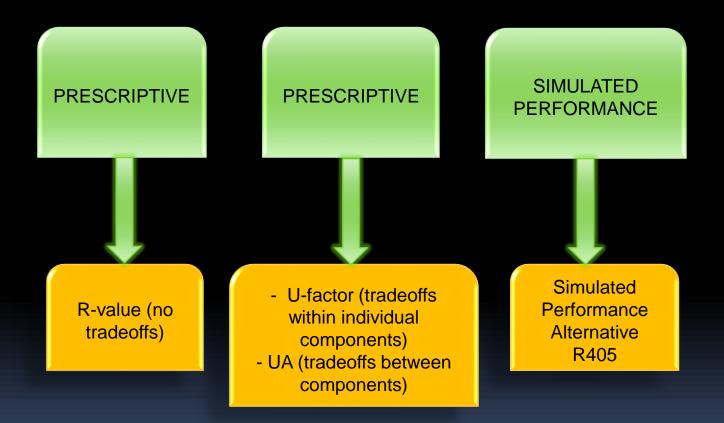
Iowa Has Two Climate ZonesZone 5

□ Zone 6

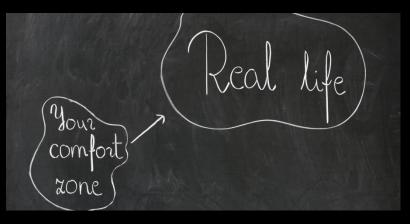




#### Residential Energy Code Compliance Three Options for New Construction



# Energy Efficiency What does it mean to you ?



- Comfort Temperature, Humidity, Smells, Noise and Light at comfortable levels.
- Bottom Line "Money!" More money in your pocket and less in the Utility Companies pocket.

# Building Science What does it mean to your building



- Comfort Temperature, Humidity, Smells, Noise and Light at comfortable levels.
- Health, Safety, Welfare in other words "Codes".
- Durability How long do you want it to last?
- These all have to work together!

# Energy Code: International Energy Conservation





- 40% of all energy used in the US is consumed by buildings.
- Good starting point for the energy efficiency of any house.
- Levels the playing field for Homeowners and Contractors.
- Every Energy Efficiency measure require by Code, has a payback, if it is installed correctly.

### What do you mean: Installed Correctly

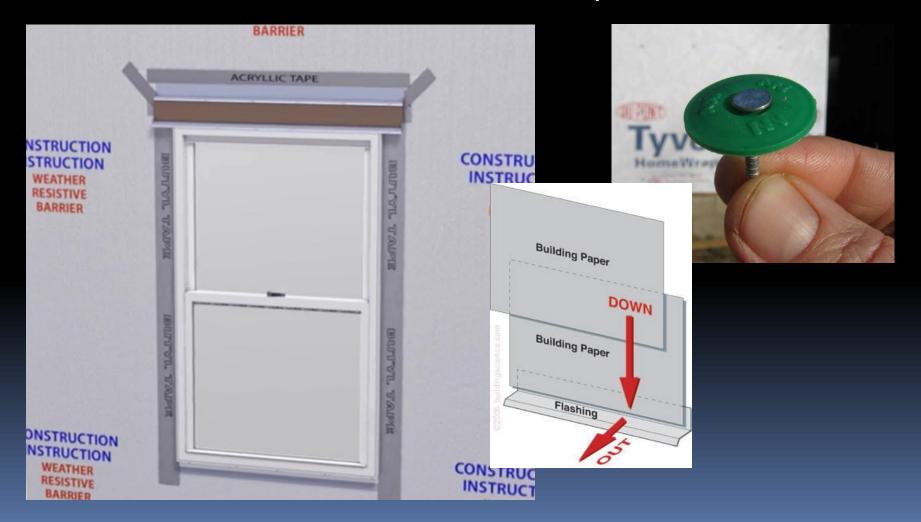
 Many products installed in a new home are not installed to manufacturers specifications.

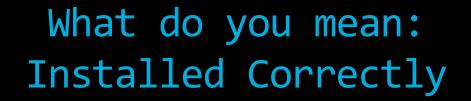
#### Insulation: Faced or Un-faced Batt



### What do you mean: Installed Correctly

#### Air/Moisture Barrier - TyVek





#### **Duct Design and Sealing**









#### Mandatory Code Sections Section R402.4.1.2 – Air Leakage Pressure Test

# Two <u>Mandatory</u> requirements to demonstrate compliance

✓ Whole-house pressure test (Iowa Amended)

Air Leakage Rate	Climate Zone	Test Pressure
≤ 4 ACH	5-6	50 Pascals



- Testing may occur any time after creation of all building envelope penetrations
- ✓ Required verification of items listed in Table R402.4.1.1

# Requirements for inspections

#### **Blower Door Results**

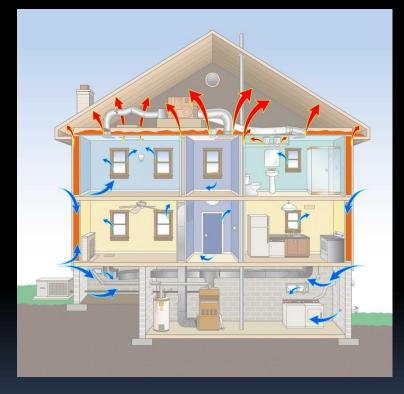


The Blower Door Test results x 60 minutes divided by the Volume of the House.

467 CFM x 60 Minutes / 9600 ft3 = 2.92 air exchanges per hour

## Air Sealing a Home A Code Requirement





#### More efficient air doesn't fix a leaky home

# Review: Why do we need to airseal?

- Occupant comfort
- Construction durability/moisture control
- Oversized mechanical systems/ \$ savings
- Code Required
- Building pressure differential
- Energy/ \$ savings

## AIR SEALING

#### Air Barrier Types – Selecting an Air Barrier



## Air Sealing a Home A Code Requirement

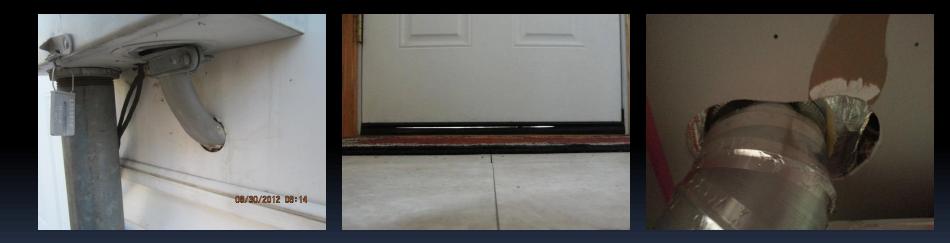
- You don't save much money if the air from your new 96% efficient furnace leaks out quickly!
- A typical <u>Non Code built</u> House can leak the entire volume of the house out in 5 minutes. 12ACH50



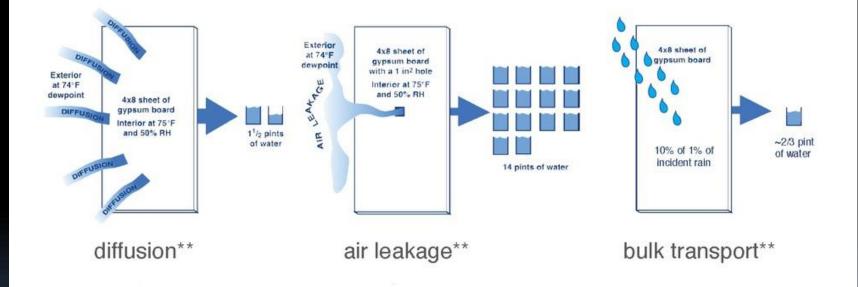
Ever noticed the furnace runs more during a wind storm?

## Air Sealing a Home

- Air Sealing is one of the most important things a Contractor can do to a house
  - Tighter is better Seal it tight and ventilate it right!



#### Air Sealing Section R402.4.1 - Air Leakage - Mandatory



"Diffusion & air leakage graphic courtesy of Lstiburek, "Builder's Guide to Hot Humid Climates" (2006); bulk transport graphic

#### Air Sealing Section R402.4.1 - Air Leakage - Mandatory



# The Death of a Wall System – Sick Building

- Moisture/Water
  - Liquid
  - Gas
  - □ Ice
- Transport Mechanism
  - Leakage from liquid water
  - Air Leakage
  - Vapor Drive Inside and Outside
  - Pressure & Stack Effect
- Bi-Products
  - Decay Durability
  - Mold/Mildew





# Requirements for inspections

## **Duct Blaster Results**



Conditioned Floor Area divided by 100 x Code Max Leakage CFM

2400 sf / 100 x 3 CFM = 72 CFM of total Duck Leakage

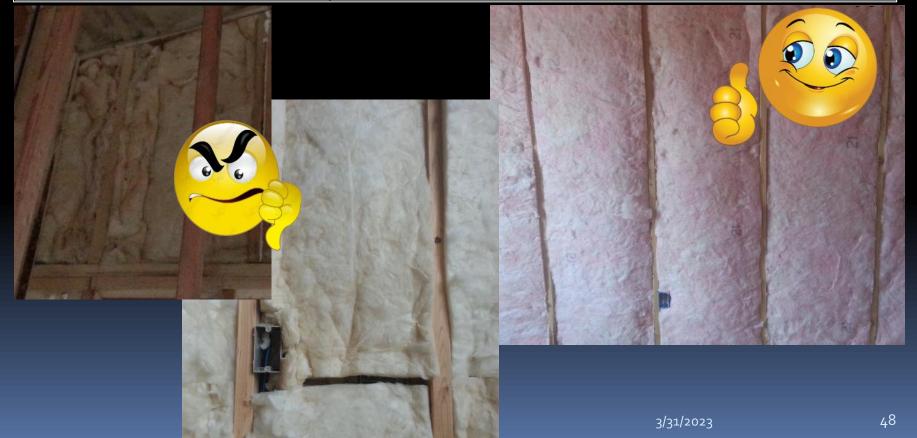
COMPONENT	CRITERIAª	]
Air barrier and thermal barrier	A continuous air barrier shall be installed in the building envelope. Exterior thermal envelope contains a continuous air barrier. Breaks or joints in the air barrier shall be sealed. Air-permeable insulation shall not be used as a sealing material.	Aleren a
		Anthe
		tot 1



Ceiling/attic	The air barrier in any dropped ceiling/soffit shall be aligned with the insulation and any gaps in the air barrier sealed. Access openings, drop down stair or knee wall doors to unconditioned attic spaces shall be sealed.
	2° of Extruded Polystyrene Plywood
Wingnut/Spring Latch ← 📇 ÉPDM G	3/31/2023 47

Walls

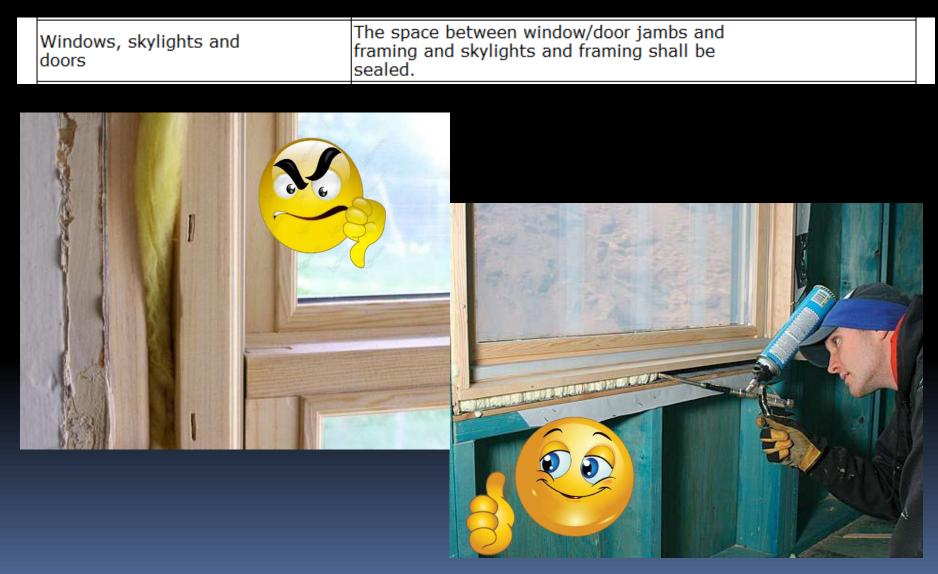
The junction of the top plate and top of exterior walls shall be sealed. Exterior thermal envelope insulation for framed walls shall be installed in substantial contact and continuous alignment with the air barrier. Knee walls shall be sealed.

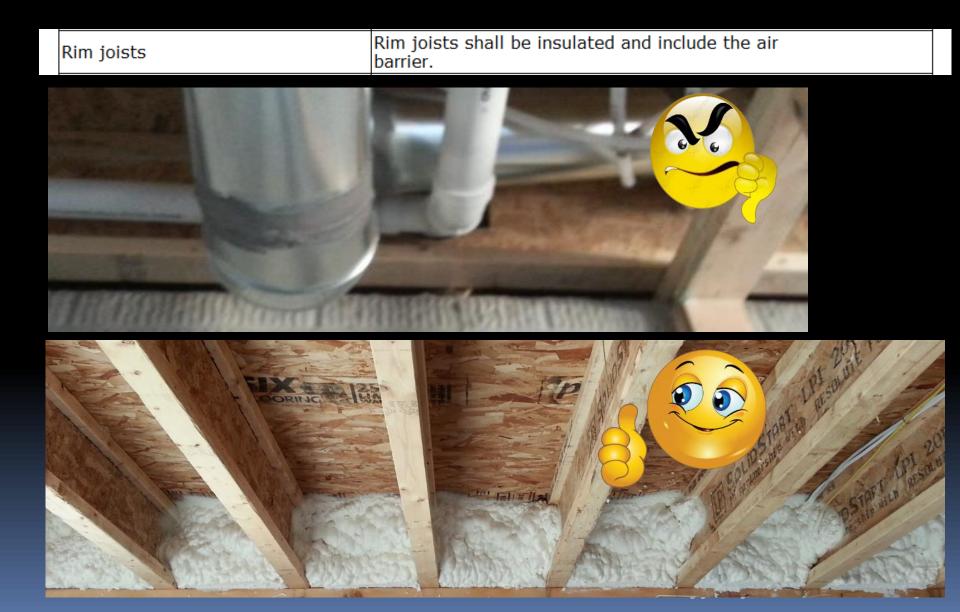


#### Walls

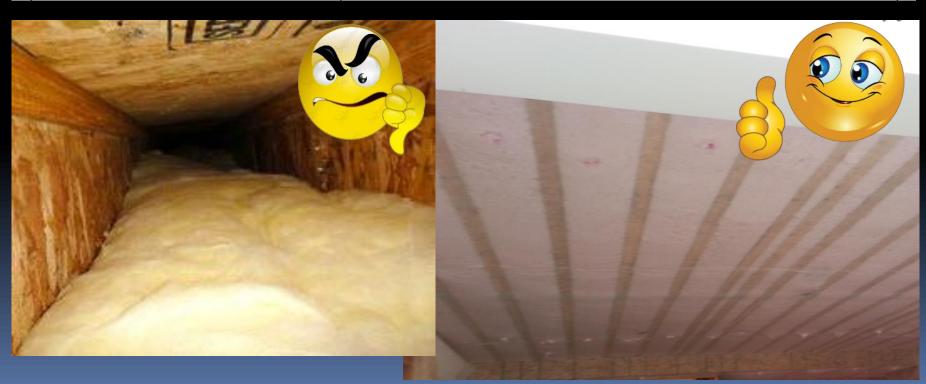
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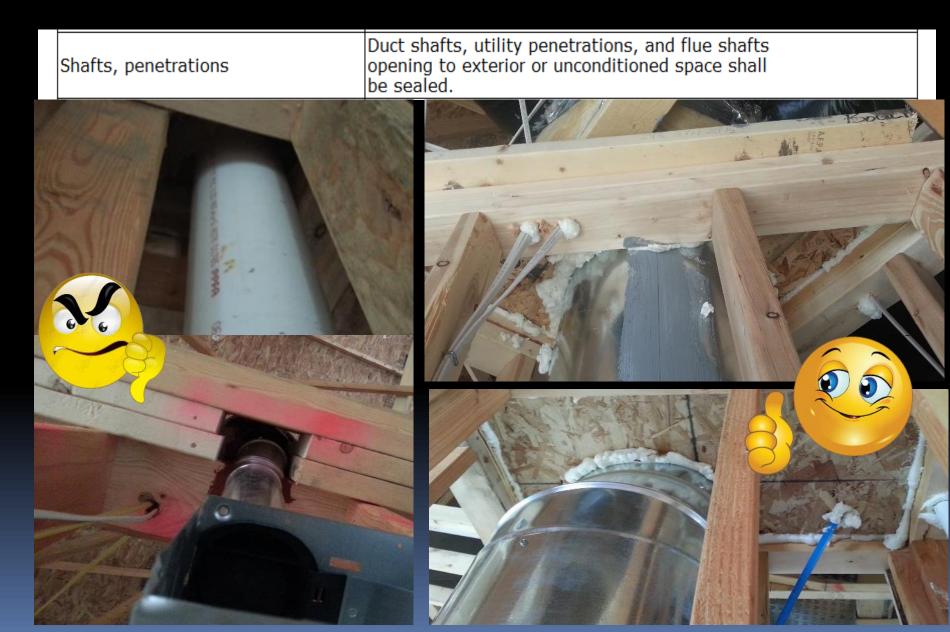






Floors (including above-garage and cantilevered floors)	Insulation shall be installed to maintain permanent contact with underside of subfloor decking. The air barrier shall be installed at any exposed edge of insulation.
Crawl space walls	Where provided in lieu of floor insulation, insulation shall be permanently attached to the crawlspace walls. Exposed earth in unvented crawl spaces shall be covered with a Class I vapor retarder with overlapping joints taped.

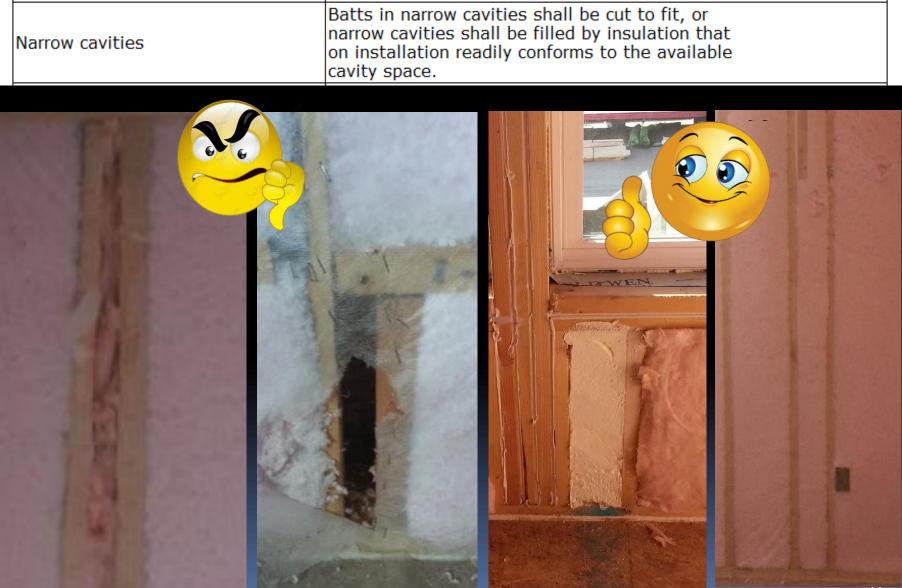




#### Narrow cavities

Batts in narrow cavities shall be cut to fit, or narrow cavities shall be filled by insulation that on installation readily conforms to the available cavity space.

Soffits stuffed prior to air sealing to make vent chutes work, prevent wind washing and keep cellulose from soffit areas.



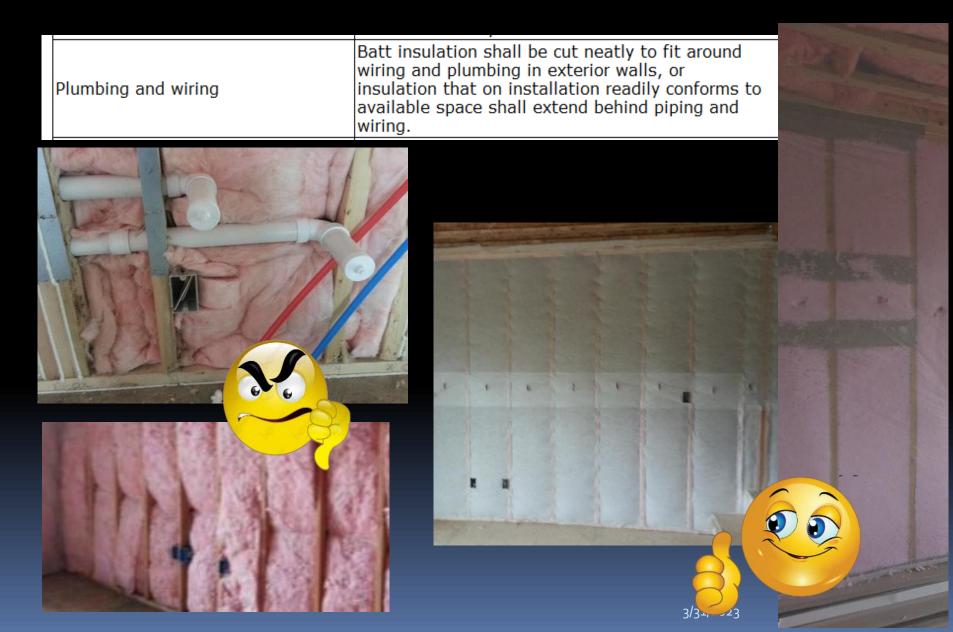


#### Recessed lighting

Recessed light fixtures installed in the building thermal envelope shall be air tight, IC rated, and sealed to the drywall.





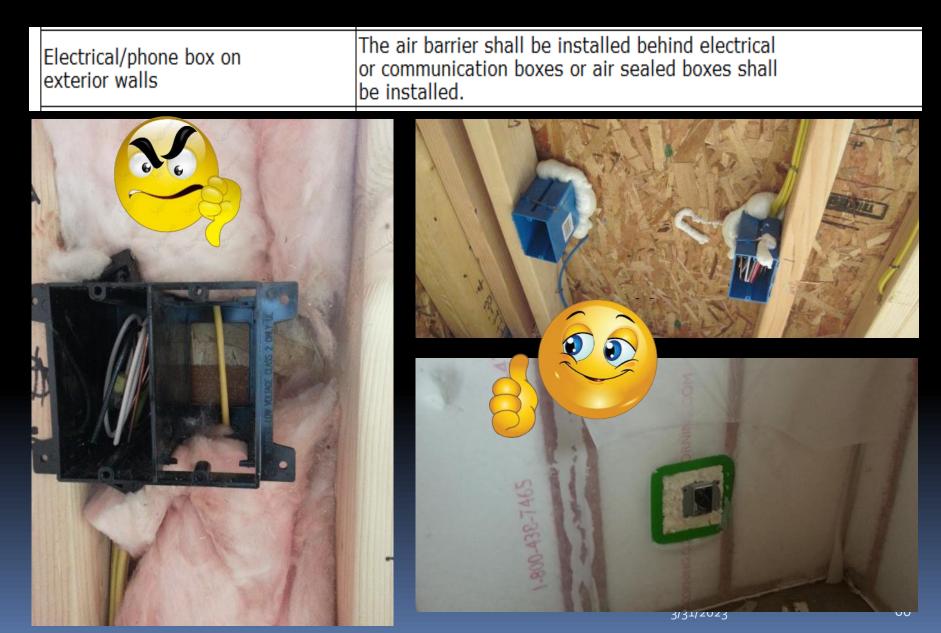


## Shower/tub on exterior wall

111

Exterior walls adjacent to showers and tubs shall be insulated and the air barrier installed

separating them from the showers and tubs.



#### HVAC register boots

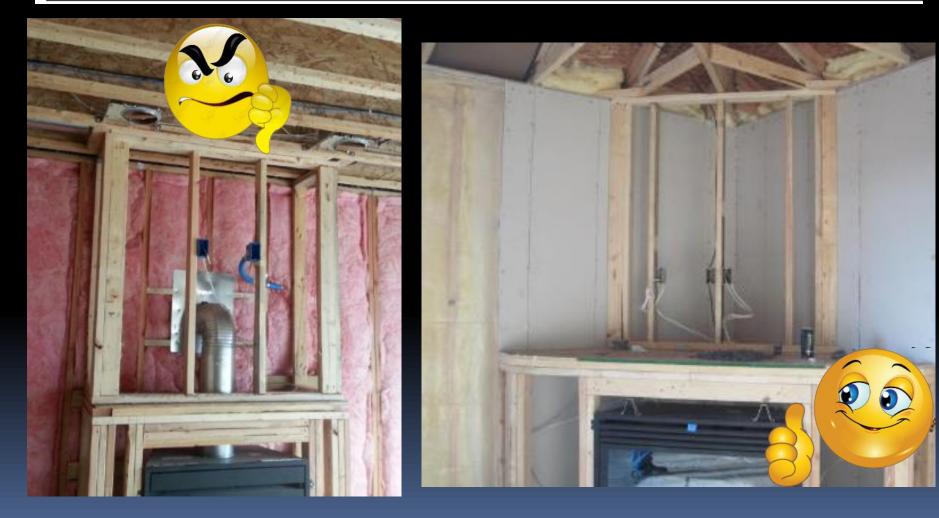
HVAC register boots that penetrate building thermal envelope shall be sealed to the subfloor or drywall.





#### Fireplace

An air barrier shall be installed on fireplace walls. Fireplaces shall have gasketed doors.



## Mandatory Code Sections

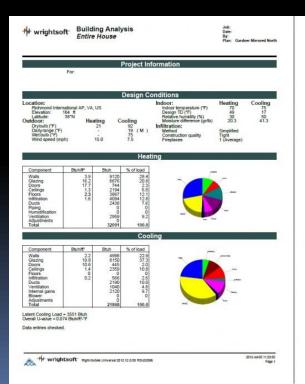
#### **R404.1 – Lighting Equipment –** Mandatory

75% of permanently installed lamps shall be high-efficiency



## Requirements for inspections

#### ACCA Manual J & S

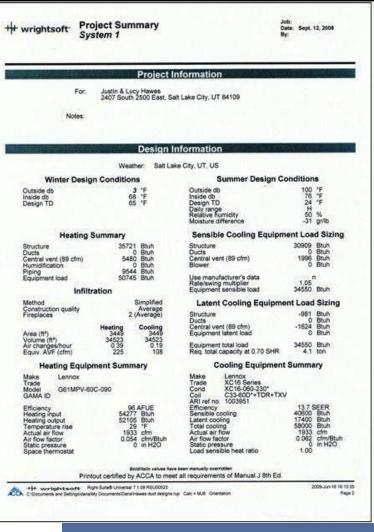


wrightsoft Component Constructions

Project Informatio

For			

Location: Richmool International AP, VA, US Berkholm: 164 it Outdoor: 301 Heating Cooling Drybulk (PT) 21 52 (1) Wetbulk (PT) 1 82 (1) Wetbulk (PT) 1 97 150 Wetbulk (PT) 1 97 150 Construction descriptions Walls USDs Fr musil, et al. 1-15 av. In, 1/2" grown board in flah, 214" revol Im	M ) Or	Infii M	oor: ndoor tem Design TD Relative hu Moisture di Itration: Method Constructio Fireplaces	(°F) unidity (' fference
Walls 12D-0sw: Fmr wall, wd ext, r-15 cav ins, 1/2° gypsum board int frish,		Area	_	
12D-Osw: Firm wall, wd ext, r-15 cav ins, 1/2° gypsum board int frish,			U-value	Insul R
12D-Osw: Firm wall, wd ext, r-15 cav ins, 1/2° gypsum board int frish,			10.00-9	- Printer
		875	0.085	15.0
	ne	19	0.085	15.0
		364	0.085	15.0
		74	0.085	15.0
	w	400	0.085	15.0
	DW.	10	0.085	15.0
	al	1651	0.088	15.0
168-15ad: Knee wall, asphalt shingles roof mat, r-15 kw ins, 1/2"	n	117	0.061	15.0
oversum board int fish		270	0.001	15.0
	w	159	0.001	15.0
	al	540	0.061	15.0
Partitions 12D-0xx: Fm wall, wd ext, r-15 cav ins, 1/2° gypsum board int firsh, 2°x4° wood fm		218	0.086	15.0
Windows 33, 28: U=0.33, SHGC=0.28; 2.8 overhang (1.8 window ht, 10.8 sep.)		5	0.330	0
And a second				- 0
33, 28: U=0.33, SHGC=0.28; 2 ft overhang (3 ft window ht, 10 ft sep.)	n	0	0.330	0
33, 28: U+0.33, SHGC=0.28; 1 ft overhang (5 ft window ht, 1.5 ft sep.)		71	0.330	0
and an a second second second for a monthly second s		30	0.330	ő
		40	0.330	ő
	al	141	0.330	0
33, 28: U=0.33, SHGC=0.28; 1 ft overhang (8 ft window ht, 1.5 ft sep.)		51	0.330	0
and an a second second for a model of the second seco	-	10	0.330	0
	5	10	0.330	ō
		32	0.330	0
	nw	10	0.330	0
	al	118	0.330	0
33, 28: U+0.33, SHGC+0.28	n	60	0.330	0
33, 28: U=0.33, SHGC=0.28; 1 ft overhang (5 ft window ht, 0.5 ft sep.)	٠	38	0.330	0



## Requirements for rural area inspections

### **Panel** Certificate

ENERGY CODE COMPLIANCE CERTIFICATE—CLIMATE ZONE 5 This home was built under the 2012 International Energy Conservation Code, which was adopted by the State of Iowa on March 14, 2014



Insulation Rating	R-Value	
Above-Grade Wall	24.00	
Below-Grade Wall	16.00	
Floor	0.00	
Ceiling / Roof	38.00	
Ductwork (unconditioned spaces):		
Glass & Door Rating	U-Factor	SHGC
Window	0.32	
Door	0.50	
Heating & Cooling Equipment	Efficiency	
Heating System:		
Cooling System:		
Water Heater:		
Name:	Date:	
Comments		

odde, which was adopted by the state of lowa of march 14, 2014							
Home Address:							
New Construction Addition (Remodeling does not apply)							
Insulation R-Value	es (check applicable boxes below)	Code	My Hom				
Ceiling/Roof	Flat or Standard Attic Truss	R-49					
	Raised Heel Truss	R-38					
Wood Framed Walls	Above Grade	R-20 @ R13+5					
	Below Grade (Basement)	R-15/19					
Crawlspace Wall	Conditioned	R-15/19					
Floor	Over Unheated Space (Garage)	R-30					
	Slab Perimeter or Under Slab (Unheated)	R-10					
	Slab Perimeter or Under Slab (Heated)	R-10+R-5					
Skylights	NFRC U-Factor Rating	U55					
Windows	NFRC U-Factor Rating	U32					
Exterior Doors	NFRC U-Factor Rating	U32					
Water Heater	Gas Tank/Tankless Energy Factor (EF)	0.62 / 0.67					
	Electric Tank/Tankless Energy Factor (EF)	0.93 / 0.97					
Heating Equipment	Gas Furnace	80% AFUE					
	Heat Pump	7.7 HSPF					
Cooling Equipment	Gas or Electric Air Conditioner	13 SEER					
	Heat Pump	13 SEER					
Ductwork	Air-Sealing of Ductwork (Mandatory)						
	If supply ducts in non-conditioned attic, then	R-8					
	Any other ducts in non-conditioned space, then	R-6					
	Duct Blaster Test (rough-in@ 25 pascals)	6 cfm/100sf					
Lighting	75 Percent of all light bulbs are high efficiency	75%					
Envelope Air Sealing	Mandatory						
	Blower Door Performance Test	4.0 ACH 50					
Signing below certifies compliance with the 2012 IECC							
Builder Name:							
Company:	- 16						
This certificate must be permanently affixed to the electrical panel in the home as required by the 2012 IECC section R401.3							

#### Home Energy Rating Certificate

		Sagaponack Mod		
		121 Northwes		
		Sagaponack, N	Y 11962	
		5 Stars Pl		
		Projected R		
		HERS Index		
	Effi	cient Home Compar	ison: 65%	Better
Projected Rating:	Based on Plar	ns - Field Confi	rmatio	n Required.
General Information				
Conditioned Area	8860 sq. ft.	House Type	Single-fam	ily detached
Conditioned Volume	90184 cubic ft.	Foundation	Conditione	d basement
Bedrooms	5			
Mechanical Systems	Features			
Heating:	Fuel-fired air distri	bution, Propane, 94.1 A	FUE.	
Cooling:	Air conditioner, Ele	ectric, 16.5 SEER.		
Water Heating:	Integrated, Propan	e, 0.86 EF, 80.0 Gal.		
Duct Leakage to Outside	0.00 CFM25.			
Ventilation System	Balanced: ERV, 135	cfm, 105.0 watts.		
Programmable Thermostat	Heat=Yes; Cool=Ye	s		
<b>Building Shell Featur</b>	es			
Ceiling Flat	NA	SI	ab R-10	0.0 Edge, R-10.0 Under
Sealed Attic	NA	Exposed Flo	or R-42	0
Vaulted Ceiling	R-50.0	Window Ty	pe U-Va	alue: 0.140, SHGC: 0.490
Above Grade Walls	R-37.5	Infiltration Ra	ate Htg:	3993 Clg: 3993 CFM50
Foundation Walls	R-65.3	Meth	od Blow	ver door test
Lights and Appliance	Features			
Percent Interior Lighting	100.00	Range/Oven Fi	uel Prop	ane
Percent Garage Lighting	100.00	Clothes Dryer Fi	uel Elec	tric
Refrigerator (kWh/yr)	1137.00	Clothes Dryer	EF 3.01	
Dishwasher Energy Factor	0.89	Ceiling Fan (cfm/Wa	tt) 371.	50

# Questions

