



CODES TALK



News / Events / Instruction / Discussion

■ Phone: (865) 215-2325 ■ Fax: (865) 215-4255 ■ www.knoxcounty.org/codes ■ codestalk@knoxcounty.org

Applying for a Permit

When applying for a permit the following items will be needed; two (2) sets of plans, a site plan, a certified address (obtained through MPC) and, if applicable, a drainfield layout (from the health department).

Looking for Past Newsletters?

All past newsletters can be found at the Codes website and are available to be read online or downloaded. Click [HERE](#) to see all past newsletters.

Online Permit Portal

Click [HERE](#) to apply online for a residential permit application. Click the below email to send in commercial plans or revisions plansreview@knoxcounty.org.

Paperless Reports

Reminder: All field inspection reports are now being delivered through email by the building inspectors. Be sure that you have given us your email when applying for a permit. In the event that you did not receive your inspection report by email, please contact the codes office at 865-215-2325.

To send comments, subscribe or unsubscribe send emails to codestalk@knoxcounty.org.



NEW CODES EFFECTIVE 1-1-2019

All new residential and commercial permits purchased on or after the effective date of January 1, 2019 will adhere to the new adopted codes with amendments. Builders that utilize pre-approved plans will need to submit new plans under a new permit for review. In the next few newsletters and on the codes website, we will publish the significant changes in the new codes. The full adopted ordinance can be found [HERE](#). The amendments to the IRC can be found [HERE](#). The significant changes to the IRC can be found [HERE](#). Please send all code related comments and questions to codestalk@knoxcounty.org.

2018 IRC - Changes & Amendments

Amendments: The energy code was amended and approved to keep the R values the same as the previous code adoption. The attic is to be insulated to an R38 level, the walls an R13 and the crawl space floor system to an R19. HVAC duct insulation should have an R8 insulation in the attic and an R6 insulation in all other areas.

Section 302.5.1 Opening protection. Deleted the requirement for a self-closing or automatic closing device on doors between the garage and the living space.

For a full list of the amendments to the 2018 ICC codes click [HERE](#).

2018 IRC - Significant Changes

Below is a sampling of some of the significant changes to the IRC (International Residential Code). For a more expanded list of significant changes please click [HERE](#).

R311.7.5.1 Stair risers. The riser height shall be not more than 7 3/4". The greatest riser height within any flight of stairs shall not exceed the smallest riser height by more than 3/8". R311.7.5.2 Stair treads. The tread depth shall be not less than 10" (measured from the nosing edge to nosing edge). R311.7.8.5 All stairs shall have graspable handrails.

R408.3 Unvented crawl space. In lieu of a conditioned air supply in sealed crawl spaces, a dehumidification system sized to provide 70 pints of moisture removal per day for every 1,000 square feet of crawl space floor area.

Calendar & Events

CODES OFFICE CLOSINGS: The Knox County Code Administration will be closed on Monday January 21, 2019 for Martin Luther King Day.

ETBOA (East TN Building Officials Association) meets the second Wednesday of each month. More info at www.etboa.org. The meeting includes informative training.