

# ICC [Government Relations](#) Chapter Monthly Update – **March 2020**



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## **Women in Construction Week marks progress in the nation's workplace and career opportunities**

This first week of March 2020 is also Women in Construction Week, which annually highlights women as a vital component of the construction industry. The week marks a time for the industry to raise awareness of the opportunities available for women in the construction industry and emphasize the growing role of women in the industry. Data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics indicates that by the end of 2016, there were approximately 939,000 women employed in the construction industry. While that seems impressive it's actually only nine percent of the U.S. construction industry, a relatively small percentage when compared to other industries. Despite making up a fraction of the current construction workforce, women are poised to move toward the forefront of the industry with a slow, but steady influx of female engineers, architects, project leaders, tradeswomen, contractors and more. [Read more about the trend and Women in Construction Week here.](#)

## **Deadline to complete ICC Chapter Annual Report using "new, improved" online format is March 15**

The deadline to complete the annual report is March 15, located on the ICC website. To open it, log in to your **myICC** page and click on "Chapters." Then follow the prompts to "Add Annual Report." When you choose to complete the two-part report, your Chapter will be eligible for all benefit programs, including your Chapter Education Benefit Day, the Chapter Rewards Program, and the Chapter Awards program. Questions or comments? Contact ICC Chapter Relations office by phone 888-ICC-SAFE x5268, or email [chapters@iccsafe.org](mailto:chapters@iccsafe.org).

## **Advanced FEMA course on planning, mitigation and funding application deadline is March 13**

March 13 is the deadline to apply for the special FEMA course set for April 27-30 at the National Emergency Training Center (NETC) in Emmitsburg, Maryland, titled "[E2460 Advanced Building Science Series I](#)." This advanced-topics course for engineers, architects, floodplain managers and building code officials addresses the everchanging challenges faced from flood and wind risk, through a comprehensive approach of planning, compliance, best-practice mitigation, and funding. The four-day course is comprised of six (6) half- and full- day modules that will focus on:

1. Flood and Wind Hazard Provisions of the I-Codes and ASCE-24 (full-day)
2. Strategies for Maximizing Floodproofing Success (half-day)
3. Steps to a Successful Elevation (half-day)
4. Incorporating Future Conditions into Flood Design (full-day)
5. Wind Mitigation for Buildings: Policies & Procedures for Successful Recovery (half-day)
6. Critical Building Performance for Wind (half-day)

## **March 15 is deadline for ICC Chapters to submit nominations for 2020 Code Council annual awards**

Even though most annual ICC [awards to honor individuals, organizations and communities](#) will be presented in October at the 2020 Code Council Annual Conference in St. Louis, the deadline to submit completed applications for these awards is March 15. For more information, contact Karla Price Higgs, Vice President, Member Services by email [awards@iccsafe.org](mailto:awards@iccsafe.org). To review the [2019 recipients, click here](#).

## **SAVE THE DATE! June 8-10 are the dates for the 2020 ICC Chapter Leadership Academy in Denver**

On June 8-10, 2020, the Code Council will host [its fifth annual Chapter Leadership Academy](#) at the [Crowne Plaza](#) in downtown Denver, Colo. This highly popular event for ICC Chapter activists focuses on management skills for ICC Chapters. Chapters may use their benefit to finance one person (the Chapter President or designee) to the Leadership Academy in Denver or to the 2020 Annual Conference in October in St. Louis.

## **April 15 is the deadline to participate at the 2020 Code Council Leadership Week in Atlantic City**

The deadline for applications and payments to be received is April 15 for those participating in the [2020 Code Council Leadership Week and Building Safety Conference of New Jersey](#) in Atlantic City. The [ICC Membership Council Governing Committees](#) (except for the Fire Service and Global Membership

Councils) and the [Major Jurisdiction Committee](#) will be among those gathering in late April in Atlantic City, New Jersey, at Bally's Hotel and Casino. The [conference schedule](#) runs from Monday, April 28, to Friday, May 1, with the Membership Council meetings set for Thursday, April 30, from 8 to 11:45 a.m. and 2-4 p.m. Interested attendees and industry professionals can [click here](#) to register.

### **Code Council is among sponsors of National Community Development Week April 13-17**

The Code Council is among the sponsors of the National Community Development Week to be commemorated April 13-17 across the nation. The effort calls attention to the importance of the federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, which provides funding to assist communities in building rehabilitation as well as updating building codes and providing books, materials and training, and enforcement staffing. Updated codes and training are essential to making communities more resilient and protected from natural and human-caused disasters. Click here for a downloaded copy of the NCDW toolkit to plan your community's events.

### **Senate and House members submit bipartisan bill to promote stronger private, public infrastructure**

U.S. Senators Tammy Baldwin (D-WI), Marco Rubio (R-FL) and Tina Smith (D-MN) and U.S. Representatives Matt Cartwright (D-PA), Lizzie Fletcher (D-TX), Don Bacon (R-NE), and Matt Gaetz (R-FL) recently introduced the bipartisan *Built to Last Act* to help local communities and private firms build stronger infrastructure to withstand severe weather events. "In recent years, communities in Wisconsin have been hit particularly hard by severe weather events and flooding that has washed out roads, closed local businesses and damaged highways and bridges," Baldwin said. "This reform will not only ensure we are better protecting our infrastructure, but it will also save taxpayer dollars." Noting Florida's experience in recent years, Senator Rubio said, "Florida's public and private building standards are already among the most stringent in the nation, including the requirement to withstand major hurricanes. *The Built to Last Act* would bolster our preparedness by improving the Federal Government's capacity to share projections of weather-related risks to our communities and provide guidance for building codes, ensuring that the infrastructure we build in the future is more resilient to weather impacts." [For more, click here.](#)

### **Organizational changes outlined as the ICC Fire Code Action Committee kicks off its 2020-2023 cycle**

The Code Council is ready to kick off the 2020-2023 cycle of Fire Code Action Committee (FCAC) with an organizational consolidation in the process. "All FCAC Regional Work Groups (RWGs) are adjourned and we encourage former RWG members and all other interested parties to shift their energy and contributions to the FCAC Task Group process," Chief Michael O'Brian, Chair – FCAC, said. "The goal of FCAC Task Groups is to solicit input from members across a variety of backgrounds to aid in the development of code change proposals that address a focused concern while keeping input fluid." Individuals interested in serving on FCAC Task Groups are encouraged to reach out to Task Group points of contact or chairs directly to engage in the process. For more information, email Karl Fippinger, [kfippinger@ICCSafe.ORG](mailto:kfippinger@ICCSafe.ORG).

### **2020 Building Safety Month's weekly themes illustrate the reach and importance of the building codes**

While the primary theme of the 40<sup>th</sup> annual Building Safety Month, "Safer Buildings, Safer Communities, Safer World," illustrates the broad appeal of the occasion, it's the weekly themes that break down the wide variety of safety, economic and societal benefits communities enjoy by keeping their building codes updated with the latest model codes. The [weekly themes](#) are:

- [Week One](#), May 1-10: **Disaster Preparedness**
- [Week Two](#), May 11-17: **Water Safety**
- [Week Three](#), May 18-24: **Resiliency. Sustainability. Innovation.**
- [Week Four](#), May 25-31: **Training the Next Generation**

### **Code Council assists more states as Louisiana gets HUD approval for \$1.2 billion flood mitigation plan**

Other states are watching as the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) approves Louisiana's action plan for spending \$1.2 billion in Community Development Block Grant Mitigation funds, allowing the state to move forward with a plan aiming to reduce flood risk for Baton Rouge and other cities. The plan outlines the state's approach to funding mitigation projects, data collection,

watershed modeling and policy measures that align with the long-term resilience objective of the Louisiana Watershed Initiative. Consistent with support the Code Council provided in comments to the then Draft Action Plan, the approved plan provides (1) \$24 million for watershed planning that can be used to support the adoption and implementation of modernized codes and (2) more than \$570 million for local and regional watershed programs, which can support code enforcement activities, training, and certification in building methods. The state expects the funding to become available in spring 2020 and is prepared to begin using these funds as soon as they are available to make significant investments in low-risk, high-impact projects to reduce flood risk throughout the state. Currently, California, Georgia and Missouri have open comment periods and ICC members are encouraged to participate in public comments and hearings on state CDBG-MIT plans. This is significant funding that can be used for code adoption and updating and for staffing and training if states choose to prioritize those activities for funding. The Code Council will work closely with state chapters and partners to leverage these resources for needed adoption, enforcement, certification, and training activities in the state. [Read more.](#)

### **Alliance for National & Community Resilience updates website to ease access to resiliency resources**

The Alliance for National & Community Resilience (ANCR) [updated its website](#) to make it easier to access resiliency resources and learn about ANCR and its mission. Highlights of the new website include access to the Buildings and Housing Benchmarks; updates on ANCR activities; access to reports, studies and guidance from ANCR and partner organizations; and information on how to support ANCR and the Community Resilience Benchmarks System through financial contributions, technical support or as an ANCR Pilot Community.

### **Code Council names Joan O'Neil as the ICC Chief Knowledge Officer to enhance digital transformation**

Joan O'Neil was recently named the Code Council's new Chief Knowledge Officer, a role which will help the Code Council enhance its digital transformation by creating an enterprise-wide digital strategy for products and services. O'Neil brings extensive experience in leading professional learning and Educational Technology (EdTech) Solution businesses. Previously, she served as Vice President of Skillsoft Corporation, an eLearning provider that delivers professional development to organizations. Prior to that, she was an Executive Vice President for Wiley, where she developed strategies to lead the organization's digital learning and publishing enterprise. As an objective set by the Code Council's [Vision 2025 Strategic Plan](#), the association is focused on increasing value for its members and the building safety community by providing leading solutions that members and customers may access from any digital device. In her role as Chief Knowledge Officer, O'Neil will be responsible for strategy, planning, and development of the association's knowledge infrastructure and products that meet the needs of Code Council members and customers. [Read more here.](#)

### **The 2021 International Plumbing Code and International Mechanical Code make an early debut**

The Code Council recently announced the release of its 2021 International Plumbing Code (IPC) and International Mechanical Code (IMC). Building codes play a significant role in maintaining safe and healthy communities – permitting more resilient, sustainable and livable structures for generations to come. The IPC and IMC are revised on a three-year cycle through the Code Council's highly respected consensus code development process that draws upon the expertise of hundreds of plumbing, mechanical, building and safety experts from across North America. With updates every three years, building codes allow for ongoing consideration of new technologies and scientific understandings. "It's critical for our codes to adapt to new building practices, technologies and societal needs. Our 2021 IPC and IMC take these needs into consideration and aim to promote safety above all else," said Code Council Chief Executive Officer Dominic Sims, CBO. "Construction is ever-evolving, and how we prepare trades professionals matters more now than ever." [Click here for more information.](#) "The Economic Impact of the International Plumbing Code," [a study by Hatch and Henderson Engineers](#) that provides a comparative analysis of model plumbing codes, is available by [clicking here.](#)

### **Code Council's Technical Training Program continues to thrive, bringing code basics to students**

The Code Council's High School Technical Training Program (HSTTP) started in 2008 to introduce high school students to building codes and the field of building safety. Since its inception, the program has been implemented in more than 20 states, with over 60 participating schools providing certificates to

more than 1,500 students. Over the past year, the Code Council updated the HSTTP website, adding new resources and electronic forms to improve the experience for students and instructors. The Code Council has also showcased participating high school groups at its Annual Conference for the last two years. The Technical Training Program continues to expand throughout the country among high schools, colleges, adult programs and military support organizations. [For more, click here.](#)

### **Got Pulse? NTA leader explains NTA's offerings in the ICC family of solutions in Episode #25**

In this episode, ICC-ES President [Shahin Moinian](#) and NTA President and CEO [David Tompos](#) share excitement for the expanded offerings that have come with the acquisition of NTA. [Click here to listen.](#)

### **Upcoming from the [ICC Learning Center](#): Institutes, training, seminars, webinars, etc.**

Online learning is available from the ICC Learning Center. Find course listings you'd like to attend in the [Learning Center](#) using the Search function. Single-day training events are an opportunity to focus on topics to ensure your code knowledge stays up to date, with some seminars offering a Virtual Classroom option so you can participate in the event from any location with an internet connection:

- **March 23 - [Fire Safety \(New Mass Timber\)](#).**
- **April 7 - [2018 IFC and IBC Hazardous Materials](#).**
- **April 8 - [Fire and Connection Design and Special Inspection \(New Mass Timber\)](#).**
- **April 8 - [2015 IRC Performing Residential Plumbing Inspections](#).**
- **April 15 - [2018 IPC Essentials](#).**
- **April 16 - [Basic Code Enforcement](#).**
- **May 26 - [Mass Timber Building and the IBC®](#).**
- **June 4 - [2018 IECC® Essentials](#).**
- **June 9 - [Advanced Legal Aspects of Code Administration](#).**
- **June 11 - [Accessibility & Usability: Commercial and Residential](#).**
- **July 9 - [2018 IRC Essentials](#).**
- **July 21 - [Inspector Skills](#).**
- **July 22 - [Basic Code Enforcement](#).**
- **July 23 - [2018 IBC Means of Egress](#).**
- **August 13 - [Essential Skills for Rising Leaders](#).**
- **August 18 - [Effective Communication](#).**
- **August 25 - [Mass Timber Building and the IBC®](#).**
- **September 1-2 - [Permit Tech Institute](#).**
- **September 10 - [Formulating an Effective Code Enforcement Program](#).**
- **September 30 - [Millennials in Code Enforcement](#).**
- **November 18 - [Essential Skills for Rising Leaders](#).**

The following is the updated list of [ICC Institutes](#) and other training opportunities across the nation, many of which offer virtual options for those who cannot travel. Find course listings you'd like to attend in the [Learning Center](#) using the Search function:

- **March 9–13** at Las Vegas, [EduCode 2020](#).
- **March 18-19** at Atlanta, Ga., and Virtual, [Permit Tech Institute](#).
- **March 19-20** at Doral, Fla., [When Disaster Strikes Institute](#).
- **March 24** at Country Club Hills, Ill., [Additional Training on Mass Timber Construction includes the Mass Timber Building and the IBC® Seminar](#).
- **March 30-April 3**, Austin, Texas, [2015 Residential Building Inspection Institute](#).
- **March 31** at Country Club Hills, Ill., [Applying the Codes to Cannabis Facilities](#).
- **April 14** at Brea, Calif., [Officer Safety Procedures: Compliance, Inspections, Drug Awareness, & Mental Illness](#).
- **April 15-16** at Pea Ridge, Ariz., [When Disaster Strikes Institute](#).
- **April 20-24** at Atlanta, Ga., [2018 Plan Review Institute](#).
- **April 21-22** at San Antonio, Texas, [When Disaster Strikes Institute](#).
- **April 22-23** at Las Vegas, Nev., [2015 Commercial Building Inspection Institute](#).

- **June 3** at Country Club Hills, Ill., [Essential Skills for Rising Leaders](#).
- **June 24** at Oakland, Calif., Virtual, [2019 CRC Essentials](#).
- **June 25** at Oakland, Calif., Virtual [2019 CBC Essentials](#).
- **August 13** at Brea, Calif., Virtual, [2019 CRC Essentials](#).
- **August 14** at Brea, Calif., Virtual, [2019 CBC Essentials](#).
- **August 19** at Oakland, Calif., [Complaint Management from Start to Finish](#).
- Available daily online, [2015 Permit Technician 14 Study Guide](#).
- Available daily online, [IRC® Online Study Guide for Residential Building Inspectors B1](#).

**Lower costs of installation. Read the full report at [www.iccsafe.org/IPC](http://www.iccsafe.org/IPC).**



## Economic Impact of the IPC

The International Code Council commissioned a comprehensive independent analysis of the costs and savings associated with building under the International Plumbing Code (IPC).\*

**168m** Approximately 168 million people live in a state that has adopted the IPC

Counties that applied the IPC:



**Saved \$38 billion** in construction costs



Emitted **1 million fewer** tons of CO<sub>2</sub>



Realized **166,000 more** jobs



**Saved 880 million** feet of pipe

### The IPC improves housing affordability

On average, a single-family home could save up to \$4,000 in labor, materials and overhead built under the IPC compared to other plumbing codes.

#### Average Savings by Building Typology

	Material Cost Savings	Labor Cost Savings	Overhead Cost Savings	Total Cost Savings
APARTMENT BUILDING	\$207K	\$44K	\$47K	\$298K
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	\$12K	\$11K	\$4K	\$27K
GROCERY STORE	\$40K	\$25K	\$13K	\$78K
HOTEL	\$13K	\$6K	\$4K	\$23K
OFFICE BUILDING	\$12K	\$4K	\$3K	\$19K
SINGLE FAMILY HOME	\$0.7K	\$2K	\$0.6K	\$3K

Totals may not sum due to rounding.

### It's your money



In 2M+ homes constructed in states without the IPC, over \$1 billion in additional labor, materials and overhead costs were passed on to renters and homeowners.

To learn more about the code's impact on construction, the economy and the environment, read the full report at [www.iccsafe.org/IPC](http://www.iccsafe.org/IPC).

\*Study conducted by Hatch and Henderson Engineers covering 2007-2018