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Construction Industry News from City Hall

*Superintendent of Central Inspection
Kurt Schroeder*

2008 National Electrical Code Adopted.

The City of Wichita has adopted the 2008 National Electrical Code (NEC) with an enforcement date of January 1, 2009. Any permit issued starting January 1, 2009 will have to comply with the 2008 NEC and any permit issued prior to January 1 can be completed per the requirements of the 2005 NEC.

There are several significant changes in the 2008 NEC about which you need to be aware.

- The City will NOT require the expanded use of arc-fault circuit interrupters (AFCI). We made an amendment to leave the requirement as it is in the 2005 NEC. They will continue to be required in bedrooms only, and that is on anything that is 120 volt. The breaker will need to be the combination type AFCI as required in the 2005 NEC. The combination type is the type breaker that will sense and react to series as well as parallel faults.
- The exceptions to using single receptacles in unfinished basements and garages instead of protecting the outlets with ground-fault circuit interrupters (GFCI) have been removed. The NEC allows a fire/burglar alarm panel in an unfinished area of the basement to not require GFCI protect and the City created an amendment that GFCI protection shall not be required on a sewage ejector pump or sump pump that is cord and plug connected to a single receptacle installed on a dedicated circuit. All other receptacles in unfinished basements and garages will be required to be GFCI protected, even those behind appliances or in the ceiling.
- The City created an amendment to not require de-rating NM cable when two or more conductors are ran through a single hole in a framing member. Remember to de-rate if you bundle two or more NM cables for twenty-four inches or more.
- Tamper-resistant receptacles will be required on all 120-volt 15- and 20-ampere receptacles used in or on a dwelling or residential accessory structure. This includes the outside receptacles.
- Balconies, decks and porches that are 20 sq. ft. or larger and are accessible from the inside of the dwelling unit shall have at least one receptacle outlet installed within its perimeter and located not more than 6 ½ feet above the balcony, deck or porch surface.

- All 15- and 20-ampere, 120- and 240-volt non-locking receptacles installed in damp or wet locations shall be a listed weather-resistant type. This is for both residential and commercial locations. The use of weatherproof covers will remain as currently enforced.
- PVC installed outside and unprotected where it is subject to physical damage will be required to be schedule 80.
- The ungrounded and grounded conductors of each multi-wire branch circuit shall be grouped by wire ties or similar means in at least one location within the panel-board.
- An intersystem bonding bar shall be mounted outside by the electric meter/service equipment or by the ground rod and shall have provisions for connecting at least three intersystem bonding/grounding conductors. This bonding bar shall be connected to the grounding electrode system with a minimum 6 AWG copper conductor. This is required on ALL new buildings and will also be required when the electric service is changed or upgraded.
- A cable- or raceway-type wiring method installed under metal-corrugated sheet roof decking, shall be installed and supported so the nearest outside surface of the raceway is not less than 1 ½ inch from the nearest surface of the roof decking.
- Conductors installed in conduit or tubing exposed to direct sunlight on rooftops now require an additional temperature adjustment factors in accordance with the values in Table 310.15(B)(2)(c).

Elevator Contractors:

The City of Wichita has made some changes to the ordinance on elevators. You need to be aware of some of the significant changes.

- We rewrote sections on licensing and certification to clarify the requirements.
- If you do not have a current master or journeyman certificate in Wichita you will now be required to take the examination.
- Any holder of a certificate who fails to renew the same by March 1st from the date of expiration shall be required to take a new examination before receiving a new certificate. All of the certificates expire on December 31st of each odd numbered year.
- When an elevator has been red-tagged, it will require a permit & inspection to be put back in service.
- When you need an acceptance test on a new elevator, you will need to notify your inspector at least 2 business days before the inspection.

We also made some changes to clarify some of the sections of Title 19, the electrical/elevator ordinance of the City of Wichita. We have copies for sale at OCI or you can download a copy at:
<http://wichita.gov/CityOffices/OCI/OCIDocs.htm>

Tom Kerschen, Inspection Administrator Electrical/Elevator

General Contractors:

JUST A REMINDER.....

Central Inspection would like to review the process for obtaining inspections on building framing and final building inspections.

Section R109.1.4 of the IRC 2006 states: “Framing inspections shall be made after the roof deck or sheathing, all framing, fire-blocking, and bracing are in place; pipes, chimneys, and vents to be concealed are complete; and the rough electric, plumbing, heating wires, pipes and ducts are approved.”

Many times, the building inspector is called for an afternoon framing or final inspection, with the trades requested that same morning. If the trades don’t get signed off for some reason it causes problems with the framing or final inspection. It would help if the inspector and the contractor could communicate better regarding results of the trade inspections to help with the framing or final sign off’s.

Matters that need further clarification:

- The building inspectors do not schedule inspections. Those are to be scheduled by the permit holder or authorized party only. This includes rechecks or re-inspections.
- If the inspection request does not specifically state that the inspector must call the contractor prior to his/her arrival for the inspection, the inspector does not call ahead.

*Darlene Hultman,
 Building Inspection Administrator*

PUBLIC WORKS ENGINEER'S OFFICE: NOTICE TO LICENSED TRADE CONTRACTORS

Excavation work in City right-of-way has been regulated by City Code since 1966. Code section 10.20 requires any person or business authorized to do work on City property or right of way to obtain a permit from the City Public Works City Engineer's Office before cutting any sidewalk or pavement, or making any excavation in any street, street right-of-way, alley or other public ground for any purpose.

Before doing any excavation work in a public street, street right-of-way, or alley right-of way, you must obtain either a pavement cut or excavation (dirt cut) permit from the City Engineer's office, as well as any required trade permit(s) from the Office of Central Inspection.

City Code section 10.20 requires that you post a surety bond in the sum of five thousand dollars for any work done on City right-of-way, and that this bond meets the conditions as stated in City Code Section 10.20.040.

In order to ensure work is in compliance with City Code, **effective February 2, 2009, a right-of-way pavement cut or excavation (dirt cut) permit involving excavation of any kind within City right-of-way or on public ground will not be granted by the City Engineer's Office until the required surety bond is posted (in a form acceptable to the City) and a right-of-way excavation permit is obtained from the City Engineer's Office.** You will be required to have your bond on file in the City Engineer's office or be required to present your bond at the time of your application for a permit. The City Engineer will not issue a permit until the contractor has a bond on file as specified in the Code.

Effective January 5, 2009, OCI permit staff will require trade contractors that must excavate in public right-of-way to obtain an pavement or dirt cut permit from the City Engineer's Office, prior to release of the associated OCI trade permit.

Questions about pavement or dirt cut permits for right-of-way excavations, and/or about posting of surety bonds with the City Engineer's Office, should be directed to the City Engineer's Office, 268-4266.

Jim Armour, City Engineer

Kurt Schroeder, Superintendent of Central Inspection

**SEASON'S
GREETINGS**

DRAIN LAYERS, PLUMBERS AND GENERAL CONTRACTORS

REMINDER: SEPARATE SEWER CONNECTIONS

Separate buildings on corner lots (including accessory structures on residential lots) must be connected separately to the city sewer main, per city ordinance. The city inspector will turn down any inspection involving two structures tied together on the same service line *on a corner lot*.

Section 16.04.170 of the City Code states:

“Separate Sewers and Drains. Each building on the same parcel of land shall have its own, separate private sewer or drain connection to the city sewer unless otherwise authorized in this title or by the superintendent of sewer maintenance. All buildings located on a corner lot shall each have a separate sewer connection to the city sewer. A mobile home connection to a building sewer serving a building will not be allowed.”

EIGHT-INCH OR LARGER BUILDING SANITARY SEWER SERVICE OR DRAIN LINES

New building sanitary sewer service or drain lines eight-inches or larger in diameter, or repair or replacement of such lines, must be designed by a professional engineer and submitted as a “Private Project” through the City’s Public Works/Engineering Office.

Per Title 16.04.90:

“USE OF JUNCTION MANHOLE – In all cases where the private sewer or drain is the same size or larger than the city sewer to which the private sewer or drain is to be connected, a junction manhole shall be built according to plans and specifications on file in the office of the city engineer.”

A sewer permit is required to connect the plumbing for a new building to the engineered eight-inch line. The permit may not be issued to the drain layer until the Private Project has been released by City’s Public Works/Engineering Office.

OTHER REMINDERS:

1. Marking of business vehicles: Plumbing contractors, please mark your business vehicles with minimum 2” high by ½” wide stroke lettering indicating your Wichita plumbing contractor license number(s), per Section 21.0.045.2 of the City Code.
2. Requested inspections: A.M. inspections are to be made between 8:00 A.M. to 12:00P.M. Afternoon inspections are to be made from 12:00 P.M. on. If you have no preference for inspection time, please be sure to schedule your requested time as “NO PREFERENCE”. Please be ready for your inspection at the requested time. If the inspection will not be ready by the requested time, please call your inspector to let him know. Thank you.

David Laws, Acting Inspection Administrator Plumbing

Plumbing Board News

The Plumbing Board continues its discussion about possible new Plumbing Code requirements for water conditioners, water conditioner installations, and licensing and certification of water conditioning equipment installers. At its December 2008 meeting, the Plumbing Board obtained feedback on proposed amendments from water conditioning contractors and industry representatives. Water conditioning contractors and industry representatives had a number of questions about the proposed ordinance amendments, and will be providing their questions, along with suggestions, to City staff and the Plumbing Board for review during the February 2009 Plumbing Board meeting. Information about previously proposed ordinance amendments were published in the previous CINCH (2008, Issue 3, mailed in September 2008).

Kurt Schroeder, Superintendent

Did you know?

The Office of Central Inspection has taken over 53,245 calls as of December 3, 2008 in the Building Construction and Housing Section. Remember, you can call your inspector directly if you have questions regarding an inspection. If you are not able to get them, just leave a message and they will call you back. You can also schedule inspections and get results by using the City's website for E-Permits at www.wichita.gov. OCI's telephone scheduling system TELUS, is also available for scheduling inspections. By using these services, you can schedule inspections anytime of the day up until 6:00 a.m. on the day of the requested inspection.

License Renewal without penalty ends January 31, 2009. After this date, late fees are assessed. All trade certificates must be renewed biennially by December 31st of each odd-numbered year. The biennial renewal fee for a trade certificate is \$20.

Attention Certificate Holders:

Just a reminder that all certificate holders: Air Conditioning, Refrigeration, Residential Sheet Metal, Journeyman Sheet Metal Installer, Gas Fitters, Solid Fuel, Drain Layers, Lawn Irrigation, and Plumbers, (Journeyman and Masters) must have 12 hours of Continuing Education. **PLEASE NOTE – NEW TO THE CEU REQUIREMENT ARE DRAIN LAYERS, LAWN IRRIGATION, SOLID FUEL, GAS FITTERS AND SHEET METAL.** All certificates will expire on December 31, 2009. In order to renew for the 2010/2011 renewal period all certificate holders must present 12 hours of Continuing Education from approved classes in the 2008/2009 calendar years. All approved classes are posted on our webpage. To access our web page please go to www.wichita.gov, then click on OCI and once on the OCI page, on the right hand side of the page it will state Mechanical Continuing Education or Plumbing Continuing Education, click on the appropriate trade and a list will be available. Please remind all certificate holders to make sure the classes they attend, have been approved and are posted on the web page.

Stoney Nethercot, Inspection Administrator, Mechanical
David Lewis, Acting Inspection Administrator, Plumbing
Maria Bias, Administrative Services Division Supervisor

HVAC:

Changes and reminders

Expiration of Listings and approvals for single layer grease duct enclosure applications per UL 1978 on January 1, 2009. With the adoption of ASTM E-2336 into the major model building codes, UL, Intertek, and ICC-ES have notified all manufacturers of grease duct enclosure systems that listings and legacy reports that use UL 1978 as the basis for product approval will no longer be valid after January 1, 2009. This means that as of January 1, 2009, there will be no single layer grease duct wrap enclosures accepted, as there are no products on the market that meet ASTM E 2336. Approved installations before this date will remain valid. The Mechanical Board reviewed this item during their December 18, 2008 meeting. The Mechanical Board passed a motion that the city of Wichita will continue to accept one layer grease duct enclosures, provided they meet our current standards, until June 1, 2009. After June 1, 2009, single layer grease duct enclosures will need to be marked and listed with the ASTM E 2336 standard.

Commercial contractors, please be aware that 30 gauge metal is only accepted in a single dwelling unit, not a commercial building. Refer to *SMACNA HVAC Duct Construction Standards* for all other minimum and maximum thicknesses.

It's coming up on a new year and we would appreciate you scheduling and closing out your old mechanical permits. This will also keep you from having to pay to reopen your expired permits. If you would like a history report please call Stoney Nethercot at 268-4180.

Stoney Nethercot, Inspection Administrator, Mechanical

**HAPPY
HOLIDAYS**

Public Works Storm Water Management

This has been a year full of change for the Storm Water Management Division. In May of this year the Storm Water Utility became a separate division of Public Works. With a new name and new administration it is time to focus on the goals that the staff would like to see happen in the coming year. When submitting plans to OCI, Storm Water Management requires a separate storm water site grading plan that includes the impervious area calculations, property address, and other additional information useful to storm water staff. Each storm water site grading plan submittal shall include the following:

1. Delineation of project limits
2. Square footage measurements – Pervious and Impervious Areas
3. Project address and/or Legal description of property
4. Cross hatching of impervious area – The cross hatched area will include all impervious areas within the project’s property limits including the drive approaches from city street right-of-way. Public streets and sidewalks in the city right-of-way shall not be included in impervious area calculations.
5. Building permit number (if known)

Per Chapter 16.30.010 (p) of the City Code, “Impervious area” is defined as the number of square feet of hard surface areas which either prevent or retard the entry of water into soil mantle, as it entered under natural conditions as undisturbed property, and/or causes water to run off the surface in greater quantities or at an increased rate of flow from that present under natural conditions as undisturbed property, including, but not limited to, roofs, roof extensions, patios, porches, driveways, sidewalks, pavement, athletic courts, and compacted dirt or graveled areas.

The storm water site grading plan shall be submitted to Storm Water Management electronically in PDF format or as a hard copy with the above referenced information included. The Figure below is an example of the information we are requiring with exception to the project’s impervious area.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION

Lot 3 and the East 5' of Lot 2 of FRANK & JOHNNY'S ADDITION,
an Addition to Wichita, Sedgwick County, Kansas.

SITE INFORMATION

	AREA	PERCENTAGE
Lot 3, Block 1:	278,453.93 sq. ft. (6.39 acres)	100%
Ownership:	278,453.93 sq. ft. (6.39 acres)	100%
Project Limits:	96,336 sq. ft. (2.21 acres)	34.6% of Lot 3, Block
Impervious Area:	72,407.89 sq. ft. (1.66 acres)	75.2% of Project Limits
Pervious Area:	19,928.11 sq. ft. (0.46 acres)	24.8% of Project Limits

LEGEND

PROJECT LIMITS=	■ ■ ■ ■ ■
IMPERVIOUS AREA=	▨ ▨ ▨ ▨ ▨

The plans submitted in PDF format shall be emailed to Renee Batchman, the Administrative Aide II for storm water, at rbatchman@wichita.gov. The file size cannot exceed 5MB or the email will not be received. The preferred submittal method is electronic. However, a hard copy of the storm water site grading plan may be submitted to Storm Water Management, Attention: Renee Batchman, 8th floor City Hall, 455 N. Main, Wichita, KS, 67202. For additional examples of the storm water site grading plan or for future reference, visit the Storm Water website at www.wichita.gov/CityOffices/PublicWorks/StormWaterUtility.

The work is nearly complete on updating all of the current impervious areas throughout the city. It has not been an easy task to say the least, so if everyone will submit the required storm water site grading plan, from here on out it should be a breeze!

Thank you all for your cooperation.

*Paul Hays, Senior Plans Examiner
Renee Batchman, Storm Water Management*

Employment Opportunity

OCI Plumbing Section Inspection Administrator

OCI is currently accepting applications for a supervisory position. A plumbing and sewer inspection section supervisor (Plumbing Inspection Administrator).

Applicants should have extensive expertise in the plumbing trade, with excellent knowledge of plumbing codes. Training and certification as a master plumber is required. Applicants should also possess a working knowledge of plumbing design practices, and some knowledge of general building construction. ICC, IAPMO or ICBO plumbing inspector certification is preferred, and is required within the first 12 months of employment. Applicants should have coursework in mathematics, engineering, administration, and/or technical training appropriate to the plumbing trade; at least five (5) years of experience in the plumbing trade, and three years of supervisory experience. An equivalent combination of experience and training may be considered.

Primary Plumbing Inspection Administrator responsibilities include:

- Supervision of plumbing and sewer trade inspectors;
- Plumbing and sewer trade code review, interpretation and analysis;
- Product review and analysis;
- Staffing/management of the City of Wichita's Plumbing Board;
- Development and preparation of recommended amendments to plumbing and sewer code ordinances;
- Oversight of State of Kansas mandated continuing biennial education accreditation/certification of plumbing tradespersons;
- Working with other departments on code development and enforcement issues;
- Effective communication with local plumbing and/or sewer trade industries/associations.

The Inspection Administrator salary range is \$44,847 - \$82,487. The starting salary range is \$44,487 - \$66,213, DOQ.

Employment applications must be filed online at www.wichita.gov or in person in the Human Resources Department on the 2nd floor of City Hall, 455 N. Main Street. Human Resources is open Monday thru Friday 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., and their phone number is (316) 268-4531.

It is the declared policy of the City of Wichita to extend equal employment opportunities to all qualified persons in all occupations and all levels of occupation without regard to race, color, sex, religion, national origin, ancestry, marital status, age or disability except in bona fide occupational qualifications. The City of Wichita does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission to, access to, or treatment of individuals participating in any City program.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!



CITY OF
WICHITA

www.wichita.gov



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