



Code Outreach Program – NYCRR Changes to the 2020 Codes

The [State Fire Prevention and Building Code Council](#) (Code Council) recently adopted rules amending and updating the Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code (the Uniform Code), to be effective **May 12, 2020**. This edition of the Code Outreach Program intends to remind code users that Title 19 of the Official Compilation of Codes, Rules and Regulations of the State of New York (19 NYCRR) is the starting point for the Uniform Code and Energy Code provisions and to point out a few notable provisions that were added to 19 NYCRR for the Uniform Code update. A more detailed summary of the Uniform Code provisions which currently reside in 19 NYCRR can be found in [Technical Bulletin TB-M000 titled “19 NYCRR Changes to the 2020 Codes.”](#)

The Code Resides in 19 NYCRR

A common misconception among code users is that the code is found solely in the “code books.” The Uniform Code is contained in 19 NYCRR Parts 1220 through 1227 and the publications incorporated by reference into those Parts, including, but not limited to NYS specific code books which are based on the 2018 International Code Council books. Similarly, the Energy Code consists of the text in 19 NYCRR Part 1240 and the publications incorporated by reference in such Part. This means, code requirements are not always found in a code book, there are parts of the code that are contained solely in 19 NYCRR. There are also specific sections of the books that are amended or modified by 19 NYCRR. 19 NYCRR must be examined prior to reviewing publications incorporated by reference, including the NYS specific books.

Summary of Notable Provisions that Reside in 19 NYCRR for the Uniform Code

Section 1220.3 Changes to the Text of the [2020 Residential Code of New York State](#) (2020 RCNYS)

- A revision was made to Table N1102.1.2 in the 2020 RCNYS to align it with the corresponding Table R402.1.2 in the [2020 Energy Conservation Construction Code](#). The revision deleted Climate Zones 1, 2, 3, 7, and 8 (which are not applicable in NYS) and split Climate Zone 6 into two options.
- Section P2603.5.1 of the 2020 RCNYS was replaced with a new section that included required sewer depth that matches the parallel section in the [2020 Plumbing Code of New York State](#).
- A new law that became effective on March 19, 2020, added new requirements in Executive Law §378(13) for the abandonment or removal of home heating oil storage tanks. As a result of this law, some modifications to Appendix J of the 2020 RCNYS were necessary, as well as consolidating provisions for abandonment or removal of home heating oil storage tanks into a more convenient location.
- Footnote “o” of Table R301.2(1) regarding ground snow loads used in determining design snow loads for roofs was corrected to indicate that sites over 1,000 feet need to add 2 psf for every 100 feet above 1,000 feet.
- Section AJ401.8.4 was added to Appendix J of the 2020 RCNYS, to include the same provisions previously found in Section AJ403.3 of the adopted 2015 International Residential Code as amended by the 2017 Uniform Code Supplement.

Section 1225.3 Changes to the Text of the [2020 Fire Code of New York State](#) (2020 FCNYS)

- Parallel modifications for the abandonment or removal of home heating oil storage tanks as noted above for the 2020 RCNYS were made to Section 5704.2.16 and Section 202 of the 2020 FCNYS.

Section 1226.3 Changes to the Text of the [2020 Property Maintenance Code of New York State](#) (2020 PMCNYS)

- The Occupancy Limitations of Section 404 of the 2020 PMCNYS were amended to exempt Tiny Houses provided that they are constructed in accordance with the 2020 RCNYS and Appendix Q of the 2020 RCNYS. As such, a new section 404.9 was added to the 2020 PMCNYS.

Section 1221.3 Changes to the Text of the [2020 Building Code of New York State](#) (2020 BCNYS)

- Several changes were made in the Referenced Standards chapter of the 2020 BCNYS. The most notable change is the replacement of the Standard TIA 222-G-2005 with the updated TIA 222-H-2017 Second Printing- June 25, 2018 (but such updated publication is not incorporated by reference).

Please see the Technical bulletin titled “19 NYCRR Changes to the 2020 Codes” for information on all the Uniform Code updates to date and be sure to check 19 NYCRR regularly for all amendments at: [Uniform Code NYCRR](#) and [Energy Code NYCRR](#).

Please look for our next edition of the Code Outreach Program at the beginning of next month.

DBSC - A Division of Department of State
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If you have questions pertaining to the Code Outreach Program, email us at COP.codes@dos.nv.gov

If you have questions pertaining to the Uniform Code or Energy Code, email our technical support group at: codes@dos.nv.gov

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