

# NOTICE

Issued by the Department of

## Planning & Growth Management

**Notice #**  
**15-05**

**Release Date**  
**07/31/15**

**Contact**  
Don A. Litten, Jr.  
Building Code Official  
Codes, Permits &  
Inspection Services

**Phone**  
**301-645-0681**

Charles County  
Government

Department of  
Planning & Growth  
Management

Peter Aluotto,  
*Director*



Equal Opportunity  
County  
*Say No To Drugs*

*2015 International Building Code*  
*2015 International Residential Code*  
*Highlight of Changes in the 2015 Codes*

Effective August 3, 2015, the International Building Code 2015 and the International Residential Code 2015 will become the building codes for Charles County. The Commissioners met on June 16, 2015 and passed Bill 2015-05 containing the local amendments to the code. Copies of the Code and Bill are available at the Permit Center as well as [www.charlescountymd.gov/legislation](http://www.charlescountymd.gov/legislation).

The following are the highlight of changes to the present code:

- Wind Design Speed increased to 115 mph.
- Carbon Monoxide & Smoke Alarm changes.
- Narrow Wall Bracing Inspection added and will be performed in conjunction with the Load Path Inspection.
- More stringent limitations for lead pipe, pipe fittings, joints, valves, faucets and fixture fittings that provide water for drinking and/or cooking purposes.
- Additional ARC-Fault requirements added.
- Window Trade Off will give the Building Designer the ability to reduce the window area and get credit for the energy saved.
- Overhang Credit for SHGC Allows for the use of overhangs to meet the Solar Heat Gain Coefficient (SHGC) requirements within the IECC, increasing design flexibility of the Code.
- Sewage Backflow is now required on all new homes served by a Public System. Repairs to existing lateral systems serving existing dwellings will also now require a permit to install sewage backflow.

**The following is a listing of all codes that will be adopted by Charles County:**

**2015 International Building Code (IBC)**  
**2015 International Residential Code (IRC)**  
**2015 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC)**  
**2015 International Fuel Gas Code (IFGC)**  
**2015 International Mechanical Code (IMC)**  
**2015 International Plumbing Code (IPC)**  
**2015 International Existing Building Code (IEBC)**  
**2014 National Electric Code (NEC)-State Electric Code**  
**2012 NFPA 101 Life Safety Code – State Fire Code**  
**2012 NFPA 1 Uniform Fire Code – State Fire Code**  
**2015 International Property Maintenance Code (IPMC)**

Reminder that all builders/contractors that utilize our Plan on File (POF) option will be required to resubmit their construction drawings with the first application associated with each POF for the new code cycle. The drawings will be reviewed for compliance with the 2015 Codes.

If you have any questions regarding this matter please contact Amy Coombs or Don Litten at (301)645-0681 between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. or via e-mail at [littend@charlescountymd.gov](mailto:littend@charlescountymd.gov) .

“Those citizens with special needs please contact Don A. Litten, Jr. , Charles County Department of Planning and Growth Management, Building Code Official, voice phone (301)645-0681 or Maryland Relay Service TDD 1-800-735-2258 or 7-1-1.”