

International Code Council Government Relations Update – May 2017

Follow [@ICC_GR on Twitter](#) for breaking GR news throughout the month!

Say! **It's May!** It's your 2017 Building Safety Month!

If you've got a Building Safety Month activity coming up or under way, don't keep it a secret. We at ICC's Government Relations want to help you spread the word. **Be sure to email Jacob Karson at jkarson@iccsafe.org** any photos, news items or information about the Building Safety Month events your Chapter sponsors. So far, Building Safety Month is having unprecedented successes with public activities:

- Governors [are signing BSM proclamations](#) and participating in state events.
- Members of Congress are invited to [the rooftop BSM event at the ICC headquarters](#) in Washington, D.C.
- Elementary school students in many American schools are getting presentations from their local code officials on how code officials make their schools, homes and churches safe. On May Day, 60 students at Austin Bailey Elementary School, Dorchester County, S.C., got a lesson on codes.
- Building Safety Month rally [at the courthouse in North Salem](#), N.Y.
- Code careers forums and an earthquake retrofit program for homeowners in San Jose, Calif. A building safety career fair in Glendale, Calif.
- Mayors and county officials are signing BSM proclamations and sponsoring local events.
- A full day of a full day of BSM displays, demonstrations and information at San Diego, Calif.
- Third graders in Richland, Wash., Junior Achievement are getting a special lesson on building codes and their benefits to their economy and safety.
- ICC Chapters not only are signing their own proclamations, but are [sponsoring public events](#) and challenging other chapters to get out the word. In Virginia, one small jurisdiction (10 or less employees) and one large jurisdiction (more than 10) will win one free day of training provided by DHCD and a catered lunch for the jurisdiction staff in their statewide BSM competition.
- A day dedicated at California Polytechnic State University to building safety in recognition of Building Safety Month.
- A \$1,500 scholarship is at stake in an essay contest on building safety among Virginia high school and first- through third-year college students.
- The City of Moreno Valley, Calif., decorated wall-to-wall its building permit office with BSM banners and signs and set out treats and refreshments for visitors.

Karla Higgs, VP Membership Services, said demand for BSM posters has been very high and that a limited number are available to Chapter leaders. She said if Chapters haven't ordered theirs yet, they should do so (khiggs@iccsafe.org) while supplies last. [Other Building Safety Month promotional and educational resources](#) are available at www.buildingsafetymonth.org. Members may download toolkit items free from the website. Members may also purchase printed brochures, stickers, pencils and other promotional items from the International Code Council's [online store](#) while supplies last.

WE'VE GOT VIDEOS! There are two videos to share with the public about Building Safety Month, [there is this one](#) which explains its value to communities. And, if you're a fan of ICC Government Relations' series of YouTube videos "House of Codes," [here's the episode on 2017 Building Safety Month](#).

#CodeHeroes photo contest entry deadline is May 12 for promoting the value of code officials

There is still a little time left to be a winner in the Building Safety Month photo contest on this year's theme **Code Officials— Partners in Community Safety and Economic Growth**. Your participation in this contest will help raise awareness of the code official profession and will inspire others to follow in your footsteps.

Winners have already been chosen for the first two weekly themes for Building Safety Month. There are just two more themes left for you to compete:

- **Manage the Damage – Preparing for Natural Disasters**
- **Investing in Technology for Safety, Energy & Water Efficiency**

[Here's how it works:](#)

1. Until May 12th, post captioned photos on Facebook and Twitter of yourself or your code official colleagues performing a code official duty, showing the impact your work has. Make sure to use the hashtag **#CodeHeroes** when posting.
2. Vote on your favorite submitted photos (including your own!) [in the gallery](#).
3. The best photos (as voted upon by Members) will be featured throughout each week of Building Safety Month in May and future Code Council publications and events.

This contest is not just about promoting your work to the public; it's also about creating interest and excitement about the profession among young adults. Check back for more information on voting, and prepare to post your best photos using the hashtag **#CodeHeroes**. Two more winners will be chosen to receive special Code Council branded coolers (approximate value of \$250). All entries must abide by the [Contest Rules](#).

Deadline is June 1 to apply for positions on Professional Development Council

ICC is seeking applicants for the Professional Development Council (PDC). The Education Committee (EC) and Certification Committee (CC) each have two (2) positions available for three-year terms. The Council serves to align the ICC Education Programs and Certification Programs to ensure that quality training is available to meet the needs of all Members, customers and Certification holders. If you are interested in applying for either the EC or CC, please read the snapshot of committee responsibilities first-- <http://bit.ly/2o6GjKk>, and then apply here: <http://bit.ly/2o6G3e6>.

2nd ICC Chapter Leadership Academy zeroes in on expanding management and communications skills

ICC's Chapter Leadership Academy in Atlanta will build on last year's theme about finding, recruiting, and mentoring the next generation of Chapter leaders. The 2017 Academy will focus on Chapter management skills, including using social media to reach out to new and prospective Chapter Members. The two-day Academy will begin on June 6th at 8:00 am. Those who arrive the night before are welcome to join your colleagues for an informal dinner and social event. To reserve a room at the Doubletree Hilton Hotel in downtown Atlanta, [book online](#). The cut-off date for [hotel reservations](#) is May15.

Sign up now to participate in May 11 interactive webinar on photovoltaic systems

You can participate in an interactive webinar on May 11, 2017 at 2pm ET with national expert Jim Rogers on photovoltaic (PV) systems. Learn about new articles in the NEC, such as large scale photovoltaic electric supply stations and energy storage systems, as well as updates to existing provisions like rapid shutdown, and grounding of PV systems. You will have an opportunity to submit your specific questions in advance or during the webinar. There are more than 1.3 million photovoltaic systems installed nationwide, and PV system safety and reliability is increasingly guided by robust codes and standards, including solar provisions in the National Fire Protection Association's (NFPA) National Electrical Code (NEC). Although solar is by no means new to the NEC, the 2017 version has updates and additions to support the growing solar economy. This webinar is supported with funding from the U.S. Department of Energy's SunShot program and ICC-SRCC is an ICC Preferred Education Provider. This webinar has been approved for one hour of CEU's by ICC. [Click here to register today](#).

Are you validated? Governmental Member Voting Representatives must be validated each year

Building Safety Month is a great time to validate your voters. Join the nearly 1,500 Governmental Member Voting Representatives that have already been validated. We encourage you to visit the

International Code Council's *new and improved* Electronic Voter Validation Site. Primary Representatives of current Governmental Members can [click here](#) to login and validate your Governmental Member Voting Representatives. This year, Voting Representatives must be validated **by August 11** in order to vote during the upcoming 2017 Annual Business Meeting in Columbus, Ohio. Need more information? Please contact ICC Member Services at members@iccsafe.org or call the Member Services staff at 888-ICC-SAFE (888-422-7233) x33804.

Storm shelter evaluation program at ICC-ES expands to include FEMA P-320

ICC-ES has expanded its [storm shelter evaluation program](#) to include the review of shelters against FEMA P-320, Taking Shelter from the Storm. For communities to receive FEMA block grant funding for storm shelters the agency requires review against both ICC-500 and specific FEMA documents. FEMA block grants fund a significant percentage of total U.S. storm shelter installations.

Register today for free one-hour webinar on storm shelter training available May 22

Don't miss a special opportunity on Monday, May 22 at 2 p.m. EDT to attend the [FEMA P-320 - Taking Shelter from the Storm: Building a Safe Room for Your Home or Small Business](#) course in a new one-hour online webinar format. The course provides homeowners and builders alike guidance for residential and small business safe rooms using the FEMA P-320 publication, and will include information on the following topics:

- FEMA safe room background
- Do you need a safe room?
- Safe room planning
- What are my [safe room options](#)?
- Using the updated construction plans
- Consumer guidance

Webinar participants will receive a certificate of completion indicating one Professional Development Hour for those who wish to self-report for their respective professional license. Participation is limited so [click here to register today](#).

Register now for free to attend the June 11-13 Western Roofing Expo 2017 in Las Vegas

Known as the premier regional roofing and waterproofing event in the west, the [Western Roofing Expo 2017](#) features a two-day trade show, 17 educational seminars, two keynote luncheons, The Roofing Games™, golf and sporting clays tournaments, an amazing welcome party & lively-silent auction, unbeatable networking, and live product demonstrations starting every hour on the trade show floor.

ICC-ES granted authority to provide third party certification of composite wood products

ICC-ES just [received approval from the California Air Resources Board](#) (CARB) to provide third party certification services to manufacturers of composite wood products destined for sale, supply or use in California. The products that can be certified under this program are hardwood plywood, medium density fiberboard, and particle board products. Such products are sold, offered for sale, imported to, or manufactured in the United States. CARB established the program to address issues relating to off-gassing of chemicals from composite wood products imported into the United States. In December 2016, the EPA published a final rule for formaldehyde emissions from composite wood products that is based on the CARB requirements. The original March 2017 implementation date for the rule was delayed in January 2017. It is now set for May 22, 2017.

Deadline is May 24 to file for openings on the ICC-ES Board of Managers

The ICC Evaluation Service (ICC-ES) seeks to fill openings on its Board of Managers for terms of service starting Sept. 1, 2017 with qualified individuals who will participate and contribute to the governance of

ICC-ES through effective guidance on programs, activities and goals. Applications will be accepted until May 24, 2017. [For more information and how to apply click here.](#)

“Energy Storage System Safety: Plan Review and Inspection Checklist” guide is available online

Prepared by Pacific Northwest National Laboratory and Sandia National Laboratories, this U.S. Department of Energy guide can be [downloaded by clicking here](#). The “Energy Storage System (ESS) Safety” guide is intended to help address the acceptability of the design and construction of stationary ESSs, their component parts, and the siting, installation, commissioning, operations, maintenance, and repair/renovation of ESS within the built environment. The availability of this guide hopefully will assist those that need to document compliance with current safety-related codes and standards and guidance that what is proposed is safe. The guide is also intended to assist those responsible for verifying compliance with those same codes and standards.

Newest CodeNotes now available in Spanish through a free download

As part of its continued goal to serve the needs of plumbing, mechanical and fuel gas officials, the ICC PMG Official Membership Council has partnered with ICC Global Membership Council to provide online access to our free and informative CodeNotes™ in Spanish. [Click here](#) for your free downloadable copy of the newest CodeNotes™ on the 2015 International Swimming Pool and Spa Code® now provided to you in Spanish. [Visit](#) the PMG Membership Council Web page for additional information and updates.

June 1 is the deadline to sign up for 2018/2019 Cycle Code Committees

With the posting of the Final Action for the 2016 Group B Cycle, the [2018/2019 Code Development Schedule](#) is now available. In conjunction with the posting of the 2018/2019 Schedule, a [Call for Committee for 2018/2019 Cycle code committees](#) and related cycle committees has been issued. The application deadline for 2018/2019 Cycle related committees is June 1.

Classes filling up for ICC’s Training and Certification Summit May 22-26 in Arlington, Texas

Registrations remain open for International Code Council’s (ICC’s) [Training and Certification Summit](#) on May 22–26 at the University of Texas at Arlington. Held in conjunction with the 25th Building Professional Institute’s education program, ICC’s Summit will feature three unique training tracks designed to help expand your knowledge on building safety, inspections, leadership and communication in the workplace. You will also have the opportunity to take ICC Certification exams. Click on the following tracks for complete descriptions and instructor bios:

Track 1: [Leadership Institute](#)

Track 2: [Principles of Building Safety Institute](#)

Track 3: [Residential Building Inspector Certification Academy](#)

For complete details including Summit registration, schedules, ICC Certification exams, pre-event meetings and hotel/travel information, visit www.iccsafe.org/TCS. If you have any questions or need additional information, please call 888-422-7233, ext. 4333 or send an email to conference@iccsafe.org.

Travel scholarships available for 2017 National Energy Codes Conference July 17-20 in Pittsburgh

Travel scholarships are available for the [2017 National Energy Codes Conference in Pittsburgh](#), sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy. Support is provided on a limited basis for state and municipal employees who wish to attend the event. This year’s event will cover a variety of critical topics, including code development, implementation, policy, tools and resources, with a focus on achieving compliance. In order to be considered, be sure to apply today!

Take your career to the next level with the following ICC training institutes

It's never too early to plan the next step in your career, and it's not too early to make your plans for an upcoming ICC Institute. Recent Institutes have sold out more than a month in advance. Plan now to advance your knowledge and your career. These focused-topic, multi-day events are an opportunity to earn CEUs, learn from expert instructors and build your professional network. [Click here to browse all upcoming institutes and events.](#)

The Municipal magazine publishes article on ICC's High School Technical Training Program

The premier magazine for and about America's municipalities, The Municipal, just published an article on the High School Technical Training Program and its value to addressing the massive retirements of Baby Boomer code officials throughout the United States. [Read more about this popular program.](#)

Final thoughts: What does a 'super advocate' do, and how can I be one too?

Cliff Johnson, Practice Leader at National Journal Leadership Council, penned this opinion piece about the role of super advocates in our community, state and federal governments. It's about the old-fashioned way of getting things done and being effective. A super advocate at any level does the following: They show up, they are visible and they are prepared. Or as Thomas Jefferson once said, "We in America do not have government by the majority. We have government by the majority who participate." [Spend a minute to review this worthwhile article.](#)