

International Code Council Government Relations Update – May 2016

Follow @ICC_GR on Twitter for breaking GR news throughout the month!

It's Building Safety Month!

For the fourth year in a row, President Obama has proclaimed May 2016 as National Building Safety Month in the United States, encouraging citizens, government agencies, businesses, non-profits and other interested groups to join in activities that raise awareness about building safety. He also calls for all Americans to learn more about how they can contribute to building safety at home and in their communities. ICC's flagship annual event begins this week as the theme for 2016 Building Safety Month, is *Building Codes: Driving Growth through Innovation, Resilience and Safety*. Each week has a different theme and sponsor, and each have their own webpage and list of events, which you can find here: <http://www.iccsafe.org/about-icc/building-safety-month/2016-building-safety-month/>

WEEK ONE // May 2–8, 2016: *Building Solutions for All Ages*

WEEK TWO // May 9–15, 2016: *The Science Behind the Codes*

WEEK THREE // May 16–22, 2016: *Learn from the Past, Build for Tomorrow*

WEEK FOUR // May 23–29, 2016: *Building Codes: A Smart Investment*

RSVP Now for the Chapter Leader Symposium!

If you have not RSVP'd for the upcoming Chapter Leader Symposium, there is still time to do so. On June 21-22, 2016, ICC will host its first annual Chapter Leader Symposium in Oklahoma City. This symposium is a crucial element of the challenge to “find that individual who will fill your shoes, walk in your footsteps, and whom you will mentor.” Building on this theme, the symposium will focus on Chapter leadership and management, with strong emphasis on developing our next generation of leaders. There will also be plenty of time to network and enjoy the company of your fellow Chapter Leaders.

Chapters in good standing may choose between a complimentary registration to the Annual Conference in Kansas City or travel and attendance to this symposium. Please RSVP by clicking here to tell us if you are planning to attend the symposium or use your complimentary registration to the Annual Conference: <http://iccleadership.app.rsvpify.com/>

GR Launches New Web Series and Updated Federal Website

ICC's Government Relations staff in Washington, D.C. is looking to give you the inside scoop on what's happening inside the Beltway, and to do that, they've launched the “House of Codes” series on YouTube, featuring ICC staff breaking down the legislation and executive action that affects our members. The federal website has been updated as well with links to contact your members of Congress, view legislation ICC is tracking, and a calendar of events happening in D.C. Take a look at the site here: <http://www.iccsafe.org/legislative-action-center-2/> – and don't forget to subscribe to the YouTube channel so you'll always have the latest updates!

Apply for ICC's Professional Development Council

ICC is issuing a call for new members to its Professional Development Council. If you are interested in having a say in the governance of the ICC National Certification exams and/or the ICC Education program, now is the time to apply. The application closing date is June 17, 2016. Read more here: <http://www.iccsafe.org/education-certification/certifications-and-testing/professional-development-council-pdc/>

ICC-ES seeks interested individuals to serve on its Board of Managers

The ICC Evaluation Service seeks to fill openings on its Board of Managers for terms of service starting Sept. 1, 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 13. To learn more click here: <http://media.iccsafe.org/news/es-enews/2016v12n2/boardcall.pdf>

Third Edition of ANSI-Approved National Green Building Standard Now Available

The ICC/ASHRAE 700-2015 National Green Building Standard™ has been approved by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and is available for public use. First published in 2009, the NGBS sets the bar for sustainable and high-performance residential construction and provides a pathway by which builders and developers may seek third-party certification of their new homes, developments and remodeling projects. Learn more about the third edition here: <http://www.nahb.org/en/news-and-publications/press-releases/2016/04/third-edition-of-ansi-approved-national-green-building-standard-now-available.aspx>

Not Too Late for Your Chapter to Proclaim 2016 Building Safety Month!

As always, ICC strives to gain official proclamations nationwide from the President of the United States, state governors, mayors and other elected officials. But your chapter can add its voice, too, to show your support for the cause of nationwide public safety. Over 40 chapters have already made proclamations that you can see here: <http://www.iccsafe.org/about-icc/building-safety-month/proclamations/>, so add yours today! A sample proclamation is included on the next page.



Proclamation

Building Safety Month — May 2016

Whereas, our Chapter's continuing efforts to address the critical issues of safety, energy efficiency, water conservation, and resilience in the built environment that affect our citizens, both in everyday life and in times of natural disaster, give us confidence that our structures are safe and sound, and;

Whereas, our confidence is achieved through the devotion of vigilant guardians—building safety and fire prevention officials, architects, engineers, builders, tradespeople, laborers and others in the construction industry—who work year-round to ensure the safe construction of buildings, and;

Whereas, these guardians—dedicated members of the International Code Council—use a governmental consensus process that brings together local, state and federal officials with expertise in the built environment to create and implement the highest-quality codes to protect Americans in the buildings where we live, learn, work, worship, play, and;

Whereas, the International Codes, the most widely adopted building safety, energy and fire prevention codes in the nation, are used by most U.S. cities, counties and states; these modern building codes also include safeguards to protect the public from natural disasters such as hurricanes, snowstorms, tornadoes, wildland fires, floods and earthquakes, and;

Whereas, Building Safety Month is sponsored by the International Code Council, to remind the public about the critical role of our communities' largely unknown guardians of public safety—our local code officials—who assure us of safe, efficient and livable buildings, and;

Whereas, “Building Codes: Driving Growth through Innovation, Resilience and Safety” the theme for Building Safety Month 2016, encourages all Americans to raise awareness of the importance of building safe and resilient construction; fire prevention; disaster mitigation, water safety and conservation; energy efficiency and new technologies in the construction industry. Building Safety Month 2016 encourages appropriate steps everyone can take to ensure that the places where we live, learn, work, worship and play are safe and sustainable, and recognizes that countless lives have been saved due to the implementation of safety codes by local and state agencies, and,

Whereas, each year, in observance of Building Safety Month, Americans are asked to consider projects to improve building safety and sustainability at home and in the community, and to acknowledge the essential service provided to all of us by local and state building departments, fire prevention bureaus and federal agencies in protecting lives and property.

NOW, THEREFORE, we, the Chapter of _____, do hereby proclaim the month of May 2016 as Building Safety Month. Accordingly, we encourage our citizens to join with their communities in participation in Building Safety Month activities.

Signature

Date