



News from the Electrical Inspection Division

November 1, 2008

We are now in the 2008 NEC code for any permits pulled after Building AP# 122841 and Electrical AP# 122857.

SE cable and Tamper Resistant Receptacles are now in effective as of July 3, 2008.

Permit issued after numbers – Building #125442, Electrical # 125420.

Code Questions and Concerns:

1. HVAC replacements / change outs will require electrical and mechanical permits, these also require two inspections. Please notify the homeowner that there will be two separate inspections performed by two inspectors.

2. Smoke alarms will be required: Smoke Alarms for Residential Dwellings

2006 North Carolina State Building Code

R313.1 Smoke Alarms shall be installed in the following locations:

1. In each sleeping room.
2. Outside each separate sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the bedrooms.
3. On each additional story of the dwelling, including basement but not including crawl spaces and uninhabitable attics.

When more than one smoke alarm is required to be installed within an individual dwelling unit the alarm devices shall be interconnected in such a manner that the actuation of one alarm will activate all of the alarms in the individual unit. The alarm shall be clearly audible in all bedrooms over background noise levels with all intervening doors closed.

All smoke alarms shall be listed and installed in accordance with the provisions of this code and the household fire warning equipment provisions of NFPA 72.

R313.1.1 Alterations, Repairs and Additions: When interior alterations, repairs or additions requiring a permit occur, or when one or more sleeping rooms are added or created in existing dwelling, the individual dwelling unit shall be provided with smoke alarms located as required for new dwellings: the smoke alarms shall be interconnected and hard wired.

Exceptions:

1. Smoke alarms in existing areas shall not be required to be interconnected and hard wired where the alterations or repairs do not result in the removal of interior wall or ceiling finishes exposing the structure, unless there is an attic, crawl space, or basement available which could provide access for hard wiring and interconnection without the removal of interior finishes.
2. Repair to exterior surfaces of dwellings are exempt from the requirement of this section.

R313.2 Power Source: In new construction, the required smoke alarms shall receive their primary power from the building wiring when such wiring is served from a commercial source, and when primary power is interrupted, shall receive power from a battery. Smoke alarms shall be permitted to be battery operated when installed in buildings without commercial power or in buildings that undergo alterations, repairs, or additions regulated by Section R313.1.1.

NFPA 72 Chapter 8 -Fire Warning Equipment for Dwelling Units:

8-1.1.2* The performance of fire warning equipment for dwelling units discussed in Chapter 8 ***shall depend on such equipment being properly selected, installed, operated, tested, and maintained*** in accordance with the provisions of this code and with the manufacturer's instructions provided with the equipment.

All low-voltage smoke alarm systems shall now be required to be energized and operational for final electrical and building inspections before occupancy permit will be issued.

Please send any questions or comments to marklt@cityofws.org enter *CODE QUESTIONS* under subject.

We would like to hear from you.

Thanks,

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