



# News from the Mechanical Inspectors

October 2009

## Office Information

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2009 NC Mechanical Code and Gas Code:

July 1, 2009 is the date to begin using the 2009 Codes. Any system installed after June 30, 2009 will need to be installed using the 2009 Codes.

## Questions from Contractors

Does the new code require three foot clearance from exhaust terminations to windows and doors in residential?

Answer: Yes, see section 501.2.1 of the 2009 NC Mechanical Code, Item #3.

For environmental air duct exhaust: 3 feet from property lines; 3 feet from operable openings into buildings for all occupancies other group U (Utility), and 10 feet from mechanical air intakes.

The IMC commentary gives the examples of environmental air as,

Does section 918.6 exclude unvented fireplaces from being 10 foot from a return air vent?

Answer: See section 918.6 item #6 under the exceptions see item #4. It states, this shall not apply to rooms or spaces containing fireplaces.

An unvented gas log assembly is

domestic range exhaust, bathroom exhaust and clothes dryer exhaust.

See definition for Environmental Air in Chapter 2.

Air that is conveyed to or from occupied areas through ducts which are not part of the heating or air-conditioning system, such as ventilation for human usage, domestic kitchen range exhaust, bathroom exhaust and domestic clothes dryer exhaust.

Please remember as you or your people have questions about any

an unvented room heater and by definitions in chapter 2 is not a fireplace.

Definition of a fireplace: An assembly consisting of a hearth and a fire chamber of noncombustible material and provided with a chimney, for use with solid fuels. Notice it brings a vent system and solid fuels such as wood or coal.

installation you are working on, feel free to call myself or the inspector in your area for questions or concerns.



Summer is gone, lets hope for a cold winter.

What is the test requirements for hydronic piping?

Answer: See section 1208.1 of the 2009 NC Mechanical Code, Hydronic piping must be tested at one and one half times the maximum system design but not less than 100 psi.

If you wish to have your questions included in our monthly newsletter,

Please send to [miken@cityofws.org](mailto:miken@cityofws.org). Thanks, Michael Norris Senior Mechanical Inspector 336-727-2382

CITY OF WINSTON-SALEM Mayor: Allen Joiner City Council: Vivian H. Burke, Mayor Pro Tempore, Northeast Ward; Dan Besse, Southwest Ward; Robert C. Clark, West Ward; Joycelyn V. Johnson, East Ward; Molly Leight, South Ward; Nelson L. Malloy Jr., North Ward; Wanda Merschel, Northwest Ward; Evelyn A. Terry, Southeast Ward City Manager: Lee Garrity  
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