



NOTICE

NEW 2012 BC BUILDING CODE IN EFFECT

DECEMBER 20TH 2012

Building, Plumbing and Fire Code Changes

Anyone constructing or renovating a building in Maple Ridge has until 4:00 pm, Wednesday December 19, 2012 to submit a **complete** building permit application before BC's new building, plumbing and fire codes come into effect.

The introduction of the 2012 BC Building Code, BC Plumbing Code and BC Fire Code, Thursday December 20, 2012 will bring a number of changes for new construction and building alterations, as well as fire safety in new and existing buildings.

Some of the changes include:

- Seismic requirements for new homes;
- New requirements around window openings;
- Requirement for a smoke alarm in every bedroom;
- Ability for people with cognitive or physical limitations to occupy three-storey wood-frame buildings with sprinklers;
- New method for sizing water pipes in buildings;
- Ability for rainwater to be collected and used in non-potable water systems,;
- Updated fire sprinkler standards; and
- Introduction of a new exit sign symbol (the running man symbol).

To be considered under the 2006 code requirements, building permit applications must be submitted to the District of Maple Ridge Permits & Licences Department by 4:00 pm, Wednesday December 19, 2012.

The codes establish **minimum** standards for health, safety, accessibility, energy, fire and structural protection of buildings. They also address water efficiency and protection of buildings from fire, water and sewer damage. The building and plumbing codes apply throughout the province except for the City of Vancouver, while the fire code applies throughout the province.

The codes can be obtained through print and online subscription from the Queen's Printer. Visit www.bccodes.ca or call 1-800-663-6105 for information. The building code is also available for reference for free at public libraries.



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Education

The Association of Professional Engineer and Geoscientists, the Building and Safety Standards Branch, the Architectural Institute of British Columbia, the Building Officials Association of BC and the Plumbing Officials Association of BC are collaborating to provide a series of province-wide seminars covering the changes brought into effect by the new codes.

More information on the seminars, dates and venues, as well as registration forms visit the Building Officials Association of British Columbia website (www.boabc.org).

More Information

Information regarding the new codes is available from the Building and Safety Standards, Office of Housing and Construction, Ministry of Energy and Mines.

For information and resources related to the new codes contact the District of Maple Ridge Inspection Services by phone at 604-467-7311 or by e-mail at permits@mapleridge.ca