



Building Code Amendments

The following information is applicable only to permits *applied for after December 20, 2014*

The Electrical and Mechanical contracting and Electrical and Mechanical supply communities specifically will be impacted by the following changes:

- Electrical panels shall either be located on interior walls or enclosed in exterior wall construction that is insulated to the effective insulation requirement outboard of the electrical panel, and vapour barrier sealed behind.
- Electrical boxes in exterior walls shall be of the flange with integral foam gasket type or enclosed in a preformed poly bag which is enclosed by solid wood back framing at the entire perimeter lap of the poly bag and vapour barrier.
- The prescribed 'exhaust only' ventilation systems, of previous code cycles are no longer permitted. All dwellings shall be served by distributed ducting systems that supply or exhaust from each bedroom and the common area on each floor. There is a new Principal Fan sizing table. If the Principal Fan also serves bathrooms or kitchens and is equipped with switching that temporarily increases air flow rates, the minimum rate of operation shall never be less than that required by the table 9.32.3.5.
- The Principal Fan shall run continuously, be rated to a maximum 1.0 sone rating and have no shutoff located convenient to the fan. The dedicated shutoff for this fan shall be labelled "Principal Ventilation Exhaust Fan", be either the breaker at the panel or a switch, labelled as such and located in a service area such as a mechanical room.
- Kitchen and Bathrooms continue to require exhaust fans with code prescribed flows *unless* these rooms are also served by the Principal Exhaust Fan ducted ventilation system.
- HRVs are not required, but where they are installed shall have a Sensible Heat Recovery efficiency rating of 55% at flow rates.
- Heating and cooling ducts shall be insulated to at least the value required for exterior walls, or shall be located within the conditioned space. Heating and or cooling equipment shall be designed for outdoor use if located outside the conditioned building envelope.
- Plumbing DWV stacks and service piping shall be located inboard of the fully insulated wall or ceiling assembly, in furred walls or drop ceiling constructions. The effective insulation value of exterior assemblies shall not be reduced.