

BOROUGH OF PICTURE ROCKS
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ORDINANCE NO. 2026-001

AN ORDINANCE OF THE PICTURE ROCKS BOROUGH, COUNTY OF LYCOMING, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, ADOPTING THE FIRST THREE CHAPTERS OF THE 2021 INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE TO ESTABLISH MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR PROPERTY MAINTENANCE WITHIN THE BOROUGH.

IT IS HEREBY ENACTED AND ORDAINED by the Council of the Borough of Picture Rocks, Lycoming County, Pennsylvania, as follows:

WHEREAS, the Borough of Picture Rocks, Lycoming County, Pennsylvania ("Borough") has the ability to make regulations as may be necessary for the health, safety, and general welfare of the Borough and its residents; and

WHEREAS, the Borough desires to establish uniform requirements for property maintenance for residents of the Borough;

WHEREAS, the Borough Council act to adopt the first three chapters of the 2021 International Property Maintenance Code with two additional amendments. This ordinance shall be known as the "Picture Rocks Property Maintenance Code".

Chapter 3: Add Amendment to create **Section 310. Sidewalk Maintenance Standard**

310.1 Sidewalks in existence as of effective date of ordinance 2013-02 (10-09-2013) shall not be removed.

310.2 It shall be the property owner's responsibility to maintain existing and newly constructed Sidewalks in a manner which provides for safety of pedestrian traffic

310.2a. Applicants desiring to construct new Sidewalks or repair existing Sidewalks shall submit an application for a permit, as outlined in Section 310.2e below. Minor repairs to existing Sidewalks are permitted without obtaining a permit, at the discretion of the Codes enforcement Officer.

310.2b. All new sidewalks are to be constructed of concrete. The Picture Rocks Borough Council may permit the construction of a new Sidewalk with materials other than concrete upon written

application to the borough Council; said application should state the type of material to be used and the reason for use of an alternate material. Cost of material is not a valid reason for use of material other than concrete for the construction of a new Sidewalk.

310.2c Permit Required.

310.2d No person or group of persons, partnership or corporation shall commence the construction or repair of any Sidewalk or curb in the Borough without first making application for and securing a permit from the Codes Enforcement Officer. Application for a Sidewalk and/or curb construction permit shall contain the necessary information and in the case of new construction, a written plan showing the location of the proposed work in relation to existing buildings, curbs and Sidewalks and that such construction/reconstruction is within the prevailing standards of "The American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and proper engineering standard. Permits shall be issued by the Codes Enforcement Officer in accordance with applicable provisions.

310.2e. A permit shall be required for construction of new or major repair to existing Sidewalks and/or curbs.

310.2f. Any permit issued under this part shall be null and void unless work is commenced within six (6) months of its issuance. If work is commenced within said six-month period and abandoned within one (1) year of the date of issuance of the permit, said permit shall be null and void. One or more ninety (90) day extensions of time may be granted by the Codes Enforcement Officer for causes shown after written application.

310.3 SNOW AND ICE REMOVAL Requirement for Removal of Snow and Ice.

310.3a. The owner, occupant or tenant of any real estate fronting upon or alongside of any of the streets of the Borough of Picture Rocks is hereby required to remove, or cause to be removed, from the entire width of any sidewalks in front of or alongside of said real estate all snow, ice or sleet thereon fallen or formed within 24 hours after the same shall have ceased to fall or to form.

310.3b. No snow, ice or sleet which is removed from any said sidewalk or from any location on any private property shall be deposited upon the property of another without the prior authorization by the owner of the property that the snow, ice or sleet will be deposited on. Property of another shall include any property within the Borough of Picture Rocks belonging to the Borough, private citizens or any other entity (business, school, church, etc.) that does not belong to the individual removing the snow, ice or sleet.

310.3c The owner of such real estate shall be responsible for conforming to the requirements of this ordinance where such real estate is occupied by such owner or is unoccupied; the tenant or occupier thereof where such real estate is occupied by such tenant or occupier only; and the owner thereof where the real estate is a multiple-business or multiple-dwelling property, occupied by more than one tenant or occupier.

Chapter 3: Add Amendment to create Section 311. OVERHANDING TREES AND BRUSH

Section 311. OVERHANDING TREES AND BRUSH Trees and Brush overhanging Streets and Sidewalks

311.1 Property Owners to Keep Trees Trimmed to Required Clearance Above Streets and Sidewalks

311.1a. It shall be the duty of every owner of property fronting upon or alongside any street or alley in the Borough to trim and keep trimmed all trees planted or growing upon that property or upon the sidewalk area adjacent to that property so that no part of the tree, or of its branches or foliage shall be closer than 14 feet above the surface of the roadway of the street or nine (9) feet above the surface of the sidewalk.

311.2 Property Owners to Remove Trees Causing Damage to Sidewalk

311.2a. It shall be the duty of every owner of property in the Borough to remove any tree, growing upon that property or upon the sidewalk area adjacent to that property, upon notice from Council, when the roots of the tree have caused any part of the sidewalk to heave up, be cracked or otherwise disturbed, and then to repair or reconstruct the sidewalk, as required by Council, so as to place the walk in proper condition. Section 3. Penalty for Violation Any person who violates any provision of this article, or who fails to fulfill his duty, as required by this article, shall be guilty of an offense, and, upon conviction, shall be subject to penalty.

311.3. Property Owners to Remove

311.3a. The removal of leaves, tree limbs, grass clippings, debris, cinders, gravel, grits, or any other refuse on such sidewalk or projecting branches and other obstructions below nine (9) feet above the sidewalk. The property owner shall be responsible for the prompt removal of any such items whether or not such items were deposited by the owner, his tenants, anyone acting under his direction, control, license or any third person. Such leaves, tree limbs, grass clippings, debris, cinders, gravel, grits and other refuse shall be properly bagged and disposed of upon being removed from such sidewalk. The sweeping or other removal of such items onto Borough streets or state highways is prohibited.

311.3b. The owner of the property shall remove, trim or cut all grass, weeds or other vegetation growing or remaining upon such premises in violations of the provisions of this Ordinance. No owner shall at any time permit grass, weeds, or other vegetation to grow on his property to a height in excess of eight (8) inches.

311.3c. The Borough Council or any official appointed by the Borough designated for this purpose, is hereby authorized to give notice, by personal service, by United States Mail or by posting the property, to the owner of any premises whereon grass, weeds, or other vegetation or growing or

remaining in violation of the provisions of this Ordinance, directing and requiring such owner to remove, trim or cut such grass, weeds or vegetation, so as to conform to the requirements of this Ordinance, within five (5) days after the issuance of such notice. In case any such person, firm, or corporation shall neglect, fail or refuse to comply with such notice, within the period of time stated therein, the Borough authorities may remove, trim or cut such grass, weeds or vegetation, and the cost thereof, together with any additional penalty authorized by Law, may be collected by the Borough from such person, firm or corporation, in the manner provided by Law.

All ordinances or any parts thereof which are inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

Section 312. YARD SALES

312.1. Definitions. The following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

a Yard Sale – shall mean any public sale of goods on residential property including, but not limited to, the residential properties, garage, home, lawn, or yard;

312.1a. Permit – shall refer to the form that must be obtained, completed, and submitted along with the respective fee to the Borough Secretary prior to conducting a yard sale;

312.1b. Household – shall refer to the individual who applies for a permit and anyone who resides in that individual's residence; and d) Borough – shall refer to this Borough

312.2

312.1a. It shall be unlawful for any individual, group, or corporation to conduct within the Borough a yard sale or permit a yard sale to be held within the Borough on residential property under the individual, group, or corporation's control without first obtaining a yard sale permit from the Borough.

312.1b. Any individual, group, or corporation conducting a yard sale within the Borough or outside the Borough limits or any individual, group, or corporation posting advertisements within the Borough limits for a yard sale to be held inside or outside the Borough limits shall remove from within the Borough right-of-way all signs, flyers, posters, and bulletins no later than the date after the yard sale. Should the yard sale for any reason not be held all signs, flyers, posters, and bulletins advertising the yard sale, must be removed no later than the scheduled last day for the yard sale.

312.3. Frequency and Duration Limitations:

312.3a. Two (2) yard sales are permissible per household in any twelve (12) month period;

312.3b. The maximum duration of any yard sale shall be four (4) consecutive calendar days; and

312.3c. The approved yard sale must be held within fifteen (15) days of the issuance of the permit for that yard sale.

312.4. Fee for Permit:

312.4a The fee for the permit issued to a household within any twelve (12) month period shall be five (\$5.00) dollars; and

312.4b. All permit fees shall be paid to the Borough Secretary prior to issuance of the permit.

312.4c. On non-profit service organizations and charitable organizations may obtain up to two (2) yard sale permits in any twelve (12) month period without payment of fee.

312.4d. There will not be a permit fee for residents participating in the advertised Community Yard Sale.

ORDINANCE VIOLATION

Violation; Any person who shall violate any provision of this Ordinance shall, upon conviction thereof, be sentenced to pay a fine of fifty (\$50.00) dollars and prosecution costs for the first offense; one hundred (\$100.00) dollars plus prosecution costs for the second offense; three hundred (\$300.00) dollars for the third offense and any offense thereafter.

CODES OFFICER

A Codes Officer is hereby authorized to act on behalf of the Borough.

Severability If any provision, sentence, clause, section, or any part of this Ordinance is for any reason found to be unconstitutional, illegal, or invalid, such unconstitutionality, illegality, or invalidity shall not affect or impair any of the remaining provisions, sentences, clauses, sections, or parts of this Ordinance. It is hereby declared as the intent of the Picture Rocks Borough Council, that this Ordinance would have been adopted had such unconstitutional, illegal, or invalid provision, sentence, clause, section, or part thereof not have been included herein.

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its enactment. ENACTED AND ORDAINED by the Borough Council, in lawful session duly assembled

DULY ENACTED AND ORDAINED this 3rd day of August, 2026, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Picture Rocks, Lycoming County, Pennsylvania, in lawful session duly Assembled.

ATTEST:

BOROUGH OF PICTURE ROCKS

By: Linda K Sosniak
Linda Sosniak, Secretary

by: Erin Shelinski
Erin Shelinski., Council President

IPMC[®]

INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE[®]

A Member of the International Code Family[®]

2021

Cost?



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2021 International Property Maintenance Code®

Date of First Publication: September 30, 2020

First Printing: September 2020

ISBN: 978-1-60983-971-0 (soft-cover edition)

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PREFACE

Introduction

The *International Property Maintenance Code*® (IPMC®) establishes minimum requirements for the maintenance of existing buildings through model code regulations that contain clear and specific property maintenance and property improvement provisions. This 2021 edition is fully compatible with all of the International Codes® (I-Codes®) published by the International Code Council® (ICC®), including the *International Building Code*® (IBC®), *International Energy Conservation Code*® (IECC®), *International Existing Building Code*® (IEBC®), *International Fire Code*® (IFC®), *International Fuel Gas Code*® (IFGC®), *International Green Construction Code*® (IgCC®), *International Mechanical Code*® (IMC®), *International Plumbing Code*® (IPC®), *International Private Sewage Disposal Code*® (IPSDC®), *International Residential Code*® (IRC®), *International Swimming Pool and Spa Code*® (ISPSC®), *International Wildland-Urban Interface Code*® (IWUIC®), *International Zoning Code*® (IZC®) and *International Code Council Performance Code*® (ICCP®).

The I-Codes, including the IPMC, are used in a variety of ways in both the public and private sectors. Most industry professionals are familiar with the I-Codes as the basis of laws and regulations in communities across the US and in other countries. However, the impact of the codes extends well beyond the regulatory arena, as they are used in a variety of nonregulatory settings, including:

- Voluntary compliance programs such as those promoting sustainability, energy efficiency and disaster resistance.
- The insurance industry, to estimate and manage risk, and as a tool in underwriting and rate decisions.
- Certification and credentialing of individuals involved in the fields of building design, construction and safety.
- Certification of building and construction-related products.
- US federal agencies, to guide construction in an array of government-owned properties.
- Facilities management.
- “Best practices” benchmarks for designers and builders, including those who are engaged in projects in jurisdictions that do not have a formal regulatory system or a governmental enforcement mechanism.
- College, university and professional school textbooks and curricula.
- Reference works related to building design and construction.

In addition to the codes themselves, the code development process brings together building professionals on a regular basis. It provides an international forum for discussion and deliberation about building design, construction methods, safety, performance requirements, technological advances and innovative products.

Development

This 2021 edition presents the code as originally issued, with changes reflected in the 2003 through 2018 editions and with further changes developed through the ICC Code Development Process through 2019. A new edition of the code is promulgated every 3 years.

This code is intended to establish provisions that adequately protect public health, safety and welfare and that neither unnecessarily increase construction costs nor give preferential treatment to particular types or classes of materials, products or methods of construction.

Maintenance

The *International Property Maintenance Code* is kept up to date through the review of proposed changes submitted by code enforcement officials, industry representatives, design professionals and other interested parties. Proposed changes are carefully considered through an open code development process in which all interested and affected parties may participate.

The ICC Code Development Process reflects principles of openness, transparency, balance, due process and consensus, the principles embodied in OMB Circular A-119, which governs the federal government's use of private-sector standards. The ICC process is open to anyone; there is no cost to participate, and people can participate without travel cost through the ICC's cloud-based app, cdpAccess®. A broad cross section of interests are represented in the ICC Code Development Process. The codes, which are updated regularly, include safeguards that allow for emergency action when required for health and safety reasons.

In order to ensure that organizations with a direct and material interest in the codes have a voice in the process, the ICC has developed partnerships with key industry segments that support the ICC's important public safety mission. Some code development committee members were nominated by the following industry partners and approved by the ICC Board:

- American Institute of Architects (AIA)
- National Association of Home Builders (NAHB)

The code development committees evaluate and make recommendations regarding proposed changes to the codes. Their recommendations are then subject to public comment and council-wide votes. The ICC's governmental members—public safety officials who have no financial or business interest in the outcome—cast the final votes on proposed changes.

The contents of this work are subject to change through the code development cycles and by any governmental entity that enacts the code into law. For more information regarding the code development process, contact the Codes and Standards Development Department of the ICC.

While the I-Code development procedure is thorough and comprehensive, the ICC, its members and those participating in the development of the codes disclaim any liability resulting from the publication or use of the I-Codes, or from compliance or noncompliance with their provisions. The ICC does not have the power or authority to police or enforce compliance with the contents of this code.

Code Development Committee Responsibilities (Letter Designations in Front of Section Numbers)

In each code development cycle, proposed changes to this code are considered at the Code Development Hearings by the International Property Maintenance/Zoning Code Development Committee, whose action constitutes a recommendation to the voting membership for final action on the proposed changes. Proposed changes to a code section having a number beginning with a letter in brackets are considered by a different code development committee. For example, proposed changes to code sections that have the letter [F] in front of them (e.g., [F] 704.1) are considered by the International Fire Code Development Committee at the Committee Action Hearing.

The content of sections in this code that begin with a letter designation is maintained by another code development committee in accordance with the following:

- [A] = Administrative Code Development Committee;
- [F] = International Fire Code Development Committee;
- [P] = International Plumbing Code Development Committee;
- [BE] = IBC–Egress Code Development Committee; and
- [BG] = IBC–General Code Development Committee.

For the development of the 2024 edition of the I-Codes, there will be two groups of code development committees and they will meet in separate years, as shown in the following Code Development Hearings Table.

Code change proposals submitted for code sections that have a letter designation in front of them will be heard by the respective committee responsible for such code sections. Because different committees hold Committee Action Hearings in different years, proposals for the IPMC will be heard by committees in both the 2021 (Group A) and the 2022 (Group B) code development cycles.

For instance, every section of Chapter 1 of this code is designated as the responsibility of the Administrative Code Development Committee, which is part of the Group B portion of the hearings. This committee will hold its Committee Action Hearings in 2022 to consider code change proposals for Chapter 1 of all I-Codes except the IECC, IRC and IgCC. Therefore, any proposals received for Chapter 1 of this code will be assigned to the Administrative Code Development Committee for consideration in 2022.

It is very important that anyone submitting code change proposals understands which code development committee is responsible for the section of the code that is the subject of the code change proposal. For further information on the Code Development Committee responsibilities, please visit the ICC website at www.iccsafe.org/current-code-development-cycle.

CODE DEVELOPMENT HEARINGS

Group A Codes (Heard in 2021, Code Change Proposals Deadline: January 11, 2021)	Group B Codes (Heard in 2022, Code Change Proposals Deadline: January 10, 2022)
International Building Code—Egress (Chapters 10, 11, Appendix E) – Fire Safety (Chapters 7, 8, 9, 14, 26) – General (Chapters 2–6, 12, 27–33, Appendices A, B, C, D, K, N)	Administrative Provisions (Chapter 1 of all codes except IECC, IRC and IgCC; IBC Appendix O; the appendices titled “Board of Appeals” for all codes except IECC, IRC, IgCC, ICCPC and IZC; administrative updates to currently referenced standards; and designated definitions)
International Fire Code	International Building Code – Structural (Chapters 15–25, Appendices F, G, H, I, J, L, M)
International Fuel Gas Code	International Existing Building Code
International Mechanical Code	International Energy Conservation Code—Commercial
International Plumbing Code	International Energy Conservation Code—Residential – IECC—Residential – IRC—Energy (Chapter 11)
International Property Maintenance Code	International Green Construction Code (Chapter 1)
International Private Sewage Disposal Code	International Residential Code – IRC—Building (Chapters 1–10; Appendices AE, AF, AH, AJ, AK, AL, AM, AO, AQ, AR, AS, AT, AU, AV, AW)
International Residential Code – IRC—Mechanical (Chapters 12–23) – IRC—Plumbing (Chapters 25–33, Appendices AG, AI, AN, AP)	
International Swimming Pool and Spa Code	
International Wildland-Urban Interface Code	
International Zoning Code	

Note: Proposed changes to the ICCPC will be heard by the code development committee noted in brackets [] in the text of the ICCPC.

Marginal Markings

Solid vertical lines in the margins within the body of the code indicate a technical change from the requirements of the 2018 edition. Deletion indicators in the form of an arrow (➡) are provided in the margin where an entire section, paragraph, exception or table has been deleted or an item in a list of items or a row of a table has been deleted.

A single asterisk [*] placed in the margin indicates that text or a table has been relocated within the code. A double asterisk [**] placed in the margin indicates that the text or table immediately following it has been relocated there from elsewhere in the code. The following table indicates such relocations in the 2021 edition of the IPMC.

RELOCATIONS

2021 LOCATION	2018 LOCATION
104.1	103.5
105	104
105.7-105.7.1	103.4-103.4.1
106	105
107.2	111.1
108.1	111.2
109	106
110	112
111	108
111.4-111.6	107.1-107.4, 107.6
112	109
113	110
B101.2.2	111.8
B101.3	111.2
B101.3.2	111.2.1
B101.3.4	111.2.2
B101.3.5	111.2.4
B101.3.6	111.2.3
B101.3.7	111.2.5
B101.4	111.4.1
B101.5	111.3
B101.5.3	111.5
B101.7	111.6
B101.7.1	111.6.1
B101.8	111.7

Coordination of the International Codes

The coordination of technical provisions is one of the strengths of the ICC family of model codes. The codes can be used as a complete set of complementary documents, which will provide users with full integration and coordination of technical provisions. Individual codes can also be used in subsets or as stand-alone documents. To make sure that each individual code is as complete as possible, some technical provisions that are relevant to more than one subject area are duplicated in some of the model codes. This allows users maximum flexibility in their application of the I-Codes.

Italicized Terms

Terms italicized in code text, other than document titles, are defined in Chapter 2. The terms selected to be italicized have definitions that the user should read carefully to better understand the code. Where italicized, the Chapter 2 definition applies. If not italicized, common-use definitions apply.

Adoption

The ICC maintains a copyright in all of its codes and standards. Maintaining copyright allows the ICC to fund its mission through sales of books, in both print and electronic formats. The ICC welcomes adoption of its codes by jurisdictions that recognize and acknowledge the ICC's copyright in the code, and further acknowledge the substantial shared value of the public/private partnership for code development between jurisdictions and the ICC.

The ICC also recognizes the need for jurisdictions to make laws available to the public. All I-Codes and I-Standards, along with the laws of many jurisdictions, are available for free in a nondownloadable form on the ICC's website. Jurisdictions should contact the ICC at adoptions@iccsafe.org to learn how to adopt and distribute laws based on the IPMC in a manner that provides necessary access, while maintaining the ICC's copyright.

To facilitate adoption, several sections of this code contain blanks for fill-in information that needs to be supplied by the adopting jurisdiction as part of the adoption legislation. For this code, please see:

Section 101.1. Insert: [NAME OF JURISDICTION]

Section 103.1. Insert: [NAME OF DEPARTMENT]

Section 302.4. Insert: [HEIGHT IN INCHES]

Section 304.14. Insert: [DATES IN TWO LOCATIONS]

Section 602.3. Insert: [DATES IN TWO LOCATIONS]

Section 602.4. Insert: [DATES IN TWO LOCATIONS]

Effective Use of the International Property Maintenance Code

The IPMC is a model code that regulates the minimum maintenance requirements for existing buildings.

The IPMC is a maintenance document intended to establish minimum maintenance standards for basic equipment, light, ventilation, heating, sanitation and fire safety. Responsibility is fixed among owners, operators and occupants for code compliance. The IPMC provides for the regulation and safe use of existing structures in the interest of the social and economic welfare of the community.

ARRANGEMENT AND FORMAT OF THE 2021 IPMC

Before applying the requirements of the IPMC, it is beneficial to understand its arrangement and format. The IPMC, like other codes published by ICC, is arranged and organized to follow sequential steps that generally occur during a plan review or inspection. Below is a chapter-by-chapter synopsis of the scope and intent of the provisions of the IPMC. The following table shows how the IPMC is divided. The ensuing chapter-by-chapter synopsis details the scope and intent of the provisions of the IPMC.

Chapter Topics	
Chapter	Subjects
1	Scope and Administration
2	Definitions
3	General Requirements
4	Light, Ventilation and Occupancy Limitations
5	Plumbing Facilities and Fixture Requirements
6	Mechanical and Electrical Requirements
7	Fire Safety Requirements
8	Referenced Standards
Appendix A	Boarding Standard
Appendix B	Board of Appeals

Chapter 1 Scope and Administration

Chapter 1 contains provisions for the application, enforcement and administration of subsequent requirements of the code. In addition to establishing the scope of the code, Chapter 1 identifies which buildings and structures come under its purview. Chapter 1 is largely concerned with maintaining “due process of law” in enforcing the property maintenance criteria contained in the body of the code. Only through careful observation of the administrative provisions can the building official reasonably expect to demonstrate that “equal protection under the law” has been provided.

Chapter 2 Definitions

All terms that are defined in the code are listed alphabetically in Chapter 2. While a defined term may be used in one chapter or another, the meaning provided in Chapter 2 is applicable throughout the code.

Where understanding of a term’s definition is especially key to or necessary for understanding of a particular code provision, the term is shown in *italics*. This is true only for those terms that have a meaning that is unique to the code. In other words, the generally understood meaning of a term or phrase might not be sufficient or consistent with the meaning prescribed by the code; therefore, it is essential that the code-defined meaning be known.

Guidance is provided regarding tense, gender and plurality of defined terms as well as guidance regarding terms not defined in this code.

Chapter 3 General Requirements

Chapter 3, “General Requirements,” is broad in scope. It includes a variety of requirements for the exterior property areas as well as the interior and exterior elements of the structure. This chapter provides requirements that are intended to maintain a minimum level of safety and sanitation for both

the general public and the occupants of a structure, and to maintain a building's structural and weather-resistance performance. Chapter 3 provides specific criteria for regulating the installation and maintenance of specific building components; maintenance requirements for vacant structures and land; requirements regulating the safety, sanitation and appearance of the interior and exterior of structures and all exterior property areas; accessory structures; vehicle storage regulations and establishes who is responsible for complying with the chapter's provisions. This chapter also contains the requirements for swimming pools, spas and hot tubs and the requirements for protective barriers and gates in these barriers. Chapter 3 establishes the responsible parties for exterminating insects and rodents, and maintaining sanitary conditions in all types of occupancies.

Chapter 4 Light, Ventilation and Occupancy Limitations

The purposes of Chapter 4 are to set forth these requirements in the code and to establish the minimum environment for occupiable and habitable buildings, by establishing the minimum criteria for light and ventilation and identifying occupancy limitations including minimum room width and area, minimum ceiling height and restrictions to prevent overcrowding. This chapter also provides for alternative arrangements of windows and other devices to comply with the requirements for light and ventilation and prohibits certain room arrangements and occupancy uses.

Chapter 5 Plumbing Facilities and Fixture Requirements

Chapter 5 establishes the minimum criteria for the installation, maintenance and location of plumbing systems and facilities, including the water supply system, water heating appliances, sewage disposal system and related plumbing fixtures.

Sanitary and clean conditions in occupied buildings are dependent upon certain basic plumbing principles, including providing potable water to a building, providing the basic fixtures to effectively utilize that water and properly removing waste from the building. Chapter 5 establishes the minimum criteria to verify that these principles are maintained throughout the life of a building.

Chapter 6 Mechanical and Electrical Requirements

The purpose of Chapter 6 is to establish minimum performance requirements for heating, electrical and mechanical facilities and to establish minimum standards for the safety of these facilities.

This chapter establishes minimum criteria for the installation and maintenance of the following: heating and air-conditioning equipment, appliances and their supporting systems; water heating equipment, appliances and systems; cooking equipment and appliances; ventilation and exhaust equipment; gas and liquid fuel distribution piping and components; fireplaces and solid fuel-burning appliances; chimneys and vents; electrical services; lighting fixtures; electrical receptacle outlets; electrical distribution system equipment, devices and wiring; and elevators, escalators and dumbwaiters.

Chapter 7 Fire Safety Requirements

The purpose of Chapter 7 is to address those fire hazards that arise as the result of a building's occupancy. It also provides minimum requirements for fire safety issues that are most likely to arise in older buildings.

This chapter contains requirements for means of egress in existing buildings, including path of travel, required egress width, means of egress doors and emergency escape openings.

Chapter 8 Referenced Standards

The code contains numerous references to standards that are used to regulate materials and methods of construction. Chapter 8 contains a comprehensive list of all standards that are referenced in the code. The standards are part of the code to the extent of the reference to the standard. Compliance with the referenced standard is necessary for compliance with this code. By providing specifically adopted standards, the construction and installation requirements necessary for compliance with the code can be readily determined. The basis for code compliance is, therefore, established and available on an equal basis to the code official, contractor, designer and owner.

Chapter 8 is organized in a manner that makes it easy to locate specific standards. It lists all of the referenced standards, alphabetically, by acronym of the promulgating agency of the standard. Each agency's standards are then listed in either alphabetical or numeric order based upon the standard identification. The list also contains the title of the standard; the edition (date) of the standard referenced; any addenda included as part of the ICC adoption; and the section or sections of this code that reference the standard.

Appendix A Boarding Standard

The provisions in Appendix A are not mandatory unless specifically referenced in the adopting ordinance. This appendix provides minimum specifications for boarding a structure. This can be utilized by a jurisdiction as a set of minimum requirements in order to result in consistent boarding quality.

Appendix B Board of Appeals

The provisions contained in Appendix B are not mandatory unless specifically referenced in the adopting ordinance. This appendix provides criteria for Board of Appeals members and procedures by which the Board of Appeals should conduct its business.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER 1 SCOPE AND ADMINISTRATION .. 1-1

PART 1—SCOPE AND APPLICATION..... 1-1

Section

101 Scope and General Requirements..... 1-1

102 Applicability..... 1-1

PART 2—ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT..... 1-2

Section

103 Code Compliance Agency 1-2

104 Fees..... 1-2

105 Duties and Powers of the Code Official..... 1-2

106 Approval..... 1-3

107 Means of Appeal 1-3

108 Board of Appeals 1-3

109 Violations 1-4

110 Stop Work Order 1-4

111 Unsafe Structures and Equipment 1-4

112 Emergency Measures 1-6

113 Demolition 1-7

CHAPTER 2 DEFINITIONS 2-1

Section

201 General..... 2-1

202 General Definitions 2-1

CHAPTER 3 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS..... 3-1

Section

301 General..... 3-1

302 Exterior Property Areas 3-1

303 Swimming Pools, Spas and Hot Tubs 3-2

304 Exterior Structure..... 3-2

305 Interior Structure 3-4

306 Component Serviceability 3-4

307 Handrails and Guardrails 3-5

308 Rubbish and Garbage..... 3-5

309 Pest Elimination..... 3-6

CHAPTER 4 LIGHT, VENTILATION AND OCCUPANCY LIMITATIONS 4-1

Section

401 General..... 4-1

402 Light..... 4-1

403 Ventilation..... 4-1

404 Occupancy Limitations 4-2

CHAPTER 5 PLUMBING FACILITIES AND FIXTURE REQUIREMENTS 5-1

Section

501 General..... 5-1

502 Required Facilities..... 5-1

503 Toilet Rooms 5-1

504 Plumbing Systems and Fixtures..... 5-1

505 Water System..... 5-2

506 Sanitary Drainage System 5-2

507 Storm Drainage 5-2

CHAPTER 6 MECHANICAL AND ELECTRICAL REQUIREMENTS..... 6-1

Section

601 General..... 6-1

602 Heating Facilities..... 6-1

603 Mechanical Equipment 6-1

604 Electrical Facilities..... 6-2

605 Electrical Equipment 6-2

606 Elevators, Escalators and Dumbwaiters..... 6-3

607 Duct Systems..... 6-3

CHAPTER 7 FIRE SAFETY REQUIREMENTS... 7-1

Section

701 General..... 7-1

702 Means of Egress..... 7-1

703 Fire-resistance Ratings..... 7-1

704 Fire Protection Systems..... 7-2

705 Carbon Monoxide Alarms and Detection 7-5

CHAPTER 8 REFERENCED STANDARDS..... 8-1

TABLE OF CONTENTS

APPENDIX A BOARDING STANDARDA-1

Section

A101 GeneralA-1

A102 MaterialsA-1

A103 Installation.....A-1

A104 Referenced StandardA-1

APPENDIX B BOARD OF APPEALS.....B-1

Section

B101 GeneralB-1

INDEXINDEX-1

CHAPTER 1

SCOPE AND ADMINISTRATION

User note:

About this chapter: Chapter 1 establishes the limits of applicability of the code and describes how the code is to be applied and enforced. Chapter 1 is in two parts: Part 1—Scope and Application (Sections 101 and 102) and Part 2—Administration and Enforcement (Sections 103 – 110). Section 101 identifies which buildings and structures come under its purview and references other I-Codes as applicable.

This code is intended to be adopted as a legally enforceable document and it cannot be effective without adequate provisions for its administration and enforcement. The provisions of Chapter 1 establish the authority and duties of the code official appointed by the authority having jurisdiction and also establish the rights and privileges of the property owner and building occupants.

This Chapter was extensively reorganized for the 2021 edition. For clarity, the relocation marginal markings have not been included. For complete information, see the relocations table in the Preface information of this code.

PART 1 — SCOPE AND APPLICATION

SECTION 101 SCOPE AND GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

[A] 101.1 Title. These regulations shall be known as the *International Property Maintenance Code* of [NAME OF JURISDICTION], hereinafter referred to as "this code."

[A] 101.2 Scope. The provisions of this code shall apply to all existing residential and nonresidential structures and all existing *premises* and constitute minimum requirements and standards for *premises*, structures, equipment and facilities for light, *ventilation*, space, heating, sanitation, protection from the elements, a reasonable level of safety from fire and other hazards, and for a reasonable level of sanitary maintenance; the responsibility of *owners*, an *owner's* authorized agent, *operators* and *occupants*; the *occupancy* of existing structures and *premises*, and for administration, enforcement and penalties.

[A] 101.3 Purpose. The purpose of this code is to establish minimum requirements to provide a reasonable level of health, safety, property protection and general welfare insofar as they are affected by the continued *occupancy* and maintenance of structures and *premises*. Existing structures and *premises* that do not comply with these provisions shall be altered or repaired to provide a reasonable minimum level of health, safety and general welfare as required herein.

[A] 101.4 Severability. If a section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this code is, for any reason, held to be unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this code.

SECTION 102 APPLICABILITY

[A] 102.1 General. Where there is a conflict between a general requirement and a specific requirement, the specific requirement shall govern. Where differences occur between provisions of this code and the referenced standards, the provisions of this code shall apply. Where, in a specific case,

different sections of this code specify different requirements, the most restrictive shall govern.

102.2 Maintenance. Equipment, systems, devices and safeguards required by this code or a previous regulation or code under which the *structure* or *premises* was constructed, altered or repaired shall be maintained in good working order. An *owner*, *owner's* authorized agent, *operator* or *occupant* shall not cause any service, facility, equipment or utility that is required under this section to be removed from, shut off from or discontinued for any occupied dwelling, except for such temporary interruption as necessary while repairs or alterations are in progress. The requirements of this code are not intended to provide the basis for removal or abrogation of fire protection and safety systems and devices in existing structures. Except as otherwise specified herein, the *owner* or the *owner's* authorized agent shall be responsible for the maintenance of buildings, structures and *premises*.

[A] 102.3 Application of other codes. Repairs, additions or alterations to a *structure*, or changes of *occupancy*, shall be done in accordance with the procedures and provisions of the *International Building Code*, *International Existing Building Code*, *International Energy Conservation Code*, *International Fire Code*, *International Fuel Gas Code*, *International Mechanical Code*, *International Residential Code*, *International Plumbing Code* and NFPA 70. Nothing in this code shall be construed to cancel, modify or set aside any provision of the *International Zoning Code*.

[A] 102.4 Existing remedies. The provisions in this code shall not be construed to abolish or impair existing remedies of the jurisdiction or its officers or agencies relating to the removal or demolition of any *structure* that is dangerous, unsafe and insanitary.

[A] 102.5 Workmanship. Repairs, maintenance work, alterations or installations that are caused directly or indirectly by the enforcement of this code shall be executed and installed in a *workmanlike* manner and installed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

102.6 Structural analysis. Where structural analysis is used to determine if an unsafe structural condition exists, the analysis shall be permitted to use nominal strengths, nominal

SCOPE AND ADMINISTRATION

loads, load effects, required strengths and limit states in accordance with the requirements under which the *structure* was constructed or in accordance with any subsequent requirement.

[A] **102.7 Historic buildings.** The provisions of this code shall not be mandatory for existing buildings or structures designated as historic buildings where such buildings or structures are judged by the *code official* to be safe and in the public interest of health, safety and welfare.

[A] **102.8 Referenced codes and standards.** The codes and standards referenced in this code shall be those that are listed in Chapter 8 and considered part of the requirements of this code to the prescribed extent of each such reference and as further regulated in Sections 102.8.1 and 102.8.2.

Exception: Where enforcement of a code provision would violate the conditions of the listing of the equipment or appliance, the conditions of the listing shall apply.

[A] **102.8.1 Conflicts.** Where conflicts occur between provisions of this code and the referenced standards, the provisions of this code shall apply.

[A] **102.8.2 Provisions in referenced codes and standards.** Where the extent of the reference to a referenced code or standard includes subject matter that is within the scope of this code, the provisions of this code, as applicable, shall take precedence over the provisions in the referenced code or standard.

[A] **102.9 Requirements not covered by code.** Requirements necessary for the strength, stability or proper operation of an existing fixture, *structure* or equipment, or for the public safety, health and general welfare, not specifically covered by this code, shall be determined by the *code official*.

[A] **102.10 Application of references.** References to chapter or section numbers, or to provisions not specifically identified by number, shall be construed to refer to such chapter, section or provision of this code.

[A] **102.11 Other laws.** The provisions of this code shall not be deemed to nullify any provisions of local, state or federal law.

PART 2 — ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT

SECTION 103 CODE COMPLIANCE AGENCY

[A] **103.1 Creation of agency.** The [INSERT NAME OF DEPARTMENT] is hereby created and the official in charge thereof shall be known as the *code official*. The function of the agency shall be the implementation, administration and enforcement of the provisions of this code.

[A] **103.2 Appointment.** The *code official* shall be appointed by the chief appointing authority of the jurisdiction.

[A] **103.3 Deputies.** In accordance with the prescribed procedures of this jurisdiction and with the concurrence of

the appointing authority, the *code official* shall have the authority to appoint a deputy *code official*, other related technical officers, inspectors and other employees. Such employees shall have powers as delegated by the *code official*.

SECTION 104 FEES

[A] **104.1 Fees.** The fees for activities and services performed by the department in carrying out its responsibilities under this code shall be as established by the applicable governing authority.

104.2 Refunds. The *code official* is authorized to establish a refund policy.

SECTION 105 DUTIES AND POWERS OF THE CODE OFFICIAL

[A] **105.1 General.** The *code official* is hereby authorized and directed to enforce the provisions of this code. The *code official* shall have the authority to render interpretations of this code and to adopt policies and procedures in order to clarify the application of its provisions. Such interpretations, policies and procedures shall be in compliance with the intent and purpose of this code. Such policies and procedures shall not have the effect of waiving requirements specifically provided for in this code.

[A] **105.2 Inspections.** The *code official* shall make all of the required inspections, or shall accept reports of inspection by *approved* agencies or individuals. Reports of such inspections shall be in writing and be certified by a responsible officer of such *approved* agency or by the responsible individual. The *code official* is authorized to engage such expert opinion as deemed necessary to report on unusual technical issues that arise, subject to the approval of the appointing authority.

[A] **105.3 Right of entry.** Where it is necessary to make an inspection to enforce the provisions of this code, or whenever the *code official* has reasonable cause to believe that there exists in a *structure* or upon a *premises* a condition in violation of this code, the *code official* is authorized to enter the *structure* or *premises* at reasonable times to inspect or perform the duties imposed by this code, provided that if such *structure* or *premises* is occupied the *code official* shall present credentials to the *occupant* and request entry. If such *structure* or *premises* is unoccupied, the *code official* shall first make a reasonable effort to locate the *owner*, *owner's* authorized agent or other person having charge or control of the *structure* or *premises* and request entry. If entry is refused, the *code official* shall have recourse to the remedies provided by law to secure entry.

[A] **105.4 Identification.** The *code official* shall carry proper identification when inspecting *structures* or *premises* in the performance of duties under this code.

[A] **105.5 Notices and orders.** The *code official* shall issue all necessary notices or orders to ensure compliance with this code.

SCOPE AND ADMINISTRATION

[A] **105.6 Department records.** The *code official* shall keep official records of all business and activities of the department specified in the provisions of this code. Such records shall be retained in the official records for the period required for retention of public records.

[A] **105.7 Liability.** The *code official*, member of the board of appeals or employee charged with the enforcement of this code, while acting for the jurisdiction, in good faith and without malice in the discharge of the duties required by this code or other pertinent law or ordinance, shall not thereby be rendered civilly or criminally liable personally, and is hereby relieved from all personal liability for any damage accruing to persons or property as a result of an act or by reason of an act or omission in the discharge of official duties.

[A] **105.7.1 Legal defense.** Any suit or criminal complaint instituted against any officer or employee because of an act performed by that officer or employee in the lawful discharge of duties and under the provisions of this code shall be defended by the legal representative of the jurisdiction until the final termination of the proceedings. The *code official* or any subordinate shall not be liable for costs in an action, suit or proceeding that is instituted in pursuance of the provisions of this code.

SECTION 106 APPROVAL

[A] **106.1 Modifications.** Whenever there are practical difficulties involved in carrying out the provisions of this code, the *code official* shall have the authority to grant modifications for individual cases upon application of the *owner* or *owner's* authorized agent, provided that the *code official* shall first find that special individual reason makes the strict letter of this code impractical, the modification is in compliance with the intent and purpose of this code and that such modification does not lessen health, life and fire safety requirements. The details of action granting modifications shall be recorded and entered in the department files.

[A] **106.2 Alternative materials, design and methods of construction and equipment.** The provisions of this code are not intended to prevent the installation of any material or to prohibit any design or method of construction not specifically prescribed by this code, provided that any such alternative has been *approved*. An alternative material, design or method of construction shall be *approved* where the *code official* finds that the proposed design is satisfactory and complies with the intent of the provisions of this code, and that the material, method or work offered is, for the purpose intended, not less than the equivalent of that prescribed in this code in quality, strength, effectiveness, fire resistance, durability and safety. Where the alternative material, design or method of construction is not *approved*, the *code official* shall respond in writing, stating the reasons why the alternative was not *approved*.

[A] **106.3 Required testing.** Whenever there is insufficient evidence of compliance with the provisions of this code or evidence that a material or method does not conform to the requirements of this code, or in order to substantiate claims

for alternative materials or methods, the *code official* shall have the authority to require tests to be made as evidence of compliance without expense to the jurisdiction.

[A] **106.3.1 Test methods.** Test methods shall be as specified in this code or by other recognized test standards. In the absence of recognized and accepted test methods, the *code official* shall be permitted to approve appropriate testing procedures performed by an *approved agency*.

[A] **106.3.2 Test reports.** Reports of tests shall be retained by the *code official* for the period required for retention of public records.

[A] **106.4 Used material and equipment.** Materials that are reused shall comply with the requirements of this code for new materials. Materials, equipment and devices shall not be reused unless such elements are in good repair or have been reconditioned and tested where necessary, placed in good and proper working condition and *approved* by the *code official*.

[A] **106.5 Approved materials and equipment.** Materials, equipment and devices *approved* by the *code official* shall be constructed and installed in accordance with such approval.

[A] **106.6 Research reports.** Supporting data, where necessary to assist in the approval of materials or assemblies not specifically provided for in this code, shall consist of valid research reports from *approved sources*.

SECTION 107 MEANS OF APPEAL

107.1 General. In order to hear and decide appeals of orders, decisions or determinations made by the *code official* relative to the application and interpretation of this code, there shall be and is hereby created a board of appeals. The board of appeals shall be appointed by the applicable governing authority and shall hold office at its pleasure. The board shall adopt rules of procedure for conducting its business and shall render all decisions and findings in writing to the appellant with a duplicate copy to the *code official*.

[A] **107.2 Limitations of authority.** An application for appeal shall be based on a claim that the true intent of this code or the rules legally adopted thereunder have been incorrectly interpreted, the provisions of this code do not fully apply or an equivalent or better form of construction is proposed. The board shall not have authority to waive requirements of this code or interpret the administration of this code.

107.3 Qualifications. The board of appeals shall consist of members who are qualified by experience and training and are not employees of the jurisdiction.

107.4 Administration. The *code official* shall take immediate action in accordance with the decision of the board.

SECTION 108 BOARD OF APPEALS

[A] **108.1 Membership of board.** The board of appeals shall consist of not less than three members who are qualified by

SCOPE AND ADMINISTRATION

experience and training to pass on matters pertaining to property maintenance and who are not employees of the jurisdiction. The *code official* shall be an ex-officio member but shall not vote on any matter before the board. The board shall be appointed by the chief appointing authority, and shall serve staggered and overlapping terms.

SECTION 109
VIOLATIONS

[A] 109.1 **Unlawful acts.** It shall be unlawful for a person, firm or corporation to be in conflict with or in violation of any of the provisions of this code.

[A] 109.2 **Notice of violation.** The *code official* shall serve a notice of violation or order in accordance with Section 111.4.

[A] 109.3 **Prosecution of violation.** Any person failing to comply with a notice of violation or order served in accordance with Section 111.4 shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor or civil infraction as determined by the local municipality, and the violation shall be deemed a *strict liability offense*. If the notice of violation is not complied with, the *code official* shall institute the appropriate proceeding at law or in equity to restrain, correct or abate such violation, or to require the removal or termination of the unlawful *occupancy* of the *structure* in violation of the provisions of this code or of the order or direction made pursuant thereto. Any action taken by the authority having jurisdiction on such *premises* shall be charged against the real estate upon which the *structure* is located and shall be a lien upon such real estate.

[A] 109.4 **Violation penalties.** Any person who shall violate a provision of this code, or fail to comply therewith, or with any of the requirements thereof, shall be prosecuted within the limits provided by state or local laws. Each day that a violation continues after due notice has been served shall be deemed a separate offense.

[A] 109.5 **Abatement of violation.** The imposition of the penalties herein prescribed shall not preclude the legal officer of the jurisdiction from instituting appropriate action to restrain, correct or abate a violation, or to prevent illegal *occupancy* of a building, *structure* or *premises*, or to stop an illegal act, conduct, business or utilization of the building, *structure* or *premises*.

SECTION 110
STOP WORK ORDER

[A] 110.1 **Authority.** Where the *code official* finds any work regulated by this code being performed in a manner contrary to the provisions of this code or in a dangerous or unsafe manner, the *code official* is authorized to issue a stop work order.

[A] 110.2 **Issuance.** The stop work order shall be in writing and shall be given to the *owner* of the property, to the *owner's* authorized agent, or to the person performing the work. Upon issuance of a stop work order, the cited work shall immediately cease. The stop work order shall state the

reason for the order and the conditions under which the cited work is authorized to resume.

[A] 110.3 **Emergencies.** Where an emergency exists, the *code official* shall not be required to give a written notice prior to stopping the work.

[A] 110.4 **Failure to comply.** Any person who shall continue any work after having been served with a stop work order, except such work as that person is directed to perform to remove a violation or unsafe condition, shall be subject to fines established by the authority having jurisdiction.

SECTION 111
UNSAFE STRUCTURES AND EQUIPMENT

111.1 **Unsafe conditions.** When a *structure* or equipment is found by the *code official* to be unsafe, or when a *structure* is found unfit for human *occupancy*, or is found unlawful, such *structure* shall be *condemned* pursuant to the provisions of this code.

111.1.1 **Unsafe structures.** An unsafe *structure* is one that is found to be dangerous to the life, health, property or safety of the public or the *occupants* of the *structure* by not providing minimum safeguards to protect or warn *occupants* in the event of fire, or because such *structure* contains unsafe equipment or is so damaged, decayed, dilapidated, structurally unsafe or of such faulty construction or unstable foundation, that partial or complete collapse is possible.

111.1.2 **Unsafe equipment.** Unsafe equipment includes any boiler, heating equipment, elevator, moving stairway, electrical wiring or device, flammable liquid containers or other equipment on the *premises* or within the *structure* that is in such disrepair or condition that such equipment is a hazard to life, health, property or safety of the public or *occupants* of the *premises* or *structure*.

111.1.3 **Structure unfit for human occupancy.** A *structure* is unfit for human *occupancy* whenever the *code official* finds that such *structure* is unsafe, unlawful or, because of the degree to which the *structure* is in disrepair or lacks maintenance, is insanitary, vermin or rat infested, contains filth and contamination, or lacks *ventilation*, illumination, sanitary or heating facilities or other essential equipment required by this code, or because the location of the *structure* constitutes a hazard to the *occupants* of the *structure* or to the public.

111.1.4 **Unlawful structure.** An unlawful *structure* is one found in whole or in part to be occupied by more persons than permitted under this code, or was erected, altered or occupied contrary to law.

111.1.5 **Dangerous structure or premises.** For the purpose of this code, any *structure* or *premises* that has any or all of the conditions or defects described as follows shall be considered to be dangerous:

1. Any door, aisle, passageway, stairway, exit or other means of egress that does not conform to the *approved* building or fire code of the jurisdiction

SCOPE AND ADMINISTRATION

as related to the requirements for existing buildings.

2. The walking surface of any aisle, passageway, stairway, exit or other means of egress is so warped, worn loose, torn or otherwise unsafe as to not provide safe and adequate means of egress.
3. Any portion of a building, *structure* or appurtenance that has been damaged by fire, earthquake, wind, flood, *deterioration*, *neglect*, abandonment, vandalism or by any other cause to such an extent that it is likely to partially or completely collapse, or to become *detached* or dislodged.
4. Any portion of a building, or any member, appurtenance or ornamentation on the exterior thereof that is not of sufficient strength or stability, or is not so *anchored*, attached or fastened in place so as to be capable of resisting natural or artificial loads of one and one-half the original designed value.
5. The building or *structure*, or part of the building or *structure*, because of dilapidation, *deterioration*, decay, faulty construction, the removal or movement of some portion of the ground necessary for the support, or for any other reason, is likely to partially or completely collapse, or some portion of the foundation or underpinning of the building or *structure* is likely to fail or give way.
6. The building or *structure*, or any portion thereof, is clearly unsafe for its use and *occupancy*.
7. The building or *structure* is *neglected*, damaged, dilapidated, unsecured or abandoned so as to become an attractive nuisance to children who might play in the building or *structure* to their danger, becomes a harbor for vagrants, criminals or immoral persons, or enables persons to resort to the building or *structure* for committing a nuisance or an unlawful act.
8. Any building or *structure* has been constructed, exists or is maintained in violation of any specific requirement or prohibition applicable to such building or *structure* provided by the *approved* building or fire code of the jurisdiction, or of any law or ordinance to such an extent as to present either a substantial risk of fire, building collapse or any other threat to life and safety.
9. A building or *structure*, used or intended to be used for dwelling purposes, because of inadequate maintenance, dilapidation, decay, damage, faulty construction or arrangement, inadequate light, *ventilation*, mechanical or plumbing system, or otherwise, is determined by the *code official* to be unsanitary, unfit for human habitation or in such a condition that is likely to cause sickness or disease.
10. Any building or *structure*, because of a lack of sufficient or proper fire-resistance-rated construction, fire protection systems, electrical system, fuel connections, mechanical system, plumbing

system or other cause, is determined by the *code official* to be a threat to life or health.

11. Any portion of a building remains on a site after the demolition or destruction of the building or *structure* or whenever any building or *structure* is abandoned so as to constitute such building or portion thereof as an attractive nuisance or hazard to the public.

111.2 Closing of vacant structures. If the *structure* is vacant and unfit for human habitation and *occupancy*, and is not in danger of structural collapse, the *code official* is authorized to post a placard of condemnation on the *premises* and order the *structure* closed up so as not to be an attractive nuisance. Upon failure of the *owner* or *owner's* authorized agent to close up the *premises* within the time specified in the order, the *code official* shall cause the *premises* to be closed and secured through any available public agency or by contract or arrangement by private persons and the cost thereof shall be charged against the real estate upon which the *structure* is located and shall be a lien upon such real estate and shall be collected by any other legal resource.

111.2.1 Authority to disconnect service utilities. The *code official* shall have the authority to authorize disconnection of utility service to the building, *structure* or system regulated by this code and the referenced codes and standards set forth in Section 102.8 in case of emergency where necessary to eliminate an immediate hazard to life or property or where such utility connection has been made without approval. The *code official* shall notify the serving utility and, whenever possible, the *owner* or *owner's* authorized agent and *occupant* of the building, *structure* or service system of the decision to disconnect prior to taking such action. If not notified prior to disconnection the *owner*, *owner's* authorized agent or *occupant* of the building *structure* or service system shall be notified in writing as soon as practical thereafter.

111.3 Record. The *code official* shall cause a report to be filed on an unsafe condition. The report shall state the *occupancy* of the *structure* and the nature of the unsafe condition.

111.4 Notice. Whenever the *code official* determines that there has been a violation of this code or has grounds to believe that a violation has occurred, notice shall be given in the manner prescribed in Sections 111.4.1 and 111.4.2 to the *owner* or the *owner's* authorized agent, for the violation as specified in this code. Notices for condemnation procedures shall comply with this section.

111.4.1 Form. Such notice shall be in accordance with all of the following:

1. Be in writing.
2. Include a description of the real estate sufficient for identification.
3. Include a statement of the violation or violations and why the notice is being issued.
4. Include a correction order allowing a reasonable time to make the repairs and improvements required to bring the *dwelling unit* or *structure* into compliance with the provisions of this code.

SCOPE AND ADMINISTRATION

5. Inform the property *owner* or *owner's* authorized agent of the right to appeal.
6. Include a statement of the right to file a lien in accordance with Section 109.3.

111.4.2 Method of service. Such notice shall be deemed to be properly served where a copy thereof is served in accordance with one of the following methods:

1. A copy is delivered personally.
2. A copy is sent by certified or registered mail addressed to the owner at the last known address with the return receipt requested.
3. A copy is delivered in any other manner as prescribed by local law.

If the certified or registered letter is returned showing that the letter was not delivered, a copy thereof shall be posted in a conspicuous place in or about the structure affected by such notice. Service of such notice in the foregoing manner upon the owner's agent or upon the person responsible for the structure shall constitute service of notice upon the owner.

111.5 Unauthorized tampering. Signs, tags or seals posted or affixed by the *code official* shall not be mutilated, destroyed or tampered with, or removed without authorization from the *code official*.

111.6 Transfer of ownership. It shall be unlawful for the *owner* of any *dwelling unit* or *structure* who has received a compliance order or upon whom a notice of violation has been served to sell, transfer, mortgage, lease or otherwise dispose of such *dwelling unit* or *structure* to another until the provisions of the compliance order or notice of violation have been complied with, or until such *owner* or the *owner's* authorized agent shall first furnish the grantee, transferee, mortgagee or lessee a true copy of any compliance order or notice of violation issued by the *code official* and shall furnish to the *code official* a signed and notarized statement from the grantee, transferee, mortgagee or lessee, acknowledging the receipt of such compliance order or notice of violation and fully accepting the responsibility without condition for making the corrections or repairs required by such compliance order or notice of violation.

111.7 Placarding. Upon failure of the *owner*, *owner's* authorized agent or person responsible to comply with the notice provisions within the time given, the *code official* shall post on the *premises* or on defective equipment a placard bearing the word "Condemned" and a statement of the penalties provided for occupying the *premises*, operating the equipment or removing the placard. Such notice shall be posted in a conspicuous place in or about the structure affected by such notice. If the notice pertains to equipment, it shall be placed on the condemned equipment.

111.7.1 Placard removal. The *code official* shall remove the condemnation placard whenever the defect or defects upon which the condemnation and placarding action were based have been eliminated. Any person who defaces or removes a condemnation placard without the approval of the *code official* shall be subject to the penalties provided by this code.

111.8 Prohibited occupancy. Any occupied *structure* condemned and placarded by the *code official* shall be vacated as ordered by the *code official*. Any person who shall occupy a placarded *premises* or shall operate placarded equipment, and any *owner* or *owner's* authorized agent who shall let anyone occupy a placarded *premises* or operate placarded equipment shall be liable for the penalties provided by this code.

111.9 Restoration or abatement. The structure or equipment determined to be unsafe by the *code official* is permitted to be restored to a safe condition. The *owner*, *owner's* authorized agent, *operator* or *occupant* of a structure, *premises* or equipment deemed unsafe by the *code official* shall abate or cause to be abated or corrected such unsafe conditions either by repair, rehabilitation, demolition or other *approved* corrective action. To the extent that repairs, alterations, or additions are made or a change of occupancy occurs during the restoration of the structure, such repairs, alterations, additions, or change of occupancy shall comply with the requirements of the *International Existing Building Code*.

SECTION 112 EMERGENCY MEASURES

112.1 Imminent danger. When, in the opinion of the *code official*, there is *imminent danger* of failure or collapse of a building or *structure* that endangers life, or when any *structure* or part of a *structure* has fallen and life is endangered by the occupation of the *structure*, or when there is actual or potential danger to the building *occupants* or those in the proximity of any *structure* because of explosives, explosive fumes or vapors or the presence of toxic fumes, gases or materials, or operation of defective or dangerous equipment, the *code official* is hereby authorized and empowered to order and require the *occupants* to vacate the *premises* forthwith. The *code official* shall cause to be posted at each entrance to such *structure* a notice reading as follows: "This Structure Is Unsafe and Its Occupancy Has Been Prohibited by the Code Official." It shall be unlawful for any person to enter such *structure* except for the purpose of securing the structure, making the required repairs, removing the hazardous condition or of demolishing the same.

112.2 Temporary safeguards. Notwithstanding other provisions of this code, whenever, in the opinion of the *code official*, there is *imminent danger* due to an unsafe condition, the *code official* shall order the necessary work to be done, including the boarding up of openings, to render such *structure* temporarily safe whether or not the legal procedure herein described has been instituted; and shall cause such other action to be taken as the *code official* deems necessary to meet such emergency.

112.3 Closing streets. When necessary for public safety, the *code official* shall temporarily close structures and close, or order the authority having jurisdiction to close, sidewalks, streets, *public ways* and places adjacent to unsafe structures, and prohibit the same from being utilized.

SCOPE AND ADMINISTRATION

112.4 Emergency repairs. For the purposes of this section, the *code official* shall employ the necessary labor and materials to perform the required work as expeditiously as possible.

112.5 Costs of emergency repairs. Costs incurred in the performance of emergency work shall be paid by the jurisdiction. The legal counsel of the jurisdiction shall institute appropriate action against the *owner* of the *premises* or *owner's* authorized agent where the unsafe *structure* is or was located for the recovery of such costs.

112.6 Hearing. Any person ordered to take emergency measures shall comply with such order forthwith. Any affected person shall thereafter, upon petition directed to the appeals board, be afforded a hearing as described in this code.

SECTION 113 DEMOLITION

113.1 General. The *code official* shall order the *owner* or *owner's* authorized agent of any *premises* upon which is located any *structure*, which in the *code official's* or *owner's* authorized agent judgment after review is so deteriorated or dilapidated or has become so out of repair as to be dangerous, unsafe, insanitary or otherwise unfit for human habitation or *occupancy*, and such that it is unreasonable to repair the *structure*, to demolish and remove such *structure*; or if such *structure* is capable of being made safe by repairs, to repair and make safe and sanitary, or to board up and hold for future repair or to demolish and remove at the *owner's* option; or where there has been a cessation of normal construction of any *structure* for a period of more than two years, the *code official* shall order the *owner* or *owner's* authorized agent to demolish and remove such *structure*, or board up until future repair. Boarding the building up for future repair shall not extend beyond one year, unless *approved* by the building official.

113.2 Notices and orders. Notices and orders shall comply with Section 111.4.

113.3 Failure to comply. If the *owner* of a *premises* or *owner's* authorized agent fails to comply with a demolition order within the time prescribed, the *code official* shall cause the *structure* to be demolished and removed, either through an available public agency or by contract or arrangement with private persons, and the cost of such demolition and removal shall be charged against the real estate upon which the *structure* is located and shall be a lien upon such real estate.

113.4 Salvage materials. Where any *structure* has been ordered demolished and removed, the governing body or other designated officer under said contract or arrangement aforesaid shall have the right to sell the salvage and valuable materials. The net proceeds of such sale, after deducting the expenses of such demolition and removal, shall be promptly remitted with a report of such sale or transaction, including the items of expense and the amounts deducted, for the person who is entitled thereto, subject to any order of a court. If such a surplus does not remain to be turned over, the report shall so state.

CHAPTER 2

DEFINITIONS

User note:

About this chapter: Codes, by their very nature, are technical documents. Every word, term and punctuation mark can add to or change the meaning of a technical requirement. It is necessary to maintain a consensus on the specific meaning of each term contained in the code. Chapter 2 performs this function by stating clearly what specific terms mean for the purpose of the code.

SECTION 201 GENERAL

201.1 Scope. Unless otherwise expressly stated, the following terms shall, for the purposes of this code, have the meanings shown in this chapter.

201.2 Interchangeability. Words stated in the present tense include the future; words stated in the masculine gender include the feminine and neuter; the singular number includes the plural and the plural, the singular.

201.3 Terms defined in other codes. Where terms are not defined in this code and are defined in the *International Building Code*, *International Existing Building Code*, *International Fire Code*, *International Fuel Gas Code*, *International Mechanical Code*, *International Plumbing Code*, *International Residential Code*, *International Zoning Code* or *NFPA 70*, such terms shall have the meanings ascribed to them as stated in those codes.

Exception: When used within this code, the terms unsafe and dangerous shall have only the meanings ascribed to them in this code and shall not have the meanings ascribed to them by the *International Existing Building Code*.

201.4 Terms not defined. Where terms are not defined through the methods authorized by this section, such terms shall have ordinarily accepted meanings such as the context implies.

201.5 Parts. Whenever the words “dwelling unit,” “dwelling,” “premises,” “building,” “rooming house,” “rooming unit,” “housekeeping unit” or “story” are stated in this code, they shall be construed as though they were followed by the words “or any part thereof.”

SECTION 202 GENERAL DEFINITIONS

ANCHORED. Secured in a manner that provides positive connection.

[A] APPROVED. Acceptable to the *code official*.

BASEMENT. That portion of a building that is partly or completely below grade.

BATHROOM. A room containing plumbing fixtures including a bathtub or shower.

BEDROOM. Any room or space used or intended to be used for sleeping purposes in either a dwelling or *sleeping unit*.

[A] CODE OFFICIAL. The official who is charged with the administration and enforcement of this code, or any duly authorized representative.

CONDEMN. To adjudge unfit for *occupancy*.

COST OF SUCH DEMOLITION OR EMERGENCY REPAIRS. The costs shall include the actual costs of the demolition or repair of the *structure* less revenues obtained if salvage was conducted prior to demolition or repair. Costs shall include, but not be limited to, expenses incurred or necessitated related to demolition or emergency repairs, such as asbestos survey and abatement if necessary; costs of inspectors, testing agencies or experts retained relative to the demolition or emergency repairs; costs of testing; surveys for other materials that are controlled or regulated from being dumped in a landfill; title searches; mailing(s); postings; recording; and attorney fees expended for recovering of the cost of emergency repairs or to obtain or enforce an order of demolition made by a *code official*, the governing body or board of appeals.

DETACHED. When a structural element is physically disconnected from another and that connection is necessary to provide a positive connection.

DETERIORATION. To weaken, disintegrate, corrode, rust or decay and lose effectiveness.

[A] DWELLING UNIT. A single unit providing complete, independent living facilities for one or more persons, including permanent provisions for living, sleeping, eating, cooking and sanitation.

[Z] EASEMENT. That portion of land or property reserved for present or future use by a person or agency other than the legal fee *owner(s)* of the property. The *easement* shall be permitted to be for use under, on or above said lot or lots.

EMERGENCY ESCAPE AND RESCUE OPENING. An operable exterior window, door or other similar device that provides for a means of escape and access for rescue in the event of an emergency.

EQUIPMENT SUPPORT. Those structural members or assemblies of members or manufactured elements, including braces, frames, lugs, snuggers, hangers or saddles, that transmit gravity load, lateral load and operating load between the equipment and the *structure*.

EXTERIOR PROPERTY. The open space on the *premises* and on adjoining property under the control of *owners* or *operators* of such *premises*.

DEFINITIONS

GARBAGE. The animal or vegetable waste resulting from the handling, preparation, cooking and consumption of food.

[BE] GUARD. A building component or a system of building components located at or near the open sides of elevated walking surfaces that minimizes the possibility of a fall from the walking surface to a lower level.

[BG] HABITABLE SPACE. Space in a *structure* for living, sleeping, eating or cooking. *Bathrooms, toilet rooms, closets, halls, storage or utility spaces, and similar areas* are not considered *habitable spaces*.

[A] HISTORIC BUILDING. Any building or *structure* that is one or more of the following:

1. Listed or certified as eligible for listing, by the State Historic Preservation Officer or the Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places, in the National Register of Historic Places.
2. Designated as historic under an applicable state or local law.
3. Certified as a contributing resource within a National Register or state or locally designated historic district.

HOUSEKEEPING UNIT. A room or group of rooms forming a single *habitable space* equipped and intended to be used for living, sleeping, cooking and eating that does not contain, within such a unit, a toilet, lavatory and bathtub or shower.

IMMINENT DANGER. A condition that could cause serious or life-threatening injury or death at any time.

INFESTATION. The presence, within or contiguous to, a *structure* or *premises* of insects, rodents, vermin or other pests.

INOPERABLE MOTOR VEHICLE. A vehicle that cannot be driven upon the public streets for reason including but not limited to being unlicensed, wrecked, abandoned, in a state of disrepair, or incapable of being moved under its own power.

[A] LABELED. Equipment, materials or products to which have been affixed a label, seal, symbol or other identifying mark of a nationally recognized testing laboratory, *approved* agency or other organization concerned with product evaluation that maintains periodic inspection of the production of the above-*labeled* items and whose labeling indicates either that the equipment, material or product meets identified standards or has been tested and found suitable for a specified purpose.

LET FOR OCCUPANCY or LET. To permit, provide or offer possession or *occupancy* of a dwelling, *dwelling unit, rooming unit, building, premise or structure* by a person who is or is not the legal *owner* of record thereof, pursuant to a written or unwritten lease, agreement or license, or pursuant to a recorded or unrecorded agreement of contract for the sale of land.

NEGLECT. The lack of proper maintenance for a building or *structure*.

[A] OCCUPANCY. The purpose for which a building or portion thereof is utilized or occupied.

OCCUPANT. Any individual living or sleeping in a building, or having possession of a space within a building.

OPENABLE AREA. That part of a window, skylight or door which is available for unobstructed *ventilation* and which opens directly to the outdoors.

OPERATOR. Any person who has charge, care or control of a *structure* or *premises* that is let or offered for *occupancy*.

[A] OWNER. Any person, agent, *operator*, firm or corporation having legal or equitable interest in the property; or recorded in the official records of the state, county or municipality as holding title to the property; or otherwise having control of the property, including the guardian of the estate of any such person, and the executor or administrator of the estate of such person if ordered to take possession of real property by a court.

[A] PERSON. An individual, corporation, partnership or any other group acting as a unit.

PEST ELIMINATION. The control and elimination of insects, rodents or other pests by eliminating their harborage places; by removing or making inaccessible materials that serve as their food or water; by other *approved pest elimination* methods.

[A] PREMISES. A lot, plot or parcel of land, *easement* or *public way*, including any structures thereon.

[A] PUBLIC WAY. Any street, alley or other parcel of land that: is open to the outside air; leads to a street; has been deeded, dedicated or otherwise permanently appropriated to the public for public use; and has a clear width and height of not less than 10 feet (3048 mm).

ROOMING HOUSE. A building arranged or occupied for lodging, with or without meals, for compensation and not occupied as a one- or two-family dwelling.

ROOMING UNIT. Any room or group of rooms forming a single habitable unit occupied or intended to be occupied for sleeping or living, but not for cooking purposes.

RUBBISH. Combustible and noncombustible waste materials, except garbage; the term shall include the residue from the burning of wood, coal, coke and other combustible materials, paper, rags, cartons, boxes, wood, excelsior, rubber, leather, tree branches, *yard* trimmings, tin cans, metals, mineral matter, glass, crockery and dust and other similar materials.

[A] SLEEPING UNIT. A room or space in which people sleep, which can also include permanent provisions for living, eating and either sanitation or kitchen facilities, but not both. Such rooms and spaces that are also part of a *dwelling unit* are not *sleeping units*.

STRICT LIABILITY OFFENSE. An offense in which the prosecution in a legal proceeding is not required to prove criminal intent as a part of its case. It is enough to prove that the defendant either did an act which was prohibited, or failed to do an act which the defendant was legally required to do.

[A] STRUCTURE. That which is built or constructed.

DEFINITIONS

TENANT. A person, corporation, partnership or group, whether or not the legal *owner* of record, occupying a building or portion thereof as a unit.

TOILET ROOM. A room containing a water closet or urinal but not a bathtub or shower.

ULTIMATE DEFORMATION. The deformation at which failure occurs and that shall be deemed to occur if the sustainable load reduces to 80 percent or less of the maximum strength.

[M] VENTILATION. The natural or mechanical process of supplying conditioned or unconditioned air to, or removing such air from, any space.

WORKMANLIKE. Executed in a skilled manner; e.g., generally plumb, level, square, in line, undamaged and without marring adjacent work.

[Z] YARD. An open space on the same lot with a *structure*.

CHAPTER 3

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

User note:

About this chapter: Chapter 3 is broad in scope and includes a variety of requirements for the maintenance of exterior property areas, as well as the interior and exterior elements of the structure, that are intended to maintain a minimum level of safety and sanitation for both the general public and the occupants of a structure, and to maintain a building's structural and weather-resistance performance. Specifically, Chapter 3 contains criteria for the maintenance of building components; vacant structures and land; the safety, sanitation and appearance of the interior and exterior of structures and all exterior property areas; accessory structures; extermination of insects and rodents; access barriers to swimming pools, spas and hot tubs; vehicle storage and owner/occupant responsibilities.

SECTION 301 GENERAL

301.1 Scope. The provisions of this chapter shall govern the minimum conditions and the responsibilities of persons for maintenance of structures, equipment and *exterior property*.

301.2 Responsibility. The *owner* of the *premises* shall maintain the structures and *exterior property* in compliance with these requirements, except as otherwise provided for in this code. A person shall not occupy as *owner-occupant* or permit another person to occupy *premises* that are not in a sanitary and safe condition and that do not comply with the requirements of this chapter. *Occupants* of a *dwelling unit, rooming unit or housekeeping unit* are responsible for keeping in a clean, sanitary and safe condition that part of the *dwelling unit, rooming unit, housekeeping unit or premises* they occupy and control.

301.3 Vacant structures and land. Vacant structures and *premises* thereof or vacant land shall be maintained in a clean, safe, secure and sanitary condition as provided herein so as not to cause a blighting problem or adversely affect the public health or safety.

SECTION 302 EXTERIOR PROPERTY AREAS

302.1 Sanitation. *Exterior property* and *premises* shall be maintained in a clean, safe and sanitary condition. The *occupant* shall keep that part of the *exterior property* that such *occupant* occupies or controls in a clean and sanitary condition.

302.2 Grading and drainage. *Premises* shall be graded and maintained to prevent the erosion of soil and to prevent the accumulation of stagnant water thereon, or within any *structure* located thereon.

Exception: *Approved* retention areas and reservoirs.

302.3 Sidewalks and driveways. Sidewalks, walkways, stairs, driveways, parking spaces and similar areas shall be kept in a proper state of repair, and maintained free from hazardous conditions.

302.4 Weeds. *Premises* and *exterior property* shall be maintained free from weeds or plant growth in excess of [JURISDICTION TO INSERT HEIGHT IN INCHES]. Noxious

weeds shall be prohibited. Weeds shall be defined as all grasses, annual plants and vegetation, other than trees or shrubs provided; however, this term shall not include cultivated flowers and gardens.

Upon failure of the *owner* or agent having charge of a property to cut and destroy weeds after service of a notice of violation, they shall be subject to prosecution in accordance with Section 108.3 and as prescribed by the authority having jurisdiction. Upon failure to comply with the notice of violation, any duly authorized employee of the jurisdiction or contractor hired by the jurisdiction shall be authorized to enter upon the property in violation and cut and destroy the weeds growing thereon, and the costs of such removal shall be paid by the *owner* or agent responsible for the property.

302.5 Rodent harborage. Structures and *exterior property* shall be kept free from rodent harborage and *infestation*. Where rodents are found, they shall be promptly exterminated by *approved* processes that will not be injurious to human health. After *pest elimination*, proper precautions shall be taken to eliminate rodent harborage and prevent reinfestation.

302.6 Exhaust vents. Pipes, ducts, conductors, fans or blowers shall not discharge gases, steam, vapor, hot air, grease, smoke, odors or other gaseous or particulate wastes directly on abutting or adjacent public or private property or that of another *tenant*.

302.7 Accessory structures. Accessory structures, including detached garages, fences and walls, shall be maintained structurally sound and in good repair.

302.8 Motor vehicles. Except as provided for in other regulations, inoperative or unlicensed motor vehicles shall not be parked, kept or stored on any *premises*, and vehicles shall not at any time be in a state of major disassembly, disrepair, or in the process of being stripped or dismantled. Painting of vehicles is prohibited unless conducted inside an *approved* spray booth.

Exception: A vehicle of any type is permitted to undergo major overhaul, including body work, provided that such work is performed inside a *structure* or similarly enclosed area designed and *approved* for such purposes.

302.9 Defacement of property. A person shall not willfully or wantonly damage, mutilate or deface any exterior surface

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

of any *structure* or building on any private or public property by placing thereon any marking, carving or graffiti.

It shall be the responsibility of the *owner* to restore said surface to an *approved* state of maintenance and repair.

SECTION 303 SWIMMING POOLS, SPAS AND HOT TUBS

303.1 Swimming pools. Swimming pools shall be maintained in a clean and sanitary condition, and in good repair.

303.2 Enclosures. Private swimming pools, hot tubs and spas, containing water more than 24 inches (610 mm) in depth shall be completely surrounded by a fence or barrier not less than 48 inches (1219 mm) in height above the finished ground level measured on the side of the barrier away from the pool. Gates and doors in such barriers shall be self-closing and self-latching. Where the self-latching device is less than 54 inches (1372 mm) above the bottom of the gate, the release mechanism shall be located on the pool side of the gate. Self-closing and self-latching gates shall be maintained such that the gate will positively close and latch when released from an open position of 6 inches (152 mm) from the gatepost. An existing pool enclosure shall not be removed, replaced or changed in a manner that reduces its effectiveness as a safety barrier.

Exception: Spas or hot tubs with a safety cover that complies with ASTM F1346 shall be exempt from the provisions of this section.

SECTION 304 EXTERIOR STRUCTURE

304.1 General. The exterior of a *structure* shall be maintained in good repair, structurally sound and sanitary so as not to pose a threat to the public health, safety or welfare.

304.1.1 Unsafe conditions. The following conditions shall be determined as unsafe and shall be repaired or replaced to comply with the *International Building Code* or the *International Existing Building Code* as required for existing buildings:

1. The nominal strength of any structural member is exceeded by nominal loads, the load effects or the required strength.
2. The *anchorage* of the floor or roof to walls or columns, and of walls and columns to foundations is not capable of resisting all nominal loads or load effects.
3. Structures or components thereof that have reached their limit state.
4. Siding and masonry joints including joints between the building envelope and the perimeter of windows, doors and skylights are not maintained, weather resistant or water tight.
5. Structural members that have evidence of *deterioration* or that are not capable of safely supporting all nominal loads and load effects.

6. Foundation systems that are not firmly supported by footings, are not plumb and free from open cracks and breaks, are not properly *anchored* or are not capable of supporting all nominal loads and resisting all load effects.
7. Exterior walls that are not *anchored* to supporting and supported elements or are not plumb and free of holes, cracks or breaks and loose or rotting materials, are not properly *anchored* or are not capable of supporting all nominal loads and resisting all load effects.
8. Roofing or roofing components that have defects that admit rain, roof surfaces with inadequate drainage, or any portion of the roof framing that is not in good repair with signs of *deterioration*, fatigue or without proper anchorage and incapable of supporting all nominal loads and resisting all load effects.
9. Flooring and flooring components with defects that affect serviceability or flooring components that show signs of *deterioration* or fatigue, are not properly *anchored* or are incapable of supporting all nominal loads and resisting all load effects.
10. Veneer, cornices, belt courses, corbels, trim, wall facings and similar decorative features not properly *anchored* or that are *anchored* with connections not capable of supporting all nominal loads and resisting all load effects.
11. Overhang extensions or projections including, but not limited to, trash chutes, canopies, marquees, signs, awnings, fire escapes, standpipes and exhaust ducts not properly *anchored* or that are *anchored* with connections not capable of supporting all nominal loads and resisting all load effects.
12. Exterior stairs, decks, porches, balconies and all similar appurtenances attached thereto, including *guards* and handrails, are not structurally sound, not properly *anchored* or that are *anchored* with connections not capable of supporting all nominal loads and resisting all load effects.
13. Chimneys, cooling towers, smokestacks and similar appurtenances not structurally sound or not properly *anchored*, or that are *anchored* with connections not capable of supporting all nominal loads and resisting all load effects.

Exceptions:

1. Where substantiated otherwise by an *approved* method.
2. Demolition of unsafe conditions shall be permitted where *approved* by the *code official*.

304.2 Protective treatment. Exterior surfaces, including but not limited to, doors, door and window frames, cornices, porches, trim, balconies, decks and fences, shall be maintained in good condition. Exterior wood surfaces, other than decay-resistant woods, shall be protected from the elements and decay by painting or other protective covering or treat-

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

ment. Peeling, flaking and chipped paint shall be eliminated and surfaces repainted. Siding and masonry joints, as well as those between the building envelope and the perimeter of windows, doors and skylights, shall be maintained weather resistant and water tight. Metal surfaces subject to rust or corrosion shall be coated to inhibit such rust and corrosion, and surfaces with rust or corrosion shall be stabilized and coated to inhibit future rust and corrosion. Oxidation stains shall be removed from exterior surfaces. Surfaces designed for stabilization by oxidation are exempt from this requirement.

[F] 304.3 Premises identification. Buildings shall have *approved* address numbers placed in a position to be plainly legible and visible from the street or road fronting the property. These numbers shall contrast with their background. Address numbers shall be Arabic numerals or alphabet letters. Numbers shall be not less than 4 inches (102 mm) in height with a minimum stroke width of 0.5 inch (12.7 mm).

304.4 Structural members. Structural members shall be maintained free from *deterioration*, and shall be capable of safely supporting the imposed dead and live loads.

304.5 Foundation walls. Foundation walls shall be maintained plumb and free from open cracks and breaks and shall be kept in such condition so as to prevent the entry of rodents and other pests.

304.6 Exterior walls. Exterior walls shall be free from holes, breaks, and loose or rotting materials; and maintained weatherproof and properly surface coated where required to prevent *deterioration*.

304.7 Roofs and drainage. The roof and flashing shall be sound, tight and not have defects that admit rain. Roof drainage shall be adequate to prevent dampness or *deterioration* in the walls or interior portion of the *structure*. Roof drains, gutters and downspouts shall be maintained in good repair and free from obstructions. Roof water shall not be discharged in a manner that creates a public nuisance.

304.8 Decorative features. Cornices, belt courses, corbels, terra cotta trim, wall facings and similar decorative features shall be maintained in good repair with proper *anchorage* and in a safe condition.

304.9 Overhang extensions. Overhang extensions including, but not limited to, canopies, marquees, signs, metal awnings, fire escapes, standpipes and exhaust ducts shall be maintained in good repair and be properly *anchored* so as to be kept in a sound condition. Where required, all exposed surfaces of metal or wood shall be protected from the elements and against decay or rust by periodic application of weather-coating materials, such as paint or similar surface treatment.

304.10 Stairways, decks, porches and balconies. Every exterior stairway, deck, porch and balcony, and all appurtenances attached thereto, shall be maintained structurally sound, in good repair, with proper *anchorage* and capable of supporting the imposed loads.

304.11 Chimneys and towers. Chimneys, cooling towers, smoke stacks, and similar appurtenances shall be maintained structurally safe and sound, and in good repair. Exposed

surfaces of metal or wood shall be protected from the elements and against decay or rust by periodic application of weather-coating materials, such as paint or similar surface treatment.

304.12 Handrails and guards. Every handrail and *guard* shall be firmly fastened and capable of supporting normally imposed loads and shall be maintained in good condition.

304.13 Window, skylight and door frames. Every window, skylight, door and frame shall be kept in sound condition, good repair and weather tight.

304.13.1 Glazing. Glazing materials shall be maintained free from cracks and holes.

304.13.2 Openable windows. Every window, other than a fixed window, shall be easily openable and capable of being held in position by window hardware.

304.14 Insect screens. During the period from [DATE] to [DATE], every door, window and other outside opening required for *ventilation* of habitable rooms, food preparation areas, food service areas or any areas where products to be included or utilized in food for human consumption are processed, manufactured, packaged or stored shall be supplied with *approved* tightly fitting screens of minimum 16 mesh per inch (16 mesh per 25 mm), and every screen door used for insect control shall have a self-closing device in good working condition.

Exception: Screens shall not be required where other *approved* means, such as air curtains or insect repellent fans, are employed.

304.15 Doors. Exterior doors, door assemblies, operator systems if provided, and hardware shall be maintained in good condition. Locks at all entrances to *dwelling units* and sleeping units shall tightly secure the door. Locks on means of egress doors shall be in accordance with Section 702.3.

304.16 Basement hatchways. Every *basement* hatchway shall be maintained to prevent the entrance of rodents, rain and surface drainage water.

304.17 Guards for basement windows. Every *basement* window that is openable shall be supplied with rodent shields, storm windows or other *approved* protection against the entry of rodents.

304.18 Building security. Doors, windows or hatchways for *dwelling units*, room units or *housekeeping units* shall be provided with devices designed to provide security for the *occupants* and property within.

304.18.1 Doors. Doors providing access to a *dwelling unit*, *rooming unit* or *housekeeping unit* that is rented, leased or let shall be equipped with a deadbolt lock designed to be readily openable from the side from which egress is to be made without the need for keys, special knowledge or effort and shall have a minimum lock throw of 1 inch (25 mm). Such deadbolt locks shall be installed according to the manufacturer's specifications and maintained in good working order. For the purpose of this section, a sliding bolt shall not be considered an acceptable deadbolt lock.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

304.18.2 Windows. Operable windows located in whole or in part within 6 feet (1828 mm) above ground level or a walking surface below that provide access to a *dwelling unit, rooming unit* or *housekeeping unit* that is rented, leased or let shall be equipped with a window sash locking device.

304.18.3 Basement hatchways. *Basement* hatchways that provide access to a *dwelling unit, rooming unit* or *housekeeping unit* that is rented, leased or let shall be equipped with devices that secure the units from unauthorized entry.

304.19 Gates. Exterior gates, gate assemblies, operator systems if provided, and hardware shall be maintained in good condition. Latches at all entrances shall tightly secure the gates.

SECTION 305 INTERIOR STRUCTURE

305.1 General. The interior of a *structure* and equipment therein shall be maintained in good repair, structurally sound and in a sanitary condition. *Occupants* shall keep that part of the *structure* that they occupy or control in a clean and sanitary condition. Every *owner* of a *structure* containing a *rooming house, housekeeping units, a hotel, a dormitory, two or more dwelling units* or two or more nonresidential *occupancies*, shall maintain, in a clean and sanitary condition, the shared or public areas of the *structure* and *exterior property*.

305.1.1 Unsafe conditions. The following conditions shall be determined as unsafe and shall be repaired or replaced to comply with the *International Building Code* or the *International Existing Building Code* as required for existing buildings:

1. The nominal strength of any structural member is exceeded by nominal loads, the load effects or the required strength.
2. The anchorage of the floor or roof to walls or columns, and of walls and columns to foundations is not capable of resisting all nominal loads or load effects.
3. Structures or components thereof that have reached their limit state.
4. Structural members are incapable of supporting nominal loads and load effects.
5. Stairs, landings, balconies and all similar walking surfaces, including *guards* and handrails, are not structurally sound, not properly *anchored* or are *anchored* with connections not capable of supporting all nominal loads and resisting all load effects.
6. Foundation systems that are not firmly supported by footings are not plumb and free from open cracks and breaks, are not properly *anchored* or are not capable of supporting all nominal loads and resisting all load effects.

Exceptions:

1. Where substantiated otherwise by an *approved* method.
2. Demolition of unsafe conditions shall be permitted where *approved* by the *code official*.

305.2 Structural members. Structural members shall be maintained structurally sound, and be capable of supporting the imposed loads.

305.3 Interior surfaces. Interior surfaces, including windows and doors, shall be maintained in good, clean and sanitary condition. Peeling, chipping, flaking or abraded paint shall be repaired, removed or covered. Cracked or loose plaster, decayed wood and other defective surface conditions shall be corrected.

305.4 Stairs and walking surfaces. Every stair, ramp, landing, balcony, porch, deck or other walking surface shall be maintained in sound condition and good repair.

305.5 Handrails and guards. Every handrail and *guard* shall be firmly fastened and capable of supporting normally imposed loads and shall be maintained in good condition.

305.6 Interior doors. Every interior door shall fit reasonably well within its frame and shall be capable of being opened and closed by being properly and securely attached to jambs, headers or tracks as intended by the manufacturer of the attachment hardware.

SECTION 306 COMPONENT SERVICEABILITY

306.1 General. The components of a *structure* and equipment therein shall be maintained in good repair, structurally sound and in a sanitary condition.

306.1.1 Unsafe conditions. Where any of the following conditions cause the component or system to be beyond its limit state, the component or system shall be determined as unsafe and shall be repaired or replaced to comply with the *International Building Code* or the *International Existing Building Code* as required for existing buildings:

1. Soils that have been subjected to any of the following conditions:
 - 1.1. Collapse of footing or foundation system.
 - 1.2. Damage to footing, foundation, concrete or other structural element due to soil expansion.
 - 1.3. Adverse effects to the design strength of footing, foundation, concrete or other structural element due to a chemical reaction from the soil.
 - 1.4. Inadequate soil as determined by a geotechnical investigation.
 - 1.5. Where the allowable bearing capacity of the soil is in doubt.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

- 1.6. Adverse effects to the footing, foundation, concrete or other structural element due to the ground water table.
2. Concrete that has been subjected to any of the following conditions:
 - 2.1. *Deterioration.*
 - 2.2. *Ultimate deformation.*
 - 2.3. Fractures.
 - 2.4. Fissures.
 - 2.5. Spalling.
 - 2.6. Exposed reinforcement.
 - 2.7. *Detached*, dislodged or failing connections.
3. Aluminum that has been subjected to any of the following conditions:
 - 3.1. *Deterioration.*
 - 3.2. Corrosion.
 - 3.3. Elastic deformation.
 - 3.4. *Ultimate deformation.*
 - 3.5. Stress or strain cracks.
 - 3.6. Joint fatigue.
 - 3.7. *Detached*, dislodged or failing connections.
4. Masonry that has been subjected to any of the following conditions:
 - 4.1. *Deterioration.*
 - 4.2. *Ultimate deformation.*
 - 4.3. Fractures in masonry or mortar joints.
 - 4.4. Fissures in masonry or mortar joints.
 - 4.5. Spalling.
 - 4.6. Exposed reinforcement.
 - 4.7. *Detached*, dislodged or failing connections.
5. Steel that has been subjected to any of the following conditions:
 - 5.1. *Deterioration.*
 - 5.2. Elastic deformation.
 - 5.3. *Ultimate deformation.*
 - 5.4. Metal fatigue.
 - 5.5. *Detached*, dislodged or failing connections.
6. Wood that has been subjected to any of the following conditions:
 - 6.1. Ultimate deformation.
 - 6.2. Deterioration.
 - 6.3. Damage from insects, rodents and other vermin.
 - 6.4. Fire damage beyond charring.
 - 6.5. Significant splits and checks.
 - 6.6. Horizontal shear cracks.
 - 6.7. Vertical shear cracks.
 - 6.8. Inadequate support.
 - 6.9. *Detached*, dislodged or failing connections.

6.10. Excessive cutting and notching.

Exceptions:

1. Where substantiated otherwise by an *approved* method.
2. Demolition of unsafe conditions shall be permitted where *approved* by the *code official*.

SECTION 307 HANDRAILS AND GUARDRAILS

307.1 General. Every exterior and interior flight of stairs having more than four risers shall have a handrail on one side of the stair and every open portion of a stair, landing, balcony, porch, deck, ramp or other walking surface that is more than 30 inches (762 mm) above the floor or grade below shall have *guards*. Handrails shall be not less than 30 inches (762 mm) in height or more than 42 inches (1067 mm) in height measured vertically above the nosing of the tread or above the finished floor of the landing or walking surfaces. *Guards* shall be not less than 30 inches (762 mm) in height above the floor of the landing, balcony, porch, deck, or ramp or other walking surface.

Exception: *Guards* shall not be required where exempted by the adopted building code.

SECTION 308 RUBBISH AND GARBAGE

308.1 Accumulation of rubbish or garbage. *Exterior property* and *premises*, and the interior of every *structure*, shall be free from any accumulation of *rubbish* or garbage.

308.2 Disposal of rubbish. Every *occupant* of a *structure* shall dispose of all *rubbish* in a clean and sanitary manner by placing such *rubbish* in *approved* containers.

308.2.1 Rubbish storage facilities. The *owner* of every occupied *premises* shall supply *approved* covered containers for *rubbish*, and the *owner* of the *premises* shall be responsible for the removal of *rubbish*.

308.2.2 Refrigerators. Refrigerators and similar equipment not in operation shall not be discarded, abandoned or stored on *premises* without first removing the doors.

308.3 Disposal of garbage. Every *occupant* of a *structure* shall dispose of garbage in a clean and sanitary manner by placing such garbage in an *approved* garbage disposal facility or *approved* garbage containers.

308.3.1 Garbage facilities. The *owner* of every dwelling shall supply one of the following: an *approved* mechanical food waste grinder in each *dwelling unit*; an *approved* incinerator unit in the *structure* available to the *occupants* in each *dwelling unit*; or an *approved* leakproof, covered, outside garbage container.

308.3.2 Containers. The *operator* of every establishment producing garbage shall provide, and at all times cause to be utilized, *approved* leakproof containers provided with close-fitting covers for the storage of such materials until removed from the *premises* for disposal.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

SECTION 309
PEST ELIMINATION

309.1 Infestation. Structures shall be kept free from insect and rodent *infestation*. Structures in which insects or rodents are found shall be promptly exterminated by *approved* processes that will not be injurious to human health. After *pest elimination*, proper precautions shall be taken to prevent reinfestation.

309.2 Owner. The *owner* of any *structure* shall be responsible for *pest elimination* within the *structure* prior to renting or leasing the *structure*.

309.3 Single occupant. The *occupant* of a one-family dwelling or of a *single-tenant* nonresidential *structure* shall be responsible for *pest elimination* on the *premises*.

309.4 Multiple occupancy. The *owner* of a *structure* containing two or more *dwelling units*, a multiple *occupancy*, a *rooming house* or a nonresidential *structure* shall be responsible for *pest elimination* in the public or shared areas of the *structure* and *exterior property*. If *infestation* is caused by failure of an *occupant* to prevent such *infestation* in the area occupied, the *occupant* and *owner* shall be responsible for *pest elimination*.

309.5 Occupant. The *occupant* of any *structure* shall be responsible for the continued rodent and pest-free condition of the *structure*.

Exception: Where the *infestations* are caused by defects in the *structure*, the *owner* shall be responsible for *pest elimination*.