

New Topic(s): None to report. Good news...no significant changes State or Federal

On Going Topics – updates in Bold:

- WI Plumbing Code: DSPS currently revising Plumbing code. There are only two non-healthcare items on the agenda. In the future there will be a red line copy of the code. Stay tuned for future Public Comment and Hearing...we encourage anyone interested to participate in the review period. **With the Fall election, we don't expect much action on this in the near term.**
- IBC Updates: IBC/ICC/IMC (International Building Code, International Code Council, International Mechanical Code) will be updated to 2021 Edition. FYI...2015 IBC was effective starting May 1, 2018 throughout Wisconsin. The hope of the 2021 is to increase alignment with the LSC 101 2021 edition (not this is not adopted code yet) e.g. the increase in smoke zone size from 22,500 to 40,000 sq. ft. **Have knowledge and Interest in the ICC? Please consider joining the Code Committee**
- DHS Preliminary Project Meetings (PPM): Department continues to promote Preliminary Project Meetings (PPM). The design team facilitates the meeting logistics and stakeholder invitations. Emphasis is to review the project scope, schedule, and unique design features. During the Preliminary Project Meeting is an excellent time to discuss the level and extent of inspections. Inspections are not required by state statute nor administrative code, hence the Department's ability to continue to provide inspections yet on a lower frequency. Prioritization remains on federal survey and state level plan reviews. Once the Department is fully staffed, the number of inspections should return to their prior levels.
- FGI - 2021 editions: Public proposal period has ended. Anticipate publication in April 2022. The soonest TJC would adopt might be 1/1/23. No other info on adoption e.g. CMS or other AO's.
- CMS 1135 Waiver: Predicated upon a State of Emergency - federal AND state. Facilities need to plan now if, how they will convert permanently or close their Interim Provisions to meet Physical Environment (WI Commercial Building Code, Life Safety code, and DHS 124 / DHS 132, etc). Federal emergency expanded to January, 2022 **and expected to end for hospitals on 10/31/22. This has expired for LTC, inpatient hospice, ESRD, and ICF/IID facilities on 6/8/22.**
- Antifreeze Sprinkler Systems – refer also to 2022 1st Quarter WHEA Newsletter article. Regarding existing antifreeze sprinkler system, by September 30, 2022, NFPA recommends existing antifreeze solutions must be replaced by other means of freeze protection. Note: CMS is permitting existing antifreeze systems to remain in place if the facility evaluates the risk and properly inspects, maintains, and tests the system per NFPA 25. Please check with your local AHJ's for their requirements on this topic. A solution of a water and an active antifreeze ingredient is flooded into wet pipe systems to keep the water from freezing. Thus, when the proportion of the active ingredients near a sprinkler becomes too high relative to water, an antifreeze solution can serve as fuel for a fire when the sprinkler discharges. This caused the NFPA to issue TIA's (Tentative Interim Amendments - NFPA 13 TIA 10-1 and 10-2, which you can read about here: https://www.nfpa.org/Assets/files/AboutTheCodes/13/FD10-8-15_10-8-20D10-10TIAs_NFPA13-13D-13R.pdf) for NFPA 13 and TIA's (11-1, 11-2, 11-3, and 11-4 which you can read about here: https://www.nfpa.org/Assets/files/AboutTheCodes/25/FD12-3-8D12-2_antifreeze.pdf) for NFPA 25. This is where the directive came from. You can also read about the current requirements here: <https://www.nfpa.org/antifreeze>. There are multiple solutions to the current anti-freeze challenge. Your fire protection contractor can guide you to the right solution for your facility. **This won't be cited by DHS OPRI if system is inspected and tested per NFPA 25 2011. CMS okay on this until the code is changed.**
- **NFPA 101 and 99 – 2023 Editions. 2023 Technical Meeting - Las Vegas Jun 18-21, 2023 and we need WHEA representation. If interested contact Jeff Eckstein**
- **Carbon – limiting carbon in healthcare may be coming. It may be regulated and tied to reimbursement. Stay tuned.**