

**MEMO**

**To all Contractors**

**2009 International Code Adoption**

**As of January 1, 2011 the City of Weiser will be using the 2009 International codes as adopted by the State of Idaho along with the following amendments.**

**Idaho Amendments to the International Building and Energy Codes**

Effective 1 January 2011

**International Residential Code, 2009 Edition (IDAPA 07.03.01)**

a. Delete IRC section R109.1.3 and replace with the following: Floodplain inspections. For construction in areas prone to flooding as established by Table R301.2(1), upon placement of the lowest floor, including basement, the building official is authorized to require submission of documentation of the elevation of the lowest floor, including basement, required in section R322. (3-29-10)

b. IRC Table R302.1 Exterior Walls -- delete the figures contained in the last column of the table under the heading Minimum Fire Separation Distance, and replace with the following:

<b>Minimum Fire Separation Distance</b>
Walls (fire-resistance rated): < Three (3) Feet
Walls (not fire-resistance rated): ≥ Three (3) Feet
Projections (fire-resistance rated): < Three (3) Feet
Projections (not fire-resistance rated): ≥ Three (3) Feet

c. Delete the exception contained under IRC section R302.2 -- Townhouses, and replace with the following: Exception: A common one-hour or two-hour fire resistance rated wall assembly tested in accordance with ASTM E 119 or UL 263 is permitted for townhouses if such walls do not contain plumbing or mechanical equipment, ducts or vents in the cavity of the common wall. The wall shall be rated for fire exposure from both sides and shall extend to and be tight against the exterior walls and the underside of the roof sheathing. Penetrations of electrical outlet boxes shall be in accordance with section R302.4.

d. Delete the exception contained under IRC section R313.1 -- Townhouse automatic fire sprinkler systems, and replace with the following: Exception: Automatic residential fire sprinkler systems shall not be required in townhouses where a two-hour fire-resistance rated wall is installed between dwelling units or when additions or alterations are made to existing townhouses that do not have an automatic residential fire sprinkler system installed.

e. Delete IRC section R313.2.

f. Delete IRC section R322.1.10.

g. Delete IRC section R322.2.2 paragraph 2.2, and replace with the following: The total net area of all openings shall be at least one (1) square inch (645 mm<sup>2</sup>) for each square foot (0.093 m<sup>2</sup>) of enclosed area, or the opening shall be designed and the construction documents shall include a statement that the design and installation of the openings will provide for equalization of hydrostatic flood forces on exterior walls by allowing the automatic entry and exit of floodwaters. (3-29-10)

All single family homes and multiple family dwellings up to two (2) units are exempted from the provisions of the International Fire Code, the International Building Code and the International Residential Code that require such dwellings to have automatic fire sprinkler systems installed. Nothing prevents any person from voluntarily installing an automatic fire sprinkler system in any residential dwelling. [Idaho Code § 39-4116(3)]

Sincerely  
Paul W. Meadows  
Building Inspector  
City of Weiser