Seminar: Proposed amendments to the 2018 International Building Code

The topic of the 2019 Fall Seminar is proposed Minnesota amendments to the 2018 International Building Code and changes to the Minnesota Accessibility Code. The seminar will take place in October 2019 at locations throughout Minnesota. Presenters for the seminar are Greg Metz, Karen Gridley and Tim Manz, DLI.

Continuing education
Building officials will receive six hours of continuing education credit for attendance.

More information and register
When the dates and locations of the seminar are finalized, they will be posted at https://secure.doli.state.mn.us/events/.

Questions?
Contact Tim Manz at timothy.manz@state.mn.us or 651-284-5590.

DLI begins adoption of 2018 I-Codes
Rule drafts are being finalized for the amendments to several of the 2018 I-Codes. On June 24, the department will begin the formal process to adopt the 2018 edition of the International Existing Building Code by publishing a Dual Notice in the State Register. Dual Notices for other I-Codes being adopted will be published throughout the summer and fall.

When the Dual Notice is published in the State Register, the proposed amendments to the I-Code and the Statement of Need and Reasonableness explaining those amendments will be posted on the rulemaking docket at www.dli.mn.gov/about-department/rulemaking/construction-codes-and-licensing-rulemaking.

Submit comments
DLI accepts comments about the adoption of the I-Codes and proposed amendments. Submit comments about a code or rule by sending an email to dli.rules@state.mn.us. Include the rule chapter number or I-Code in the subject line.

Subscribe for updates
Sign-up to receive updates about rule proceedings, including when Dual Notices are published, at www.dli.mn.gov/about-department/rulemaking/construction-codes-and-licensing-rulemaking.

Find code requirements with Local Code Lookup
Visit our one-stop “Local Code Lookup” at http://workplace.doli.state.mn.us/jurisdiction – to find local code requirements and code inspectors in one place.

The online search tool helps users find which code authority has local jurisdiction for permits, plan review and inspections. It also lists contact information for inspectors throughout Minnesota.
Schedule of board and council meetings

Below is a schedule of board and council meetings supported by CCLD. Visit www.dli.mn.gov/about-department/boards-and-councils to view meeting minutes, agendas, rulemaking documents and schedules for these meetings and additional boards and councils.

Board of Electricity
- July 9, 2019
- Oct. 8, 2019

Board of High-Pressure Piping
- July 11, 2019
- Oct. 10, 2019

Construction Codes Advisory Council
- July 18, 2019
- Oct. 2, 2019 (tentative)
- Dec. 19, 2019 (tentative)

Plumbing Board
- July 16, 2019
- Oct. 15, 2019

Electrical, HPP permits moving to new system

A new system to make requesting online electrical and high pressure piping permits easier for users will launch in fall 2019.

Individuals will be required to create a new account to request electrical and high pressure piping permits once the new system launches. DLI’s current permit program – eTrakiT – will stop working for electrical and high pressure piping permits in fall 2019.

Existing permit data will migrate, so any work in-progress will be available and completed in the new system.

Questions?
Contact us at iMS.support.dli@state.mn.us.

CCLD Review is a quarterly publication of the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry.

Receive email notification when an issue is available by subscribing online.

Contact information

CCLD main contact info
Phone: 651-284-5012
Toll-free: 1-800-657-3944
Fax: 651-284-5746

Visit the Contact Us page

Licensing information
DLI.License@state.mn.us
Business/contractor licenses and bonds: 651-284-5034
(Including: electrical, HPP, plumbing, residential, manufactured structures, mechanical bonds, technology system, water conditioning)

Personal licenses and certificates: 651-284-5031
(Including: boiler engineers, electricians, plumbers, power limited technicians, pipefitters, unlicensed individuals, building officials)

Electrical information
Phone: 651-284-5026
Fax: 651-284-5746
DLI.Electricity@state.mn.us

Boiler, high-pressure piping, boats-for-hire inspection
Phone: 651-284-5544
Fax: 651-284-5746
DLI.Code@state.mn.us

Plumbing information
Phone: 651-284-5063
Fax: 651-284-5746
DLI.Plumbing@state.mn.us

License enforcement details
Phone: 651-284-5069
Fax: 651-284-5746
DLI.Contractor@state.mn.us

Contractor registration
Phone: 651-284-5074
DLI.register@state.mn.us
Contractor receives record $250,000 fine

- A licensed residential building contractor in Albertville, Minnesota, was found to have engaged in multiple acts of financial irresponsibility, performed in breach of contract and failed to complete work for numerous homeowners. The contractor’s license was revoked, and the company was ordered to cease and desist from acting or holding itself out as a residential building contractor. The contractor was fined $250,000 – the largest fine ever levied by DLI.

- A licensed electrical contractor in Dalton, Minnesota, failed to ensure that all requests for electrical inspection were filed prior to starting electrical work. The contractor was censured and fined $10,000, of which $8,000 was stayed contingent on future compliance.

- A business owner from Crosby, Minnesota, was found to have engaged in unlicensed plumbing work. The individual was ordered to cease and desist from performing plumbing work and fined $3,500, of which $3,000 was stayed contingent on future compliance.

- An unlicensed contractor from Madelia, Minnesota, was found to have engaged in unlicensed electrical and residential building contractor work. The contractor was ordered to cease and desist from engaging in the unlicensed activity and fined $7,500.

More information
View summaries of enforcement actions at www.dli.mn.gov/workers/homeowners/file-complaint. For questions about contractors or enforcement actions, contact us at 651-284-5069 or dli.contractor@state.mn.us.

Planning to hire a contractor? Make sure they’re licensed
Before hiring a contractor, visit our consumer web page for steps to take before signing a contract. Some of the topics include how to select a contractor, how to solicit bids, what to include in a contract and how to file a complaint against a contractor. View more information at www.dli.mn.gov/workers/homeowners.

Stay in touch with DLI news

Stay up-to-date with DLI by signing up for newsletters and email lists. Some of the topics include:

- building officials
- permit technician news
- labor standards
- rulemaking
- workers’ compensation
- prevailing wage
- apprenticeship
- and more.

Sign up at www.dli.mn.gov/about-department/news-and-media/sign-news-department-labor-and-industry
Changes to licensing rules affect plumbers, water conditioners

To enhance the professionalism of the plumbing industry, the Minnesota Plumbing Board was successful in seeking several changes to the state plumber licensing rules. The changes became effective May 6, 2019.

**Continuing education for registered unlicensed plumbers**

Registered unlicensed plumbers must complete two hours of DLI-approved continuing education related to the Plumbing Code each year prior to the renewal of their unlicensed registration. Although this requirement is now in Minnesota rules, registered unlicensed plumbers will not be required to report their two hours of continuing education until 2020. Courses may be completed in a classroom setting or online. View a directory of approved continuing education courses at https://secure.doli.state.mn.us/ccldcecourses/.

**No restriction for online continuing education courses**

Licensed plumbers may now complete all of their required continuing education online. Previously, plumbers were limited to four hours of online courses.

Of the 16 hours that licensed plumbers (master plumber, journeyworker plumber and restricted plumber) must complete every two years, at least eight hours must pertain to the State Plumbing Code and the rest of the hours must pertain to the Plumbing Code, technical topics related to plumbing installations and equipment, Minnesota Rules chapter 326B, the Minnesota State Building Code, or Minnesota Statutes sections 326B.41 to 326B.59. Previously, at least 12 hours had to pertain to the Plumbing Code.

**Journeyworker to master**

Plumbers seeking a master plumber license must now hold a journeyworker plumber license for at least one year before applying to take the master plumber exam.

**Unlicensed water conditioners must register**

Unlicensed individuals who perform water conditioning work must now register with DLI as a registered unlicensed water conditioner. Unlicensed water conditioner registrations expire June 30 of each year. Beginning June 30, 2020, unlicensed water conditioners must complete two hours of DLI-approved continuing education with at least one hour pertaining to the Plumbing Code prior to renewing their registration. The initial registration fee is $14 and the renewal fee is $19.

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**Unlicensed plumbers: Renew your registration by June 30**

Registrations for unlicensed plumbers expire June 30, 2019. Renew your registration soon to ensure you can continue performing plumbing work.

Visit https://secure.doli.state.mn.us/license/Default.aspx to renew online. Don’t forget to submit your work experience for the past year. Visit www.dli.mn.gov/workers/plumber/registered-unlicensed-plumbers for more information.

Questions? Contact us at dli.license@state.mn.us or 651-284-5031.
Questions and answers about the Minnesota Plumbing Code

What is the minimum number of required plumbing fixtures for constructing a single-family home?

The Minnesota Residential Code and the Minnesota Plumbing Code require at least one flushing toilet, one lavatory, one kitchen sink and one bathtub or shower for basic sanitation and human habitation. Fixtures must be provided with an approved and adequate supply of potable running water piped to meet the requirements of the Minnesota Plumbing Code. Hot water must be provided for bathing, cooking, laundry and washing purposes. These requirements apply to homes constructed anywhere in the state, including areas that have not adopted the Minnesota State Building Code.

Can a homeowner install a composting toilet inside their home?

No. A home must have a flushing toilet that meets the requirements of the Minnesota Plumbing Code. A composting toilet is not a code-approved plumbing fixture and may not be installed in a home or any building. Sewage, human excrement and other liquid waste must be disposed through an approved drainage system installed and maintained in accordance with the Minnesota Plumbing Code.

What is required to install a pedicure spa tub in a salon?

A pedicure spa tub is considered a plumbing fixture that must meet the requirements of the Minnesota Plumbing Code. Pedicure spa tubs must be directly connected to the drainage system, be drained by gravity, be trapped and vented like any other plumbing fixture. To prevent the spread of diseases through water retention in the components of the pedicure spa tub between users, the code requires each spa tub meet the general requirements and water retention requirements of ANSI/ASME Standard A112.19.7 or IAPMO IGC 155. Fixture faucet and fittings with integral backflow prevention must meet ASME Standard A112.18.1-2005 and the listing requirements, or additional code-approved backflow protection for high hazard must be met to protect the potable water supply.


Licensed facilities do not qualify for plumbing ‘minor remodel’

To improve the process of handling small plumbing projects that include five or fewer fixtures, DLI recently created a “minor remodel” category of projects that do not require submission of plumbing plans.

This process only applies to certain types of non-licensed facilities. If an establishment has a license or will receive a license from the Minnesota Department of Agricultural, Minnesota Department of Health, Minnesota Department of Corrections or any local health departments, a plumbing plan must be submitted to DLI for review. Examples of licensed facilities that do not qualify for the minor remodel:

- convenience stores
- gas stations with food and beverage service
- restaurants
- continental breakfast areas
- bars
- coffee shops
- water bottling facilities
- food manufacturing facilities
- grocery stores
- hospitals
- nursing homes
- supervised living facilities
- and other types of licensed facilities

More information