



# TRANSITIONING FROM 2009 MRC TO THE 2015 MRC

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# OBJECTIVES

- ▶ \* Identify the key difference between the 2009 MRC, 2012 IRC and the 2015 MRC.
- ▶ \* Explain the differences between the current and previous editions.

# WELCOME

- ▶ \* Introduction of presenters.
- \* Bill Benoit, building inspector/plan examiner for the Charter Township of Cascade.
- \* Mark Lesperance, with GreenEdge of Michigan.

# R105.2 FENCES EXEMPT FROM PERMITS

- ▶ \* Fences up to 7' high are exempt from permit requirements.

## R301.2.1.1.1 SUNROOMS

- ▶ \* The 2015 MRC required sunrooms to comply with AAMA/NPEA/NSA 2100-12. The standard contains requirements for habitable and non-habitable sunrooms.

# R301.3 STORY HEIGHT

- ▶ \* Story height of wood and steel wall framing, insulated concrete and SIP walls may not exceed 11' 7". Masonry wall height is limited to 13' 7".

## R303.7 & R303.8

- ▶ \* Interior and exterior stairway illumination provisions have been placed in separate sections. Conflicting language has been removed to clarify the requirements.

# R304.1 MINIMUM HABITABLE ROOM AREA

- ▶ \* The requirement for one habitable room with a minimum floor area of 120sf has been removed from the code.

# R305 CEILING HEIGHTS

- ▶ \* The minimum ceiling height for bathrooms, toilet rooms, and laundry rooms has been reduced to 6' 8". The exception for allowing beams, girders, ducts or other obstructions to project to within 6' 4" of the finished floor has been expanded to include basement with habitable space.

# R310 EMERGENCY ESCAPE AND RESCUE OPENINGS

- ▶ \* The emergency escape and rescue openings provisions have been reorganized. Separate provisions spell out the requirements for windows and doors used for emergency escape and rescue.

## R310.2.3.2 DRAINAGE

- ▶ \* Except for locations with well-drained soils, window wells serving emergency escape and rescue openings now require a means to drain surface water to the foundation drainage system.

# R310.5 & R310.6 EMERGENCY ESCAPE AND RESCUE OPENING FOR ADDITIONS, ALTERATIONS AND REPAIRS

- ▶ \* The basement of a dwelling addition does not require an emergency escape and rescue opening if there is access to a basement that does have an emergency escape and rescue opening. Remodeling of an existing basement does not trigger the emergency escape and rescue opening requirements unless a new bedroom is created.

# R311.7.6 LANDING FOR STAIRWAYS

- ▶ \* For a turn in a stairway, the MRC no specifically permits angular and curved stair landing with certain dimensions less than 36" if the prescribed depth is provided at the walk line and minimum area criteria are satisfied. The maximum vertical rise requirement of 12' has been moved from the exception to a new Section R311.7.3.

## R312.1.2 GUARD HEIGHT

- ▶ \* The provision requiring that the guard height be measured from the surface of adjacent fixed seating has been removed from the code.

# WINDOW FALL PROTECTION

## 2012 IRC

- ▶ R312.2
- ▶ \* The provisions for window fall protections have been relocated from Chapter 6 to Chapter 3. The terminology for window opening control devices has been updated for consistency with the referenced standard ASTM F 290.

## 2015 MRC

- ▶ R312.2
- ▶ \* The window fall protection provisions have been revised to clarify the meaning, remove redundant language, and achieve consistency with the MBC provisions.

# SMOKE ALARMS

## 2012 IRC

- ▶ R314
- ▶ \* The code now specifically recognizes technology in lieu of interconnections for smoke alarm installation in both the new and existing dwelling units. The interconnection provisions have been moved out of the sections related to location and power source and placed in a new section.

## 2015 MRC

- ▶ R314
- ▶ \* Battery-operated smoke alarms are permitted for satisfying the smoke alarm power requirements when alterations, repairs, and additions occur. New provisions address nuisance alarms related to devices installed near bathrooms and cooking appliances.

# CARBON MONOXIDE ALARMS

## 2012 IRC

- ▶ R315
- ▶ \* The code now specifically recognizes carbon monoxide detection systems with separate detectors and notification appliances installed in accordance with NFPA 720.

## 2015 MRC

- ▶ R315
- ▶ \* Carbon monoxide alarms now require connection to the house wiring system with battery backup. These alarms are also required in bedrooms with fuel-fired appliances in the sleeping room or adjoining bathroom.

# R326 SWIMMING POOLS, SPAS AND HOT TUBS

- ▶ \* The design and construction of pools and spas shall comply with the Swimming Pool and Spa Code (ISPSC). Appendix G, Swimming Pools, Spas and Hot Tubs, has been deleted.
- ▶ \* In-ground pools with power safety covers are not required to comply with the barrier requirements (no fence).

# R404.4 RETAINING WALLS

- ▶ \* Retaining walls, freestanding walls not supported at the top, with more than 48" of unbalanced backfill must be designed by an engineer. Retaining walls resisting additional lateral loads and with more than 24" of unbalanced backfill must also be designed in accordance with accepted engineering practice.

# R507 DECKS

- ▶ \* All deck provisions have been relocated to a new section (5).
- ▶ \* The prescriptive provisions related to the placement of bolts and lags for deck ledger attachment to the band joist have been revised to correlate with the National Design Specifications (NDS) for Wood Construction.

# R602.10 WALL BRACING & BRACED WALL PANELS.

- ▶ \* WE DO NOT HAVE TIME TO COVER THIS SECTION, PLEASE REFER TO THE MRC FOR CHANGES. THIS IS A 4 HOUR CLASS ITSELF.

# IN CONCLUSION

- ▶ NEXT:
- ▶ MARK LESPERANCE WITH GREENEDGE OF MICHIGAN