



## Parking Lot Lighting

Community Unit Plan (CUP) standards should be carefully noted if lighting is being considered for projects close to residential locations. Consideration should be given to the impact on and responses from those homeowners.

Several recent situations with parking lot lighting have prompted the requirement to take corrective action that has (no doubt) cost large sums of time and money for contractors and developers.

This is a reminder that lighting needs to be planned carefully and must meet Community Unit Plan requirements as noted. Heights of lighting stated in CUP requirements *include* the concrete (or other) bases for the light poles. The light height maximum is from the ground to the top of the fixture. Lighting fixtures are subject to requirements and inspection at all times during the lifetime of the Community Unit Plan and should be included in the parking lot planning even though the CUP document may not be completed when the initial project is planned and lighting methods are forecast. Please be aware of this when pre-ordering light poles and fixtures for projects.

Additionally, the Unified Zoning Code addresses and requires lighting controls for commercial uses adjacent to residential zoning districts. Art. IV, Sect. IV-B (4) states, "Outdoor lighting sources shall employ cut-off luminaries and shall be mounted at a height not exceeding one-half the distance from the neighboring lot, unless evidence is provide to the satisfaction of the Zoning Administrator that the light source will be aimed or shielded such that the light source is not visible from the neighboring lot.

High intensity lighting is necessary in many cases but careful use of and planning for locations, lighting design, pole height and angle of mounting will minimize neighborhood complaints and business alienation.

Randy Sparkman, Zoning, License & Sign Supervisor

# Plumbing Board News

- The Plumbing Board recommended, and the City Council has adopted, certain amendments to the Plumbing Code (Title 21.04), in regard to the ratio of apprentices to directly supervising master or journeyman certificate holders on job sites. The ratio has been changed from 2:1 to 4:1. The amended code language, as adopted, is delineated below.

***“Certificates, examinations, cancellations, licenses and permits.***

*(a) It is unlawful for any person to engage in the business of plumbing, plumbing repair or gas fitting either as a master plumber or master gas fitter, or to do plumbing work, plumbing repair or gas fitting in the city, unless and until a certificate has been obtained therefore, and a license has been issued for such business and a permit has been issued for such work, all in accordance with the provisions of this Code.*

*(b) Plumbers’ apprentices shall be permitted to work when accompanied by and under the direct supervision of a master or journeyman plumber, who shall be responsible for the plumbing work done by the apprentice. There shall be a maximum of ~~two~~ four apprentices per one master or journeyman plumber. The on-site master or journeyman shall be responsible for maintaining the ratio of master/journeyman plumbers to apprentices as required by this section. If an apprentice works without the required direct supervision, the qualified master, on-site master or journeyman plumber, and/or the apprentice may be held responsible for violation of this section.”*

*(c) It shall be unlawful for any qualified master to allow or permit an uncertified individual to engage in the business of plumbing, plumbing repair or gas fitting.*

A definition of “direct supervision” has also been added to the Code, as follows:

*‘Direct supervision’ means that the apprentice is working on the same structure and/or building site as the journeyman or master, or where the apprentice is within 500 feet of where the journeyman or master is working.*

A number of new definitions and rules have been adopted to make the qualified person for the company, the supervising master or journeymen certificate holders, and the apprentices more directly accountable for compliance with the revised regulations.

- The Plumbing Board has been discussing possible amendments to the Plumbing Code in regard to water conditioners, water conditioner installation, and possible licensing and certification of water conditioning equipment installers. The Board anticipates having final recommendations to be completed in July or August 2008.
- TRAP PRIMERS. Good news! The plumbing board has approved ProSet Trap Guard Floor Drains for use where trap primers are required. Check with your wholesaler about this simple trap primer alternative.

Kurt Schroeder, Superintendent of OCI; David Laws, Interim Plumbing Supervisor

# Mechanical Board News/Announcements

- The Mechanical Board recommended, and the City Council has adopted, certain amendments to the Mechanical Code (Title 22.04), in regard to the ratio of apprentices to directly supervising master or journeyman certificate holders on commercial job sites. The ratio has been changed from 2:1 to 3:1 for commercial job sites. The amended code language, as adopted, is delineated below.

*“Apprentices. (a) Apprentices shall be permitted to work when accompanied by and under the direct supervision of a master or journeyman mechanic, who shall be responsible for the mechanical work performed by the apprentice. At any given time, there shall be a maximum of two apprentices per one master or one journeyman mechanic ~~on~~ for any all one or two-family dwelling residential job sites. There shall be a maximum of three apprentices per one master or one journeyman mechanic for all triplex or greater density residential job sites or commercial job sites. The on-site master or journeyman shall be responsible for maintaining the ratio of master/ journeyman to apprentices as required by this section. If an apprentice works without the required supervision, both the qualified master and the apprentice may be held responsible for violation of this section.*

*(b) It shall be unlawful for any qualified master to allow or permit an uncertified individual to engage in the business of erecting, installing, altering, repairing, servicing or maintaining air conditioning, warm air heating or refrigeration.”*

A definition of “direct supervision” has also been added to the Code, as follows:

*‘Direct supervision’ means that the apprentice is limited to the same structure and/or building site as the journeyman or master, except in the case of one- and two-family residential development, where the apprentice may be on the job site within 100 feet of where the journeyman or master is working.*

A number of new definitions and rules have been adopted to make the qualified person for the company, the supervising master or journeymen certificate holders, and the apprentices more directly accountable for compliance with the revised regulations.

- The Mechanical Board has been reviewing current “Solid Fuel Contractor” testing, licensing and certification requirements, and is now developing new Code requirements for “Fireplace Contractors” in Wichita. The Board will soon be voting on whether or not to recommend amendments to the Mechanical Code in this regard. The proposed Code amendments currently include new testing and certification provisions for “Fireplace Contractor” licenses (through the National Fireplace Institute), continuing education requirements for certified individuals (the same as the current requirements for mechanical certificate holders), and provisions to allow mechanical certificate holders/contractors to perform work on fireplaces without additional licensing/certification. The current proposal also requires holders of the old City of Wichita “Solid Fuel” certificate or license to obtain certification from NFI within two years. The Mechanical Board and staff have involved local fireplace installers in the process, and several have attended Mechanical Board meetings and provided input.
- Central Inspection has hired a new Mechanical Inspector, Todd Jones. Todd started work with OCI on June 24, 2008. Welcome, Todd.

Kurt Schroeder, Superintendent of OCI; Stoney Nethercot, Interim Mechanical Supervisor

# H.V.A.C. Contractors:

Here are just a few reminders, as the summer heats up.

(1) When an A.C. unit is replaced or installed, WESTAR service standards require a minimum of eighteen inches from the center of the meter to the nearest edge of the A.C. unit. Also, please don't forget the required minimum clearances for the A.C. unit to the electrical disconnect.

(2) Exhaust fans for residential bathrooms has also come up again. OCI's policy for residential bathroom exhaust fans is that only one exhaust fan is required, and the exhaust fan may be located anywhere within the bathroom. This will allow an exchange of air to the bathroom as the code requires. A separate room within the bathroom can have an additional exhaust fan, but it is NOT required.

(3) Plastic and other combustible materials use to be allowed to be in plenum returns if it was wrapped with 25/50 smoke and flame rated insulation. This is no longer acceptable since the adoption of the I.M.C. 2006.

Stoney Nethercot, Interim Mechanical Supervisor

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## Sewer Permits Required

We are experiencing some problems with sewer work being started without the contractor obtaining the proper sewer permit, and in some cases the contractor attempting to do sewer work under a plumbing permit. As a reminder, in accordance with Title 16.04.020, before beginning work on any building or private sewer or drain, the licensed master drain layer, or his authorized employee, shall apply for and been issued a permit from the Office of Central Inspection (OCI).

Sewer permits are required before beginning work on any of the following: installation of a cleanout, spot repair, partial replacement, full replacement (from building to City sewer), new service line, sealing off any private line from City sewer or private sewer, installation of backwater valve in existing service line OUTSIDE the structure and for the installation of a mud & oil separator, grease interceptor and/or lint trap installed OUTSIDE the structure.

When requesting a sewer permit, the master drain layer (or his authorized employee) must complete and submit a City of Wichita Sewer Permit Application to OCI either by fax (316-268-4663), by mail or in person. A copy of this application may be obtained by calling (316) 268-4341 or on the City web site at:

[http://wichita.gov/CityOffices/OCI/mechanical\\_plumbing.htm](http://wichita.gov/CityOffices/OCI/mechanical_plumbing.htm)

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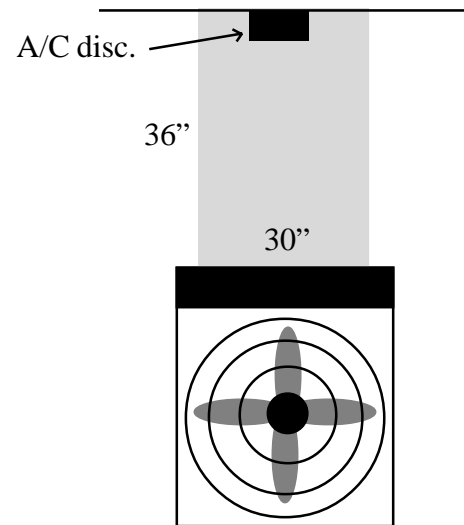
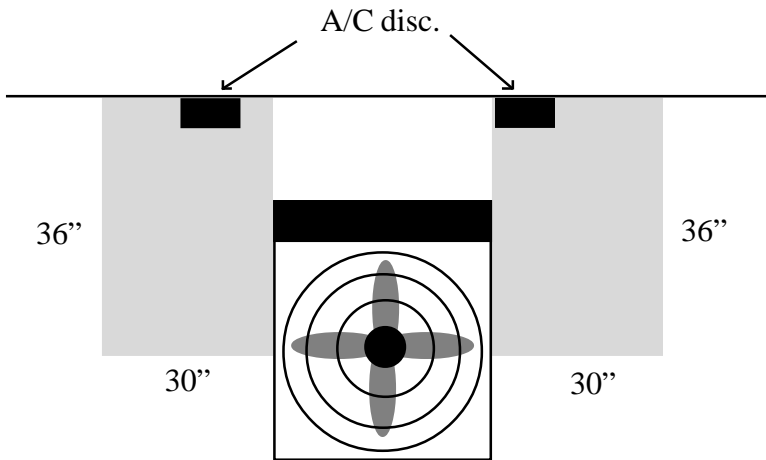
## Concrete Pours

Columns and walls poured off the construction site without proper documentation and inspection by a qualified person shall not be accepted as meeting the requirements of the Code of the City of Wichita. For more information please contact Darlene Hultman with Central Inspection at 269-4700.

# Location of A/C disconnect

2006

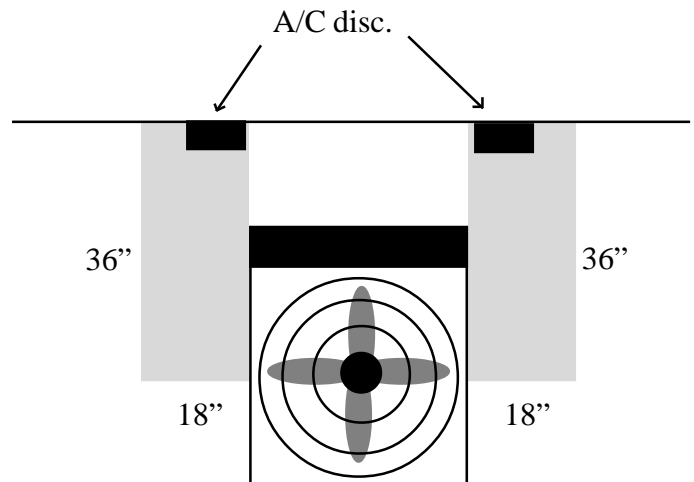
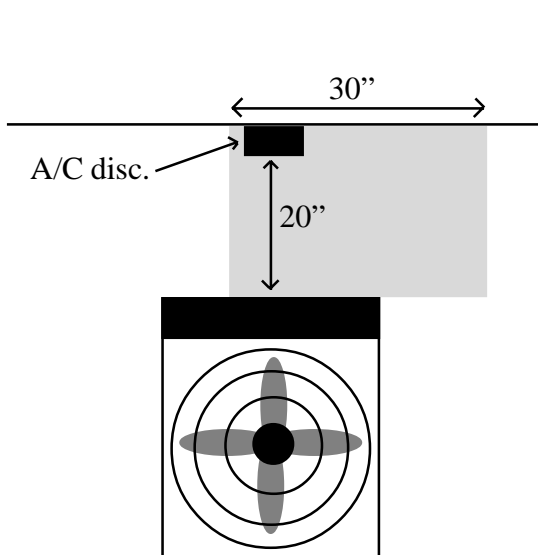
The mounting of A/C disconnects when a **NEW** circuit is installed. The disconnect shall have clearances as shown by the shaded area.



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## NEW Requirements on CHANGE OUTS Effective September 1, 2006

The location of A/C disconnects when they are **CHANGING OUT** an a/c unit and using an existing disconnect. The existing disconnect would need the clearances as shown in the shaded area. If the disconnect is between the a/c unit and the building the bottom of the disconnect **MUST** be higher than the top of the a/c unit and have the clearances shown in the shaded area.



# Residential Room Additions and Remodels

Question: Do you have to install electrical receptacles in sunrooms spaced like you would in living areas?

Question: I am hired to build just the shell on a room addition. Do I have to include the trades on my permit?

Answer: The answer to both questions is **yes**. Article 210.52 of the National Electrical Code states in part, "In every kitchen, family room, dining room, living room, parlor, library, den, sunroom, bedroom, recreation room, or similar room or area of dwelling units, receptacle outlets shall be installed in accordance with the general provisions specified in 210.52(A)(1) through (A)(3).

**(1) Spacing.** Receptacles shall be installed so that no point measured horizontally along the floor line in any wall space is more than 1.8 m (6 ft) from a receptacle outlet.

**(2) Wall Space.** As used in this section, a wall space shall include the following:

- (1) Any space 600 mm (2 ft) or more in width (including space measured around corners) and unbroken along the floor line by doorways, fireplaces, and similar openings
- (2) The space occupied by fixed panels in exterior walls, excluding sliding panels
- (3) The space afforded by fixed room dividers such as freestanding bar-type counters or railings

**(3) Floor Receptacles.** Receptacle outlets in floors shall not be counted as part of the required number of receptacle outlets unless located within 450 mm (18 in.) of the wall."

Since electrical, and possibly HVAC or plumbing, is required in almost all room additions OCI shall not issue a residential building permit without the trades included on the permit unless the individual trades purchased their permit prior to the issuance of the building permit. If you are to build only the shell and the owner is to have the rest completed, the owner will need to be the person to purchase the permit. In this instance the owner is taking on the responsibility of the complete job.

Tom Kerschen, Construction Inspection Supervisor Electrical / Elevator

Past issues of CINCH are available online at:

<http://wichita.gov/CityOffices/OCI/CINCH.htm>

# Grid Ceiling inspections

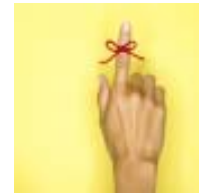
The 2006 International Building Code addresses grid ceilings in sections 803.9—803.9.1 and 803.9.1.1. These sections of the code were not amended in Title 18. This does not mean that we are adding an additional required inspection, and this was never the intent. This will be the responsibility of the permit holder to comply with the requirements of these sections of the code. We will do grid inspections only if it is a rated ceiling and is part of the envelope as required by Section 803.9.1.2; it will then be performed as part of the final inspection.

803.9. Acoustical Ceiling Tile Systems. The quality, design, fabrication and erection of metal suspension systems for acoustical tile and lay-in panel ceilings in buildings or structures shall conform to generally accept engineering practice, the provisions of this chapter and other applicable requirements of this code.

809.9.1. Materials and Installation Acoustical materials complying with the interior finish requirements of Section 803 shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer’s recommendations and applicable provisions for applying interior finish.

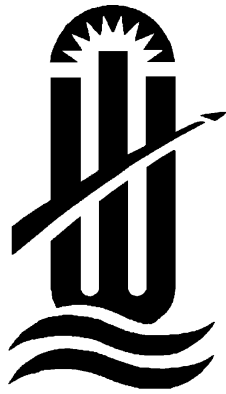
803.9.1.1. Suspended acoustical Ceilings. Suspended acoustical ceiling systems shall be installed in accordance with the provisions of ASTM C 635 and ASTC 636.

803.9.1.2. Fire-resistance-rated construction. Acoustical ceiling systems that are part of fire-resistance-rated construction shall be installed in the same manner used in the assembly tested and shall comply with the provisions of chapter 7.



## Things to Remember ....

- ... When you take a Journeyman ICC Exam, please remember you must bring two years of experience documented on company letterhead with your test results.
- ... When you renew your insurance, remind your insurance company to forward a copy of your certificate of insurance to our office either by mail or fax (316-268-4663). Most insurance companies do not automatically forward this information to our office.
- ... When your credit card number changes or the expiration date change, please contact Kim Mudd at 268-4213 or Cindy Shew at 268-4311.
- ... To fill out your permit applications correctly with the correct information on the addresses, work actually done on property, (ex. Size of furnace and size of air conditioner, with or without coil). This is automatically calculated by the computer and if we do not have the correct information, it will not calculate the fees properly.
- ... When faxing trade permit applications, those received between 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. will be processed no later than 5:00 p.m. of that same day. Permit applications received between 1:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. will be processed no later than 12:00 noon of the following day. Every attempt is made to have all permits completed the same day but if the information on the permit is not correct, it will just hold up your permit. The exception to this rule are Sewer Permits, they generally take longer to research and will be process within two (2) business days.
- ... If your permit has not been processed, you cannot schedule an inspection. Please do not call to schedule until you have received a permit number from our office.



CITY OF  
WICHITA

[www.wichita.gov](http://www.wichita.gov)



THE CITY OF WICHITA  
OFFICE OF CENTRAL INSPECTION  
CITY HALL - 7<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR  
455 NORTH MAIN STREET  
WICHITA, KANSAS 67202

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