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New York State Building Code Update

Effective October 3, 2016

September 28, 2016

New York State has adopted new building codes that become effective October 3, 2016 throughout the State, excluding New York City.

NEW CODE

FORMER CODE

2015 International Building Code and 2016 Uniform Code Supplement

Building Code of NYS 2010

2015 International Residential Code and 2016 Uniform Code Supplement

Residential Code of NYS 2010

Since 2000, New York State has been publishing codes for the State based substantially on the "model" International Codes. This revision will be different. The state will not publish New York State codes, but instead adopt and enforce the model code directly, with modifications in a document called the 2016 Uniform Code Supplement.

The 2015 International Building Code, Chapter 24, contains a change in the glass requirement for railing and guard applications:

Section 2407 Glass in Handrails and Guards

2407.1 Materials

Glass used in a handrail, guardrail or a guard section shall be laminated glass constructed of fully tempered or heat strengthened glass.....

Exception: Single fully tempered glass complying with Category II of CPSC 16 CFR part 1201 or Class A of ANSI Z 97.1 shall be permitted to be used in handrails and guardrails where there is no walking surface beneath them or the walking surface is permanently protected from the risk of falling glass.

This code change is being made due to cases of high-rise building tempered glass railing breakage and fallout.

The section in the Residential Code covering guards and railings, R 308.4.4 has not been changed. Tempered glass is still allowed in the one and two family dwellings of not more than three stories above ground that are governed by the Residential Code.

The Codes can be viewed at no cost at <http://codes.iccsafe.org/new%20York%20State.html#2015>.