

BUILDING CODE

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Sussex County

DELAWARE
sussexcountyde.gov

ANDY WRIGHT
CHIEF OF BUILDING CODE

TO: Building Industry Contactors, Installers, Home Owners and Stakeholders

FROM: Andy Wright,
Chief of Building Code

DATE: October 8, 2020

RE: Delaware Energy Code Adoption Update

In June 2020, the State of Delaware Division of Climate, Coastal and Energy Office amended the Regulations by adopting the 2018 International Energy Conservation Code and the ASHRAE 90.1 – 2016 Energy Standard for Buildings Except Low Rise Residential Buildings.

Effective December 11, 2020, the State of Delaware will require all new homes, conditioned residential additions/accessory structures and commercial buildings to comply with the 2018 International Energy Conservation Code as adopted. As a result, Sussex County is modifying its process to comply with the State's requirements

All new home, conditioned residential additions/accessory structures and commercial building plans submitted to Sussex County after December 10, 2020, must be designed to the 2018 IECC and have an energy compliance worksheet such as a "REScheck" or "COMcheck" accompanying all plans.

Also, an insulation inspection will be required for all new homes, conditioned residential additions/accessory structures and commercial projects.

All new homes/dwelling units shall be tested and verified as having an air leakage rate not exceeding three (3) air changes per hour in climate zone 4.

For more details, you may contact the Delaware Division of Climate, Coastal and Energy Office on their web site at: <https://dnrec.alpha.delaware.gov/climate-coastal-energy/efficiency/building-energy-codes/>

Any questions regarding these requirements, may be directed to the Sussex County Building Code Office at (302) 855-7860 or awright@sussexcountyde.gov.

