

**RAC Update
May 10, 2019**

The Spring Board meeting in Columbus was great! Good information shared!

The highlights that are attached to this email were also on your App. But I wanted you to have them in case you were not at the meeting or could not access your information.

On January 1, 2020, Georgia will have 8 new mandatory construction codes

- **2015 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC)**
- **2018 International Residential Code for One- and Two-Family Dwellings (IRC)**
- **2018 International Building Code (IBC)**
- **2018 International Fire Code (IFC) – still being reviewed by State Fire Marshal**
- **2018 International Plumbing Code (IPC)**
- **2018 International Swimming Pool and Spa Code (ISPSC)**
- **2018 International Mechanical Code (IMC)**
- **2018 International Fuel Gas Code (IFCC)**

HBAG has delayed the adoption of these codes from a 3-year cycle to 6-year cycle. Energy Code was even longer so that it could be coordinated with the Residential Code.

Note - 2020 National Electrical Code will be discussed later this year at DCA and will become effective January 1, 2021. This is only construction code in Georgia left on a 3-year cycle.

Some key changes in the Energy Code are attached. The Energy Code lowered the testing requirements (blower door) to 5 <ACH air exchanges from current 7 <ACH. But the 2018 IRC lowered the requirement to mandate make-up air to below 3<ACH.

Workshops on the Energy Code are being scheduled around the state by DCA. Thank you to our local EO's and Associate members for securing locations and providing refreshments. They are free because a federal grant. Continuing educational credits for builder licensing will be given. See www.dca.ga.gov/node/5691

The information on the IRC is some key points, not the entire amendment package. HBAG was successful in getting the firestopping that is in the current IRC amended again for the 2018 version.

In the 2018 Plumbing Code, HBAG was successful in stopping additional requirements for low-flow faucets and shower heads.

George McClure stated that the Dept of Public Health has a draft of the new Manual for On-Site Waste (Septic Systems). George continues to serve on the TRC (Technical Review Committee). George still needs data on issues and problems.

Burn Ban is in effect from May 1 to September 30 for 54 counties in north and central Georgia. Do not burn debris and yard clippings. Also don't bury any debris. Take to a land fill or contact a company that does composting.