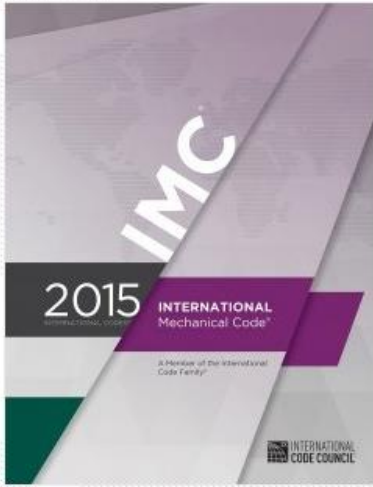


## 2015 INTERNATIONAL MECHANICAL CODE SIGNIFICANT CHANGES



The International Mechanical Code (IMC) covers mechanical systems, appliances, and duct and ventilation systems for buildings other than one- and two-family residential structures. It establishes standards for the safe and efficient use of temperature control and ventilation systems. This code relies heavily on manufacturer's specifications for appliance installation. The code has evolved to reflect new technologies and energy efficiency measures.

### SIGNIFICANT CODE CHANGES:

- Manicure and pedicure stations must be equipped with exhaust systems, with minimum ventilation rates established to remove chemical vapors. [502.20 & Table 403.3.1.1]
- Dryer Exhaust Duct Power Ventilators (booster fans) are recognized as a means to increase dryer exhaust vent length. [504.5 & 504.8.4.3]
- Return air provisions have been reorganized, and language has been added requiring return air openings to be at least ten feet from draft hoods or combustion chambers of appliances. [601.5]
- All duct sealant tapes must be UL 181B listed. [603.9]
- Refrigerant access ports must be retrofitted with locking caps when an air conditioner is serviced or refrigerant is added; previously, locking caps were only required on new units. [1102.3]

### CHANGES IN PROPOSED AMENDMENTS:

- No significant changes in amendments



**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF COPPELL, TEXAS**

**ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF COPPELL, TEXAS AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES BY AMENDING CHAPTER 15 ARTICLE 15-3, “MECHANICAL CODE”, TO ADOPT THE INTERNATIONAL MECHANICAL CODE, 2015 EDITION, AS THE CITY OF COPPELL MECHANICAL CODE; PROVIDING AMENDMENTS TO THE INTERNATIONAL MECHANICAL CODE 2015 EDITION; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING A REPEALING CLAUSE; PROVIDING A SAVINGS CLAUSE; PROVIDING A PENALTY FOR VIOLATION OF THIS ORDINANCE NOT TO EXCEED THE SUM OF FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$500.00) FOR EACH OFFENSE; EXCEPT HOWEVER, WHERE A DIFFERENT PENALTY HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED BY STATE LAW FOR SUCH OFFENSE WHICH IS A VIOLATION OF ANY PROVISION OF LAW THAT GOVERNS FIRE SAFETY, ZONING, OR PUBLIC HEALTH AND SANITATION, INCLUDING DUMPING OF REFUSE, THE PENALTY SHALL BE A FINE NOT TO EXCEED THE SUM OF TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$2,000.00) FOR EACH OFFENSE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COPPELL, TEXAS:**

**SECTION 1.** That the City of Coppel Code of Ordinances be, and the same is, hereby amended by amending Chapter 15, Article 15-3, “Mechanical Code”, in part to adopt the International Mechanical Code, 2015 Edition, with amendments to read as follows:

**“ARTICLE 15-3. MECHANICAL CODE**

**Sec. 15-3. Mechanical Code - Adopted.**

There is hereby adopted the International Mechanical Code, 2015 Edition, and made a part hereof for all purposes, the same as if fully copied in full herein, with the exception of such sections hereof, which are hereafter deleted, modified or amended.

**Sec. 15-3-2. Amendments.**

The following sections of the International Mechanical Code, 2015 Edition, are hereby amended to read as follows:

**1. Amend Section 102.8, to read as follows:**

**102.8 Referenced Codes and Standards.** The codes and standards referenced herein shall be those that are listed in Chapter 15, and such codes when specifically adopted, and standards shall be considered part of the requirements of this code to the prescribed extent of each such reference. Whenever amendments have been adopted to the referenced codes and standards, each reference to said code and standard shall be considered to reference the amendments as well. Any reference to NFPA 70 or the National Electrical Code (NEC) shall mean the Electrical Code as adopted.

**2. Add Section 304.13, to read as follows:**

**304.13 Minimum Burial Depth.** Underground fuel piping systems shall be installed a minimum depth of 18 inches (458 mm) below grade.

**3. Amend Section 306.3, to read as follows:**

**306.3 Appliances in attics.** Attics containing appliances requiring *access* shall be provided . . . *{bulk of paragraph unchanged}* . . . side of the appliance. The clear *access* opening dimensions shall be a minimum of 20 inches by 30 inches (508 mm by 762 mm), or larger where such dimensions are not large enough to allow removal of the largest appliance. A walkway to an appliance shall be rated as a floor as approved by the building official. As a minimum, for *access* to the attic space, provide one of the following:

1. A permanent stair.
2. A pull down stair with a minimum 300 lb. (136 kg) capacity.
3. An *access* door from an upper floor level.
4. *Access* Panel may be used in lieu of items 1, 2, and 3 with prior approval of the code official due to building conditions.

**Exceptions:**

1. The passageway and level service space are not required where the appliance is capable of being serviced and removed... *{remainder of section unchanged}*

**4. Amend Section 306.5, to read as follows:**

**306.5. Equipment and Appliances on Roof and Elevated Structures.** Where equipment and appliances requiring access are installed on roofs or elevated structures at a height exceeding 16 feet (4877 mm), such access shall be provided by a permanent means of access. Permanent exterior ladders providing roof access need not extend closer than 12 feet (2438 mm) to the finish grade or floor level below and shall extend to the equipment and appliances level service space. Such access shall...(bulk of section to read the same)...on roofs having a slope greater than 4 units vertical in 12 units horizontal.

A receptacle outlet shall be provided at or near the equipment and appliance location in accordance with the Electrical Code. Low voltage wiring of 50 volts or less shall be installed in a manner to prevent physical damage.

**5. Amend Section 306.5.1 to read as follows:**

**306.5.1 Sloped roofs.** Where appliances, *equipment*, fans or other components that require service are installed on roofs having slopes greater than 3 units vertical in 12 units horizontal and having an edge more than 30 inches (762 mm) above grade at such edge, a catwalk at least 16 inches in width with substantial cleats spaced not more than 16 inches apart shall be provided from the roof *access* to a level platform at the appliance. The level platform shall be provided on each side of the appliance to which *access* is required for service, repair or maintenance. The platform shall be not less than 30 inches (762 mm) in any dimension and shall be provided with guards. The guards shall extend not less than 42 inches (1067 mm) above the platform, shall be constructed so as to prevent the passage of a 21-inch-diameter (533 mm) sphere and shall comply with the loading requirements for guards specified in the International Building Code.

**7. Adopt new Sections 306.6 and 306.6.1 to read as follows:**

**306.6 Water heaters above ground or floor.** When the mezzanine or platform in which a water heater is installed is more than eight (8) feet (2438 mm) above the ground or floor level, it shall be made accessible by a stairway or permanent ladder fastened to the building.

**Exception:** A max 10 gallon water heater (or larger with approval) is capable of being accessed through a lay-in ceiling and a water heater installed is not more than ten (10) feet (3048 mm) above the ground or floor level and may be reached with a portable ladder.

**306.6.1** Whenever the mezzanine or platform is not adequately lighted or access to a receptacle outlet is not obtainable from the main level, lighting and a receptacle outlet shall be provided in accordance with Section 306.3.1.

**8. Amend Section 307.2.3, item 2 to read as follows:**

2. A separate overflow drain line shall be connected to the drain pan provided with the equipment. Such overflow drain shall discharge to a conspicuous point of disposal to alert occupants in the event of a stoppage of the primary drain. The overflow drain line shall connect to the drain pan at a higher level than the primary drain connection. However, the conspicuous point shall not create a hazard such as dripping over a walking surface or other areas so as to create a nuisance.

**9. Adopt a new Section 307.2.5 to read as follows:**

**Drain line maintenance.** Condensate drain lines shall be configured to permit the clearing of blockages and performance of maintenance without requiring the drain line to be cut.

**10. Amend Section 403.2.1 by adding item 5 to read as follows:**

5. Toilet rooms within private dwellings that contain only a water closet, lavatory or combination thereof may be ventilated with an approved mechanical recirculating fan or similar device designed to remove odors from the air.

**11. Delete Section 504.6.4.2 in its entirety.**

**12. Amend Section 607.5.1, to read as follows:**

**607.5.1 Fire walls.** Ducts and transfer openings permitted in fire walls in accordance with Section 706.11 of the International Building Code shall be protected with approved fire dampers installed in accordance with their listing. For hazardous exhaust systems, see Section 510.1 through 510.9 of the International Mechanical Code.”

**SECTION 2.** If any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, phrase or work in this ordinance, or application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance, and the City Council of the City of Coppell, Texas hereby declares it would have enacted such remaining portions despite any such invalidity.

**SECTION 3.** That the repeal of any ordinance or any portion thereof by the preceding sections shall not affect or impair any act done or right vested or accrued or any proceeding, suit or prosecution had or commenced in any cause before such repeal shall take effect; but every such act done, or right vested or accrued, or proceedings, suit or prosecution had or commenced shall remain in full force and effect to all intents or purposes as if such ordinance or part thereof so repealed shall remain in force.

**SECTION 4.** That any person, firm or corporation violating any of the provisions of this ordinance or the Code of Ordinances as amended hereby, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction in the Municipal Court of the City of Coppell, Texas, shall be subject to a fine not to exceed the sum of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) for each offense, except where a different penalty has been established by State law for such offense, the penalty shall be that fixed by State

2015 INTERNATIONAL MECHANICAL CODE – PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

law, and for any offense which is a violation of any provision of law that governs fire safety, zoning or public health and sanitation, including dumping of refuse, the penalty shall be fine not to exceed the sum of Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00) for each offense; and each and every day such offense is continued shall constitute a new and separate offense.

**SECTION 5.** That this ordinance shall become effective immediately from and after its passage and the publication of the caption, as the law and charter in such cases provide.

**DULY PASSED** by the City Council of Coppell, Texas, this the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2017.

**APPROVED:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Karen Hunt, MAYOR**

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**CHRISTEL PETTINOS, CITY SECRETARY**