

# BUILDING SAFETY MONTH of MAY



## INTERNATIONAL CODE COUNCIL

Building Safety Month is presented by the International Code Council (ICC), a member-focused association dedicated to helping the building safety community and construction industry provide safe, sustainable and resilient construction through the development of codes and standards used in the design, build and compliance.



## City of Centerton

### Department of Building Safety

P.O. Box 208, Centerton, AR 72719

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479-795-2750 ext. 23 and 25

The Department of Building Safety/Code Enforcement for the City of Centerton is to provide minimum standards to safeguard life, property, and the public welfare. Adopted building codes and standards along with City ordinances set the standards for inspections performed by the Department of Building Safety.

Established: March 18, 1953



TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

### PROCLAMATION

Building Safety Month — May, 2016

*Whereas, our City's, continuing efforts to address the critical issues of safety, energy efficiency, water conservation, and resilience in the built environment that affect our citizens, both in everyday life and in times of natural disaster, give us confidence that our structures are safe and sound, and;*

*Whereas, our confidence is achieved through the devotion of vigilant guardians—building safety and fire prevention officials, architects, engineers, builders, tradespeople, laborers and others in the construction industry—who work year-round to ensure the safe construction of buildings, and;*

*Whereas, these guardians—dedicated members of the International Code Council—use a governmental consensus process that brings together local, state and federal officials with expertise in the built environment to create and implement the highest-quality codes to protect Americans in the buildings where we live, learn, work, worship, play, and;*

*Whereas, the International Codes, the most widely adopted building safety, energy and fire prevention codes in the nation, are used by most U.S. cities, counties and states; these modern building codes also include safeguards to protect the public from natural disasters such as hurricanes, snowstorms, tornadoes, wildland fires, floods and earthquakes, and;*

*Whereas, Building Safety Month is sponsored by the International Code Council, to remind the public about the critical role of our communities' largely unknown guardians of public safety—our local code officials—who assure us of safe, efficient and livable buildings, and;*

*Whereas, "Building Codes: Driving Growth through Innovation, Resilience and Safety" the theme for Building Safety Month 2016, encourages all Americans to raise awareness of the importance of building safe and resilient construction; fire prevention; disaster mitigation, water safety and conservation; energy efficiency and new technologies in the construction industry. Building Safety Month 2016 encourages appropriate steps everyone can take to ensure that the places where we live, learn, work, worship and play are safe and sustainable, and recognizes that countless lives have been saved due to the implementation of safety codes by local and state agencies, and,*

*Whereas, each year, in observance of Building Safety Month, Americans are asked to consider projects to improve building safety and sustainability at home and in the community, and to acknowledge the essential service provided to all of us by local and state building departments, fire prevention bureaus and federal agencies in protecting lives and property.*

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Edwards, Mayor, of the City of Centerton, do hereby proclaim the month of May 2016 as Building Safety Month. Accordingly, I encourage our citizens to join with their communities in participation in Building Safety Month activities.**

Given this 12th day of April, 2016, in Centerton, in the great State of Arkansas, in the United States of America.

BILL EDWARDS, MAYOR



City of Centerton

Department of Building Safety

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Chief Building Official

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Centerton Fire Department

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Non-Emergency 479-795-2550

[dbush@centertonfire.com](mailto:dbush@centertonfire.com)

Federal Emergency Management Agency

500 C Street S.W.

Washington, D.C. 20472

<http://www.fema.gov/>



FEMA



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1-800-563-0012

<https://www.blackhillscorp.com/>

1-888-216-3523

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500 Keller Road

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## Building Solutions

Week 1—May 2-9, 2016

Data from the United States Census Bureau show that there are 76.4 million baby boomers. These 76.4 million baby boomers represent close to one-quarter of the estimated U.S. population of 320 million.

Many baby boomers are nearing or entering their retirement years and making decisions about where they will live when they retire. According to a survey conducted by [AARP](#), 89 percent of the 50-and-older population like their current homes and intend to remain in them for as long as possible. But aging in place is not just about the home. The aging of the population will affect every interior environment—private, commercial and public. For example,

- Hospitality – restaurants, hotels and motels will need to be accessible
- Workplace – offices, retail stores and other work spaces will need to provide adequate lighting, seating, technology, task areas and quiet places for older workers
- Healthcare – increased need for outpatient and in-home care, accommodation for caretakers and caregivers
- Retail – stores will need to be accessible and accommodate individuals using assistive devices
- Multihousing/multiuse – growing demand for livable communities and urban complexes with easy access to health care, entertainment, shopping, etc.

### Commercial Codes:

Arkansas Fire Prevention Code 2012 Vol. I and Vol. II  
 National Electric Code 2014  
 Arkansas Plumbing Code 2006  
 Arkansas Fuel Gas Code 2006  
 Arkansas Mechanical Code 2010  
 Arkansas Energy Code 2014  
 ICC / ANSI  
 NFPA / Life Safety 101



## Science Behind Codes

Week 2—May 9-15, 2016

Have you ever wondered how a building was able to keep from falling down during an earthquake or strong wind? It's the same answer for how your home stays warm during the winter and cool during the summer. The answer is the science behind the codes. Building codes are made up of requirements for how to design and construct homes and buildings. These code requirements are based on science that involves research in many different areas, including flood proofing, fire-resistance, structural strength, wind design, sustainability, safe drinking water, airflow, energy efficiency, and more. When science reveals ways to improve an area of building safety, these findings can be included in the code requirements and standards.

That is why it is important for communities to adopt the most up-to-date building codes, so new construction and remodeling or repair of existing buildings can truly benefit from the science behind the codes.

### Resources

FEMA Building Science Mitigation Assessment Team (MAT) Program – Under the MAT Program, FEMA deploys teams of investigators to evaluate the performance of buildings in response to the effects of natural and man-made hazards. MAT findings and recommendations are used to establish improved disaster-resistant construction codes and standards, designs, methods, and materials used for both new construction and post-disaster recovery. Read about recent examples of code changes resulting from or supported by Hurricane Sandy MAT observations in FEMA's Fact Sheet: Building Science Support and Code Changes Aiding Sandy



## Learn From the Past

Week 3—May 16-22, 2016

### Natural Disasters

- Floods
- Earthquakes
- Tornadoes / High Winds
- Wild Fires

<http://www.fema.gov/>

### Emergency Basic Kit

- Water—one gallon per person per day, for drinking and sanitation
- Non-Perishable Food - at least a three day supply
- Infant formula and diapers
- Weather Radio - battery powered or hand crank
- Flash Light
- First Aid Kit
- Whistle - to signal for help
- Filter Mask - or cotton shirt, to help filter the air
- Moist Towelettes, garbage bags, plastic ties for personal sanitation
- Wrench or Pliers - to turn off utilities
- Manual Can Opener - if kit contains canned food
- Plastic Sheeting and Duct Tape to shelter in place
- Important Family Documents
- Prescription Medications
- Cell Phone and Chargers

For additional information go to:

[http://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1390846764394-dc08e309debe561d866b05ac84daf1ee/checklist\\_2014.pdf](http://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1390846764394-dc08e309debe561d866b05ac84daf1ee/checklist_2014.pdf)

**Storm Shelter:** installing a storm shelter / safe room will require a permit to be issued. Permit application, spec plans (FEMA approved), Contractor's License and Insurance.

Applications can be found on:

[www.centertonar.us](http://www.centertonar.us)



## A Smart Investment

Week 4—May 23-29, 2016

The biggest investment most people will ever make is when they buy a home. Homes represent security, a place where people will live, raise their families, and share life with others. Whether you own or rent a home, following the building codes during construction or remodeling can help protect your health and safety, and your investment as well.

The building codes include research from experts that help ensure every phase of the construction process is done correctly. In addition to helping make your home safe, the building codes can also help make your home more energy efficient, use less water, and conserve resources.

If your construction project does not comply with the codes adopted by your community, the value of your investment could be reduced. Property insurers may not cover work done without permits and inspections. If you decide to sell a home or building that has had modifications without a permit, you may be required to tear down the addition, leave it unoccupied, or make costly repairs.

A property owner who can show that code requirements were strictly and consistently met—as demonstrated by a code official's carefully maintained records—has a strong ally if something happens to trigger a potentially destructive lawsuit. Your permit also allows the code official to protect the public by reducing the potential hazards of unsafe construction and ensuring public health, safety, and welfare. By following code guidelines, the completed project will meet minimum standards of safety and will be less likely to cause injury to you, your family, your friends, or future owners, plus you'll benefit from the best energy efficiency construction techniques that will continue to pay you back for the life of your home.

Invest wisely in your home or remodeling project. It's a smart investment to build and remodel your home to the latest codes.

### Residential Codes:

Arkansas Fire Prevention Code 2012 Vol. III  
 National Electric Code 2014  
 Arkansas Plumbing Code 2006  
 Arkansas Fuel Gas Code 2006  
 Arkansas Mechanical Code 2010  
 Arkansas Energy Code 2014