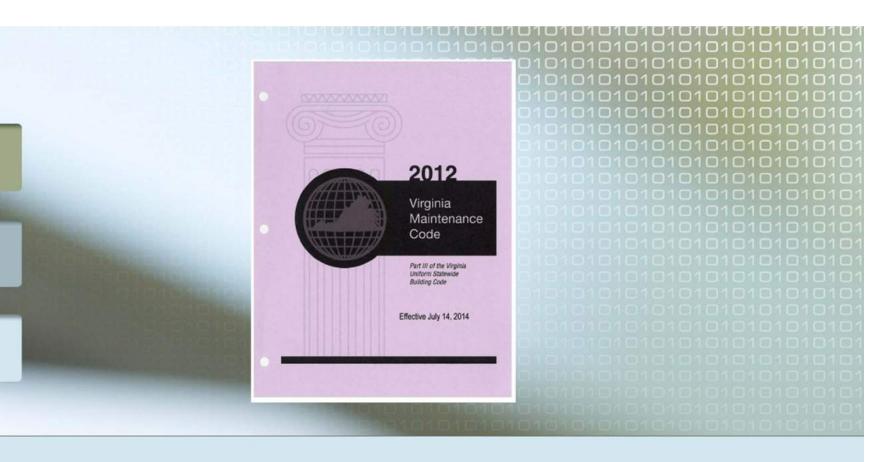


# Welcome to the 2018 Annual Conference Educational Sessions

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#### Virginia Maintenance Code

## Legislative Authority...

#### Title 36 of VA Code: Housing



- 36-97 Board of Housing to Promulgate Uniform Statewide Building Code (VUSBC)
- 36-99 Purpose to construct and maintain so as to protect the Public H/S/W
- 36-103 Board may incorporate regulations pertaining to maintenance of existing buildings
- 36-105 Localities may adopt and inspect regulations for existing buildings

#### Governance...

- Board of Housing and Community Development (BHCD)
  - A 14 member citizen Board
    - 11 congressional districts
    - Director of Regulatory Compliance VBCOA
    - Rep from VA Fire Services Board
    - Ex. Director VA Housing Dev. Authority
  - Promulgates Codes and Effective Dates
  - Provides guidance to Department of Housing & Community Development

#### Oversight...

- Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD)
  - Facilitates code/regulations development
  - Provides administration and oversight
  - Provides mandatory training
  - Supports the BHCD
  - Supports the State Technical Review Board (appeals and interpretations)
  - Publishes the codes

#### The VUSBC

- Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code 3 parts
  - Virginia Construction Code
  - Virginia Rehabilitation Code / Existing Building Code
  - Virginia Maintenance Code

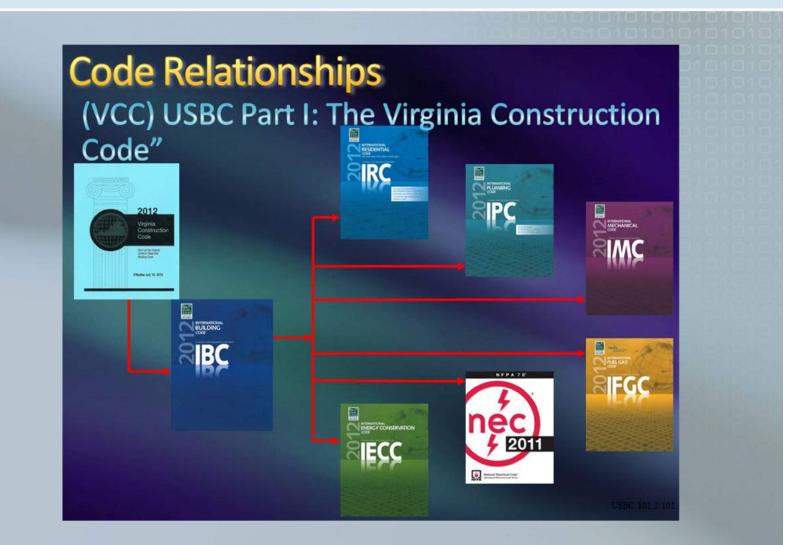


#### The VUSBC – Construction

#### How we build: 2012 2012 2012 2012 Virginia Rehabilitat Virginia Virginia Construction Manufactured He Code Safety Regulatio Code Part I of the Virg Uniform Statewis Building Caste Effective September 10, 2014 Effective July 14, 2014 Effective July 14, 2014 Borthan July 14, 201

- State mandate
- Code official identified and reported

#### The VUSBC – Construction



#### The VUSBC – Maintenance

#### How we maintain and use:

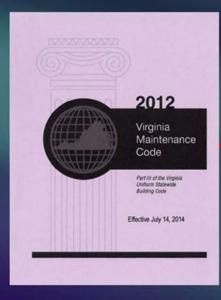


VMC Optional for all localities
Requires official adoption actions
Code Officials identified and reported
SFPC required for all localities

March 2014

#### The VUSBC – Maintenance

#### Referenced Documents (VMC) U.S.B.C. Part III: "The Virginia Maintenance Code"





## VMC - Administration

- Virginia establishes Chapter 1
   Administration based on VA Statutes and Enabling Authority
  - Incorporates by reference Chapters 2-8 of the International Property Maintenance Code and sets precedence
    - Chapter 1 Admin governs any conflict
    - State amendments govern IPMC 2-8
    - IMPC 2-8 govern any further references

#### Purpose and Scope

Provides for the maintenance of existing buildings and structures

- AT THE LEAST POSSIBLE COST
- Includes overcrowding
- Includes garbage accumulation

Exemptions: everything exempt from Virginia Construction Code

#### Application of Code

- Limits the regulations to maintenance of "existing" buildings, structures, equipment
  - In accordance with the code under which constructed
  - Establishes responsibility for maintenance to "Owner"
- Allows for continued approval without retrofit

#### **Rental Inspections**

 In 2004, 36-105 was drastically changed to provide detailed requirements pertaining to Rental Inspections



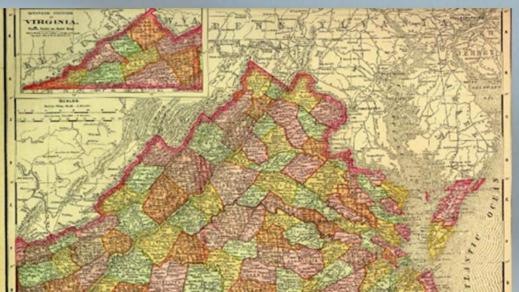
These provisions were incorporated into the VMC

#### **Rental Inspections - Outcomes**

- Protects tenants and guests
- Ensures landlord accountability
- Prevents neighborhood deterioration and blight
- Encourages neighborhood stabilization and sustainability
- Supports locality-wide economic development

#### **Rental Inspections - Ordinance**

The local governing body must adopt an ordinance to inspect residential rental dwelling units for compliance with the Rental Inspection Program requirements



#### **Rental Inspections - Ordinance**

 Prior to adoption, the locality shall hold a public hearing

 Notice of such hearing shall be published in a local newspaper for 2 weeks

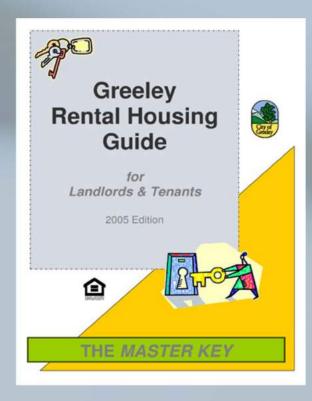


#### **Rental Inspections - Notice**



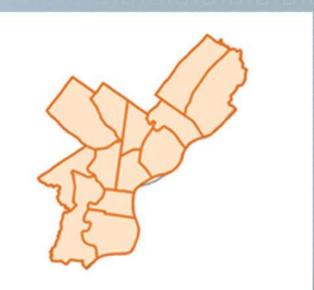
The locality shall make reasonable efforts to notify **Residential Rental** Unit owners that an ordinance was adopted which requires action from them

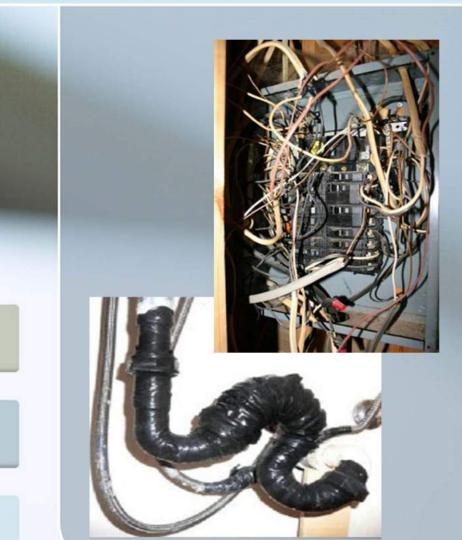
#### **Rental Inspections - Notice**



The notification shall explain the new ordinance, provide all information about the program, and detail the required responsibilities of the owner, including penalties

- All res. rental dwelling units located within a rental inspection district are subject
- Rental Inspection Districts shall meet these criteria based on a FINDING by the locality:





 There is a need to protect the public health, safety and welfare of occupants

- 2. The residential units are:
  - Deemed blighted or heavily deteriorated; or
  - Inspection required to prevent deterioration based on age and current conditions



3. Inspection is necessary to maintain safe, decent and sanitary living conditions for tenants and other residents within the District



## ntal Inspections - Individual Units



Units outside of the designated rental inspection district can be made subject to the ordinance based upon a separate finding for each unit using the same criteria

CANNOT require REGISTRATION for the program

Can require the owner to <u>notify</u> the locality if a unit is defined as a Residential Rental Unit



 Minimum of 60 days for owner notification

A fee is NOT authorized for this notification

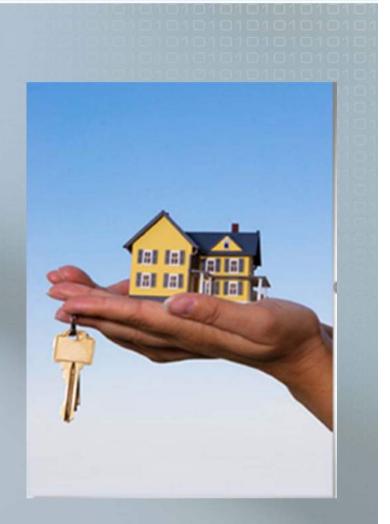




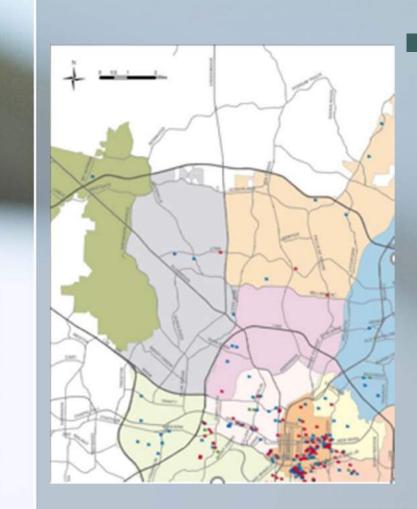
 A \$50 civil penalty can be awarded for failure to notify the locality of a Residential Rental Dwelling Unit

 Maintain property in accordance with the code in affect at the time of construction or occupancy

 Make unit available for inspections



## Rental Inspections - Locality



Locality performs initial inspection of all identified **Residential Rental Dwelling Units** within designated districts and individual units subject to the ordinance

### **Rental Inspections - Locality**

 For multifamily <u>developments</u>, the locality shall
 only inspect
 between 2 - 10
 % of the total
 number of units.





Properties where no violations are found must be granted a minimum 4 year exemption from the ordinance

Properties where violations are found are subject to enforcement provisions of the VMC and periodic inspections pursuant to the **Rental Inspection** Ordinance





 Penalties for violations of these provisions shall be the same as they are provided for in other sections of the VMC

If violations are found in multifamily developments, the 10% unit threshold no longer applies; Any number of units may be inspected





 If violations are found in units which are under a 4 year exemption, the exemption can be revoked

#### **Rental Inspections - Inspections**

 Periodic inceptions of Residential Rental Dwelling Units may occur not more than once per year up until exemption status is obtained



#### Rental Inspections - Inspections



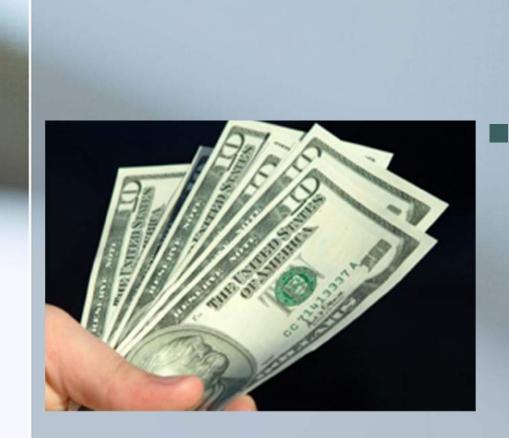
Upon the sale of a **Residential Rental Dwelling Unit** subject to the ordinance the locality may perform a periodic inspection even if exempted

#### **Rental Inspections - Inspections**

For new units that become subject to the ordinance where a certificate of occupancy has been issued in the last 4 years, an exemption is automatically granted



#### **Rental Inspections - Fees**



 The locality may establish a fee schedule for defraying the costs of these provisions

#### **Rental Inspections - Fees**

These include a per dwelling unit fee for:

Initial inspection
Follow-up inspection
Periodic inspection



#### **Rental Inspections - Fees**



Fees for multifamily developments may not exceed a 10 unit fee unless violations are found, then a per unit fee is applicable



#### Enforcement - General

SEARCH

QUALIFIED ORDER

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AND NOW THIS

it serverate to the coast as follow

ACTION LOD

Search Warrant authorized Continued Enforcement when transfer of ownership is less than 50% Disclosure laws apply

#### Enforcement - Fees



 Locality authorized to adopt and establish a
 schedule of fees to defray the cost of enforcement and appeals

#### Enforcement - General

 State owned buildings are subject to this code



Enforced by state personnel

#### Enforcement – Code Official

Qualifications of code official:

- 5 years experience as an industry professional or equivalent
- General knowledge of engineering practices
- Basic principles of
  - Fire protection
  - Means of egress
  - Installations of equipment
  - General health, safety and welfare

#### **Enforcement - Certification**

- Designated code officials have 1 year to become certified
   Technical Assistants have 18 months to become certified
   Where multiple
  - where multiple certifications are required, an additional 18 months are provided



#### **Enforcement - Other**

Standards for conduct:
 State and Local Gov.
 Conflict of Interest act

 Records shall be retained and destroyed in accordance with the Library of VA General Schedule 6



#### nforcement – Powers and Duties

- Shall issue all necessary notices and orders to ensure compliance
- Can issue modifications when spirit and intent of code are met
  - In writing
  - Maintained in official record
  - Can request statements from industry professionals

### **Enforcement - Inspections**

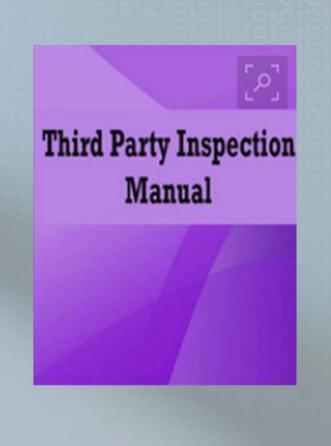


 Shall inspect building and structures for determination of compliance with code

- Carry proper credentials
- Can engage 3<sup>rd</sup> party expert opinion
- Report violations of other laws

## Enforcement – 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Agents

- Program and Policy
  - Establishes qualifications into the program
  - Establishes reliability requirements
  - Establishes report criteria and submission timeframe requirements



#### Enforcement – Man. Home Park

 Notices and orders affecting the entire park require notification to each affected tenant



#### Violations – Misdemeanor



 36-106 Deemed unlawful for anyone to violate any
 provision of the code

> All violations are considered criminal misdemeanors

 Or the locality can adopt a civil schedule of penalties

#### Violations – Notices and Orders

Notice shall be issued upon finding a violation
 Correction notice
 Violation notice



Work done to correct violations is subject to the VCC and VEBC.

#### Violations – Correction Notice

- The Correction
   Notice shall alert to defective conditions
  - In writing
  - State corrective actions
  - State timeframe for compliance

#### CORRECTION NOTICE Development Services Department

Permit Number: 2015-033848-EP Permit Address: 8601 EMERALD HILL DR

Inspection Type	Date	Deficiency
305 Final Electric	02/03/2016	vent/can trims missing master bath/upstairs baths
305 Final Electric	02/03/2016	smart panel outlet/ ground met panel
305 Final Electric	02/03/2016	need afci for refrig,washer/ kito need afci breakers
305 Final Electric	02/03/2016	covers missing

#### Violations – Violation Notice

The Violation Notice shall serve as official legal notice of defective conditions

- In writing
- To responsible party
  - Registered Agent?
- Section number
- State corrective actions
- State timeframe for compliance
- Dight of oppool



COUNTY OF PRINCE WILLIAM

INSPECTOR.	Sean Farrell	CONTACT MEMAIL	703-792-5008/
Part.	1900 CAMPUS COMMONS DR 100 RESTON, VA 20191	NOTICE DATE:	October 27, 2015
	AGENTS, INC	HOLAHON DATE.	

3-702-5008 SFattel Cowcorv org

DEPARTMENT OF

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Division of **Dubling** Development

An inspection of the premises above has revealed violation(s) of the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building de (VUSBC). You are directed to bring the violation(c) described below into compliance within the d compliance deadline on this notice. Failure to comply with the requirement of the VUSBC may ult in oriminal processition. Under the Code of Virginia Title 38-106 any such violation shall be deemed vicdemeanor and any owner or any other person, firm or corporation convicted of such a violation shall punished by a fine of not more than \$2,500, per offense

Code Year	VUISEC Code Section	MOLATION	CORRECTIVE ACTION NECESSARY	Compliance Date
2012	113.3 Reg Irep Not Obtained	Nequired Inspection Not Obtained - Failure to obtain required Inspections	Ottain Final Approved Impection on BLD2015-01673	1100/15

You have the right of appeal in accordance with Chapter 1 section 118.6 of the VUSBC 2009 Edition. A written request for appeal shall be submitted to the Local Board of Building Code Appeals within 30 salendar days of receipt of this notice. Contact the inspector if you have any questions or require assistance in bringing this project into compilance with the VUSBC.

A 5 DAYS COOR EXPONENTIAL AGENCIES

#### Violations – Violation Notice

 Exception: the timeframe for compliance does not have to be specified on notices citing a failure to maintain property in accordance with Section 103.2 – Purpose and scope

#### Violations – Coordination

The code official shall coordinate inspections and administrative orders with any other state and local

agencies



#### Violations – Further Action

- When the responsible party has not complied with the notice, the code official may:
  - Request counsel to institute legal proceedings
  - Obtain summons
  - Terminate use
  - Removal of building or structure

#### Violations – Further Action

If the responsible party has complied with the notice, but has been served with 3 or more notices for the same property within a 5 year timeframe, the code official may:

Request counsel to institute legal proceedings

#### Violations – Penalties

- 36-106 prescribes the penalties for successful prosecution of violations
  - Unclassified misdemeanor \$1000
  - Civil schedule of penalties as adopted by locality
  - Court Ordered abatement



#### Unsafe / Unfit - General

- All conditions causing a structure to become unsafe or unfit for human occupancy shall be remedied or corrected
  - In lieu of correcting some conditions, the structure may be vacated and secured against entry or razed and removed
  - Locality can raze and remove with imminent danger

#### Unsafe / Unfit - Inspections

- Code official shall inspect any structure reported or discovered to be unsafe or unfit for human habitation
  - A report identifying the conditions found onsite and any restricted use of the structure shall be filed into the record
  - A copy will be sent to the owner

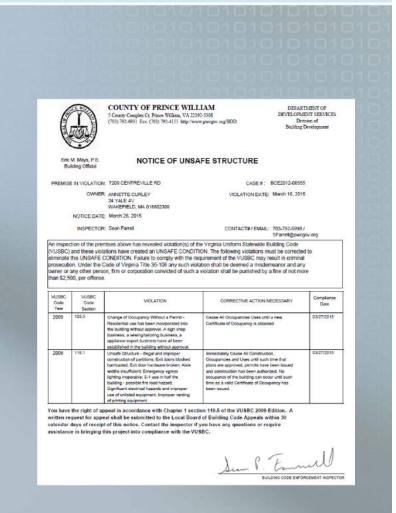
#### Jnsafe / Unfit – Not Maintenance

- Conditions discovered in pre-USBC structures that are deemed a serious hazard for reasons other than failure to maintain (faulty design or equipment):
  - Can require minimum changes to resolve the unsafe condition
  - Does not have to fully comply with VCC or VEBC

#### Jnsafe / Unfit – Notice

#### The Unsafe/Unfit Notice shall be issued and served

- In writing
- To responsible party
  - Registered Agent?
- Section number
- State corrective actions
- State timeframe for compliance/demolition
- Right of appeal



### Jnsafe / Unfit – Vacating

 Unfit OR
 Immediate and imminent danger
 present, the code
 official shall:

- Post Notice
- Placard Building
- Secure if open
- Close streets if needed
- Make emergency repairs / demolish



### Insafe / Unfit – Revocation of CO



 If the Unsafe or Unfit Notice is not complied with, the code official may:

Revoke the certificate of occupancy

#### Appeals Board – Establishment

 36-105 requires every locality to establish a Local
 Board of Building
 Code Appeals



- Meet as necessary
- Appoint officers
- Receive training

#### Appeals Board – Membership

- Shall consist of 5 members appointed by locality who:
  - Render fair decisions
  - Serve staggered terms
  - Represent related occupations
    - 1 Builder
    - 1 RDP
    - 1 Property Manager
    - 2 others

#### Appeals Board – Filing

- Any person aggrieved by decision has right to appeal to LBBCA
  - In writing
  - Within 14 calendar days of decision
  - Name of appellant
  - Owner and address of the structure in question

#### Appeals Board – Meetings

- LBBCA shall meet within 30 days of appeal
  - 45 days if regular meetings are occurring
  - Extensions are permitted if agreed by all parties
  - Notice shall be sent of the date/time
  - Postponement may occur without quorum
    - Reschedule within 30 days

#### Appeals Board – Hearings

#### Hearings are:

- Open to public
- Shall provide all parties the right to be heard
- Facilitated/directed by Chairperson
  - Rule on evidence



#### Appeals Board – Decisions



 LBBCA can by majority vote:
 Uphold
 Reverse
 Modify

#### Appeals Board – Decisions

#### Decisions:

- Be in Writing
- Signed by Chairman
- Retained in the record
- Contain further appeal language to State Technical Review
   Board



#### Definitions – New Terms

- Applicable building code code under which constructed
- Maintained ties operational aspects of use to technical requirements
- Structure unfit for human occupancy – occupancy prohibited
- Unsafe structure a condition which may or may not prohibit occupancy

#### Definitions – Deleted Terms

- Condemn
- Cost of Demo
- Inoperable Vehicles
- Labeled
- Neglect
- Openable AreasPest Elimination

- Strict Liability offense
- UltimateDeformation
- Workmanlike
- Unsafe

#### **Technical Amendments**

- VA amendments relate to narrowing the scope of the section to:
  - The code under which constructed
  - Definition of maintained
  - Only buildings and structures
  - State law and limited retrofitting
  - Operational parameters



# Thank You For Attending



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