

**Grundy County  
Administration Building  
Land Use Department  
1320 Union Street  
Morris, IL 60450  
(815) 941-3229  
(815) 941-3432 (fax)**



5/15/2019

TO: General Contractors

FROM: Robert Pazely; Building and Zoning Officer  
Heidi H. Miller; Director/Plan Reviewer

RE: 2018 International Residential Code/2017 National Electric Code Update

The County Board has adopted the 2018 International Residential Code and the 2017 National Electric Code for the construction of all residential homes in unincorporated Grundy County.

In order to help in this transition, we felt that it would be helpful to provide information in regard to the changes that will be employed during this construction year.

Below is a listing of sections that we thought would be helpful to you:

- 1) Section R-110.1 – Any structures that change the use shall be inspected and provided an occupancy permit whether or not a building permit is issued or not.
- 2) Section R302.5 – Entry doors from the garage into the home shall be fireresistance rated and may have either a self-closer or automatic closer.
- 3) Section R-302.13 – Fire protection of the ceiling membrane through the use of ½” gypsum drywall is required in crawl spaces where gas fired appliances are located.
- 4) Section R-311.7.8 – Handrails shall not project more than 4.5 inches into the stairway and not more from the adjacent wall than 1.5 inches.
- 5) Section 312.1 – Guardrails are only required on portions of open walking surfaces that are greater than 30 inches from the grade below.
- 6) Section R-315.2.2 – Any alterations that are completed under a building permit require that the whole home be installed with smoke and CO detectors. Where possible, the detectors shall be hard wired and battery backed up. If hard wiring is not feasible, battery back- up of these detectors is acceptable. Wireless products are also available.
- 7) Section R-324.6 – When installing solar panels, emergency access to the roof shall

not discharge onto panels. Accessway shall be provided around the edges and at the ridge of the roof for fire department personnel.

8) Section R-325.6 – Habitable attic by definitions allows it whether it is occupiable or not and considers that portion to be part of the floor below and not as a separate story.

9) Section R-408.3 – Unvented crawl spaces shall have a dehumidifier sized for the sf or be conditioned.

10) Section R-507.2 – New section adding specific requirements for plastic resin deck construction.

11) Section R-703.3.1 – Soffit construction now requires that the uplift pressures be more considered and requires that nailing strips be added when greater than 16" o.c.

12) Section R-1005.8 – A shield for factory built fireplace vents that go through insulation layers through an attic space shall be installed to prevent potential combustion of product.

13) Section R-1102.1 – Thermal requirements are set forth for the construction of log cabin homes.

14) Section R-1102.2.2 – R-30 insulation may be used within roofs that have no attic space. All insulation shall be installed such that it covers the top plate.

15) Section R1102.4 – Blower door test has changed such that for our region it is limited to 3 air changes per hour.

16) Section R1103.3.2 – Duct sealing and testing for air duct leakage for assemblies that are not within the building thermal envelope.

17) Section R1103.3.6 – Ductwork that is installed within an attic space and is contained within insulation shall have insulation above the duct work that is R-19 and R-8 below.

18) Section