

ORDINANCE NO. ORD-2019-30

AN ORDINANCE TO REPEAL THE 2014 NATIONAL ELECTRICAL CODE WITH LOCAL AMENDMENTS ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, MARYLAND ON DECEMBER 15, 2015, EFFECTIVE MARCH 1, 2016, AND TO ENACT THE 2017 EDITION OF THE NATIONAL ELECTRICAL CODE, WITH LOCAL AMENDMENTS FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY

RECITALS

The Board of County Commissioners of Washington County, Maryland, being concerned with safety and fire prevention in Washington County, adopted by Ordinance No. ORD-2015-32, the 2014 Edition of the *National Electrical Code*, with local amendments for Washington County, on December 15, 2015, effective March 1, 2016.

It has been recommended to the Board of County Commissioners of Washington County, Maryland, that it adopt the 2017 Edition of the *National Electrical Code* which is more up-to-date and which provides greater electrical safeguards for residents of Washington County, Maryland, if implemented.

It has also been recommended to the Board that certain amendments be made to the text of the 2017 Edition of the *National Electrical Code*.

A public hearing was held on December 3, 2019 following due notice and advertisement of the text of the 2017 Edition of the *National Electrical Code*, with local amendments for Washington County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED that the 2014 Edition of the *National Electrical Code*, with local amendments for Washington County, adopted by the Board of County Commissioners of Washington County, Maryland, by Ordinance No. ORD-2015-32, on December 15, 2015, effective March 1, 2016, and all other ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED that the 2017 Edition of the *National Electrical Code*, the contents of which are incorporated herein by reference, is enacted with the following insertions, amendments, and additions:

[Note: new language is in *italics*]  
[Deletions are shown as ~~striketrough~~]

**ARTICLE 210 – Branch Circuits, is amended as follows:**

Section 210.52. Dwelling Unit Receptacle Outlets, Subsection (E) Outdoor Outlets, and Subsection (G) Basements, Garages, and Accessory Buildings, are amended and shall read as follows:

- (E) **Outdoor Outlets.** Outdoor receptacle outlets shall be installed in accordance with 210.52(E)(1) through (E)(3).

\*\*\*

(3) **Balconies, Decks, and Porches.** Balconies, decks, and porches that are ~~attached to the dwelling unit and~~ accessible from inside the dwelling unit shall have at least one receptacle outlet accessible from the balcony, deck, or porch. The receptacle outlet shall not be located more than 2.0m (6½ ft) above the balcony, deck, or porch walking surface.

- 
- (G) **Basements, Garages, and Accessory Buildings.** For a one- and two-family dwelling, at least one receptacle outlet shall be installed in the areas specified in 210.52(G)(1) through (3). These receptacles shall be in addition to receptacles required for specific equipment.

- (1) **Garages.** In each attached garage and in each detached garage with electric power, at least one receptacle outlet shall be installed for each vehicle bay and not more than 1.7 m (5 ½ ft.) above the floor. *The receptacle outlets located in each attached and each detached garage with electric power shall be installed at a minimum height of 450 mm (18 in.) above the finished garage floor.*
- (2) **Accessory Buildings.** In each accessory building with electric power.
- (3) **Basements.** In each separate unfinished portion of a basement.

\*\*\*

**ARTICLE 250 – Grounding, is amended as follows:**

Section 250.53. Grounding Electrode System Installation, Subsection (A) Rod, Pipe, and Plate Electrodes, is amended by adding Subsection (4) which shall read as follows:

\*\*\*

- (4) *The use of two 2.5 m × 16 mm (8 ft. × 5/8 in.) galvanized ground rods spaced a minimum of 1.8 m (6 ft.) apart shall be required for all new and upgraded residential electrical services.*

\*\*\*

**ARTICLE 300 – Wiring Methods, is amended as follows:**

Section 300.5 Underground Installations, Subsection (D), Protection from Damage, Subsection (3) Service Conductors, is amended and shall read as follows:

\*\*\*

- (3) *All underground Conductors - Underground conductors that are not encased in concrete and that are buried 450 mm (18 in.) or more below grade shall have their location identified by a warning ribbon that is placed in the trench at least 300 mm (12 in.) above the underground installation.*

**ARTICLE 334 – Nonmetallic- Sheathed Cable: Types NM, NMC, and NMS, is amended as follows:**

Section 334.30, Securing and Supporting, is amended and shall read as follows:

334.30. Securing and Supporting. Nonmetallic-sheathed cable shall be supported and secured by *insulated* staples, cable ties listed and identified for securement and support; or straps, hangers, or similar fittings designed and installed so as not to damage the cable at intervals not exceeding 1.4 m (4½ ft.) and within 300 mm (12 in.) of every cable entry into enclosures such as outlet boxes, junction boxes, cabinets, or fittings. Flat cables shall not be stapled on edge.

Sections of cable protected from physical damage by raceway shall not be required to be secured within the raceway.

\*\*\*

**ARTICLE 680 – Swimming Pools, Fountains, and Similar Installations, is amended as follows:**

Section 680.26 Equipotential Bonding, Subsection (B) Bonded Parts Subsection (2) Perimeter Surfaces is amended as follows:

(2) Perimeter Surfaces. The perimeter surface to be bonded shall be considered to extend for 1 m (3 ft.) horizontally beyond the inside walls of the pool and shall include unpaved surfaces, as well as poured concrete surfaces and other types of paving. Perimeter surfaces less than 1 m (3 ft.) separated from the pool by a permanent wall or building 1.5 m (5 ft.) in height or more shall require equipotential bonding only on the pool side of the permanent wall or building. Bonding to perimeter surfaces shall be provided as specified in 680.26(B)(2)(a) or (2)(b) and shall be attached to the pool reinforcing steel or copper conductor grid at a minimum of four (4) points uniformly spaced around the perimeter of the pool. For nonconductive pool shells, bonding at four points shall not be required.

- (a) Structural Reinforcing Steel. Structural reinforcing steel shall be bonded in accordance with 680.26(B)(1)(a).
- ~~(b) Alternate Means. Where structural reinforcing steel is not available or is encapsulated in a nonconductive compound, a copper conductor(s) shall be utilized where the following requirements are met.~~
  - ~~(1) At least one minimum 8 AWC bare solid copper conductor shall be provided.~~
  - ~~(2) The conductors shall follow the contour of the perimeter surface.~~
  - ~~(3) Only listed splices shall be permitted.~~
  - ~~(4) The required conductor shall be 450 to 600 mm (18 in. to 24 in.) from the inside walls of the pool.~~
  - ~~(5) The required conductor shall be secured within or under the perimeter surface 100mm to 150mm (4 in. to 6 in.) below the~~

subgrade.

Adopted this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of December, 2019.  
Effective the 1<sup>st</sup> day of March, 2020.

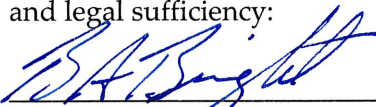
ATTEST:

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, MARYLAND

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Krista L. Hart, Clerk

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jeffrey A. Cline, President

Approved as to form  
and legal sufficiency:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
B. Andrew Bright  
Assistant County Attorney

Mail to:  
Office of the County Attorney  
100 W. Washington Street, Ste 1101  
Hagerstown, MD 21740

\\WASHCO-MD.NET\COUNTYATTORNEY\DOCUMENTS\PERMITS\2017  
CODE\ORD\ORDINANCE ADOPTING 2017 NEC - DRAFT (VLG).DOC

NATIONAL

ELECTRICAL