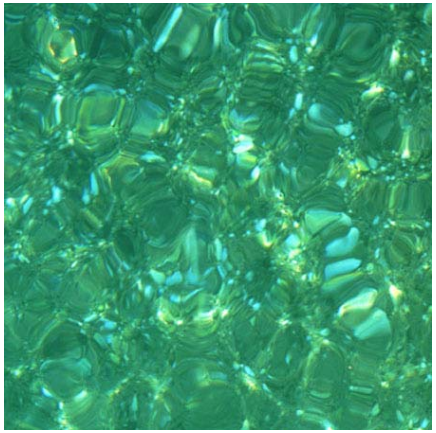

An Overview of the 2012 International Green Construction Code

IgCC

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Objectives

- This presentation is intended to communicate:
  - How the IgCC fits in the context of green building standards and rating systems
  - How and why the IgCC was developed
  - Where the IgCC has been adopted
  - How you can make a difference

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What is the IgCC?

- An Adoptable, Useable and Enforceable *code*.
- Intended to reduce the negative impacts of the built environment on the natural environment
- Addresses
  - Conservation of:
    - Natural resources
    - Materials
    - Energy
    - Water
  - Air & indoor environmental quality

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Intent and Scope

- Consistent and coordinated with the ICC family of Codes & Standards
- Intended to be enforced primarily by building officials
- Intended to drive green building into everyday practice
- Applicable to the construction of
  - All buildings, both old and new, except:
    - IRC Buildings
    - R-3 Occupancies
    - R-2 and R-4 Occupancies 4 stories or less in height.
  - Exceptions above are regulated by ICC 700 where the jurisdiction indicates so in Table 302.1.

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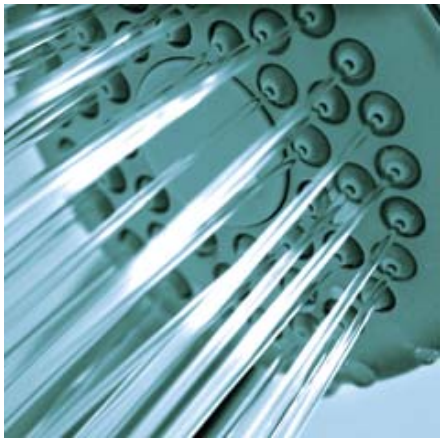
Developed By:

- IgCC developed by **ICC** in association with cooperating sponsors:
  - ✓ **ASTM** and
  - ✓ **AIA**
- References **ASHRAE 189.1** as an *alternative compliance path*, as developed by:
  - ✓ **ASHRAE** and partners
  - ✓ **IES** and
  - ✓ **USGBC**



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IgCC Context

- Unlike USGBC's LEED programs, the IgCC was conceived and written with the intent to be adopted on a mandatory basis.
- Only jurisdictions can determine whether the IgCC is adopted on a mandatory or a voluntary basis.
- Voluntary adoptions can open the door to future mandatory adoptions.
- Where adopted on a *mandatory* basis, the IgCC raises the floor of sustainability for all buildings – positioning the IgCC to achieve massive environmental benefits not possible with *voluntary* rating systems.

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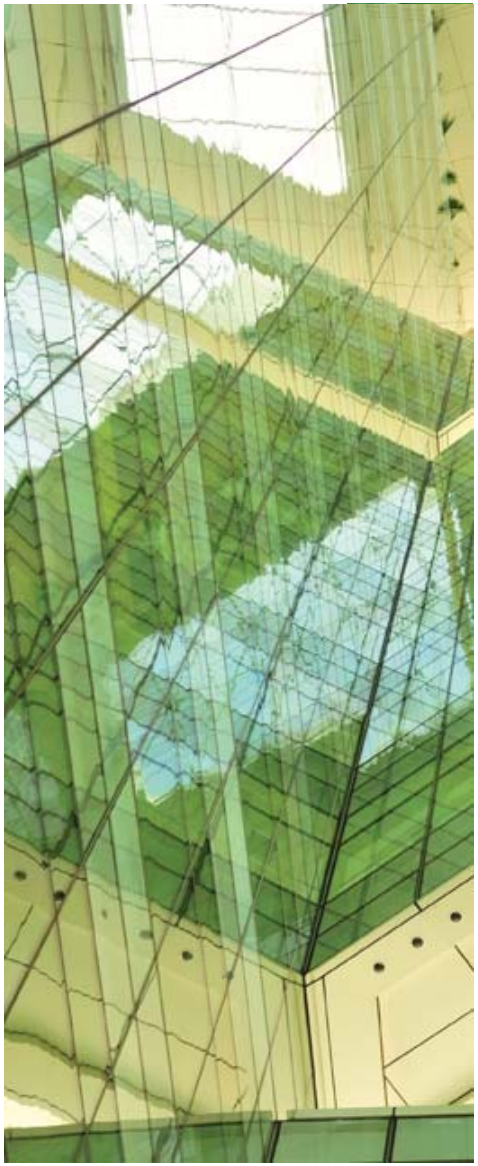
IgCC Context

- The IgCC is *not* a rating system, nor is it intended to replace them.
- The IgCC is code which is intended to be adopted on a mandatory basis although most early adoptions are voluntary.
- Unlike most rating systems, the IgCC primarily consists of minimum mandatory requirements, just as other I-Codes.
- The IgCC contains a new regulatory framework that facilitates both jurisdictional customization and flexibility for owners and designers.



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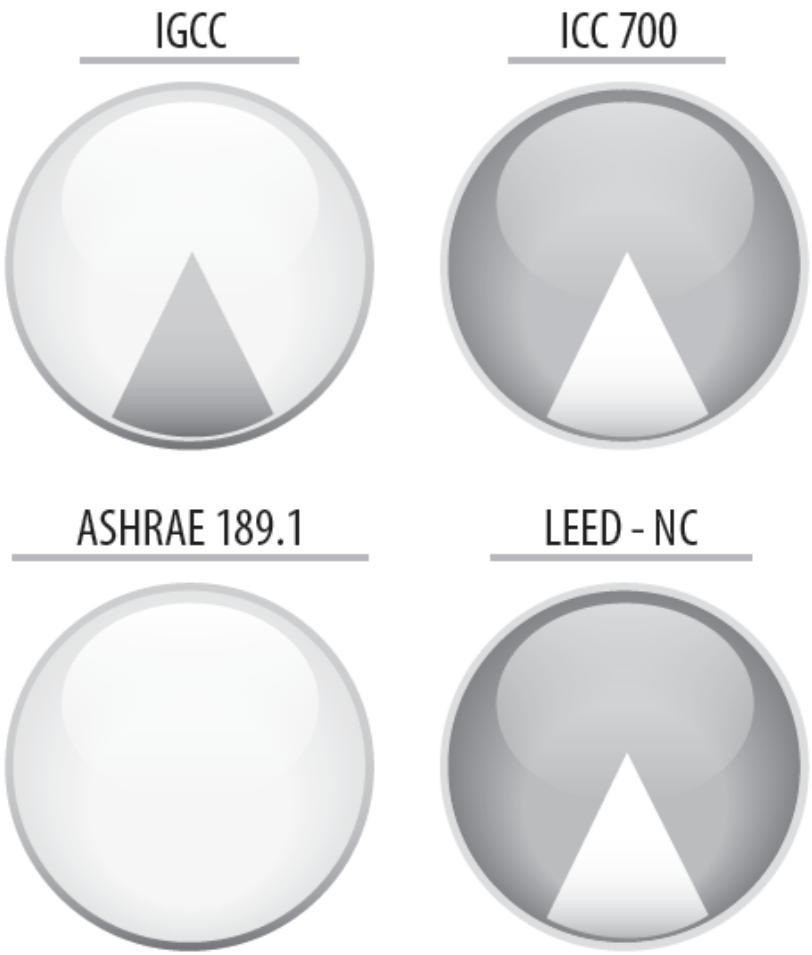
Mandatory vs. Elective Provisions



MANDATORY

ELECTIVE

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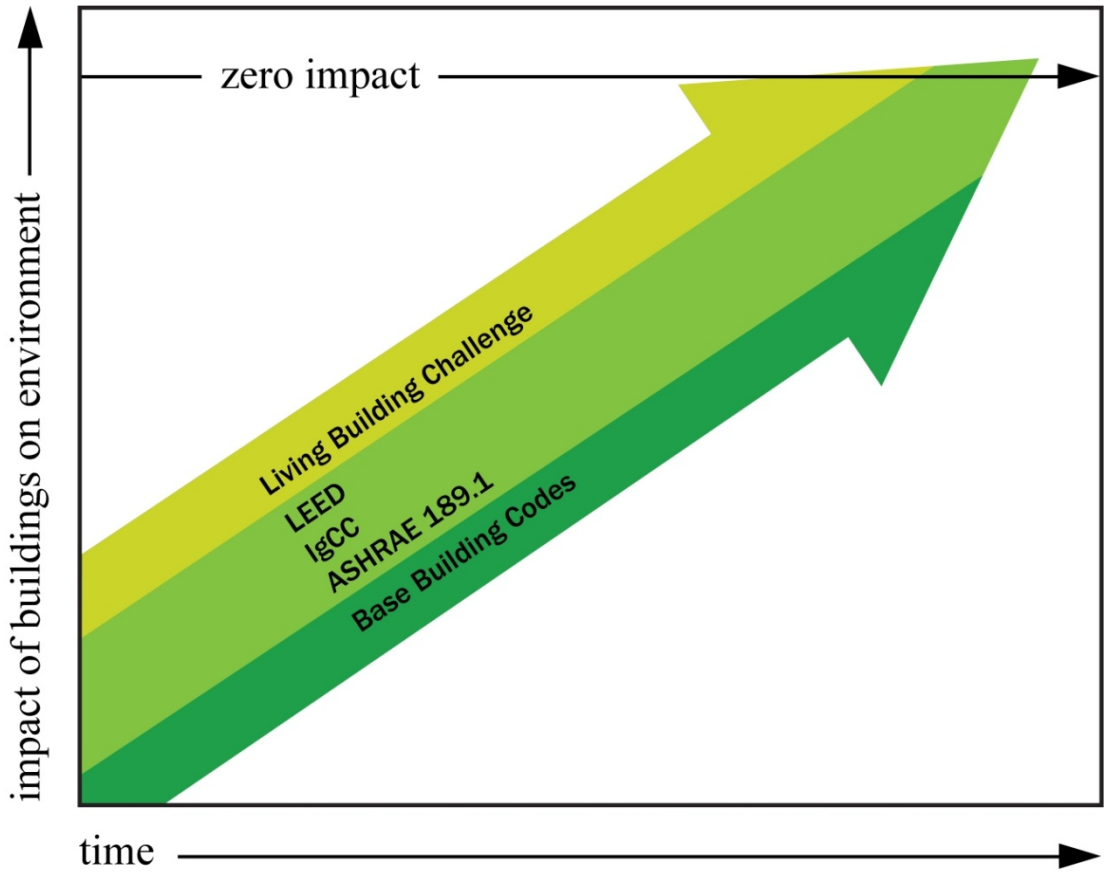
IgCC and other GB Programs



Most GB codes, standards and ratings systems do not yet produce truly sustainable buildings. **But they are all pushing, pulling and leapfrogging each other as they all move gradually toward this goal.**

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IgCC Benefits to Code Adoption Agencies

- IgCC is designed to be enforced by the existing Building Code Enforcement system
- IgCC is compatible and coordinated with other ICC codes
- ICC's Support Infrastructure:
  - Training
  - Certification of Enforcement Personnel
  - IgCC Code Interpretations for ICC members
  - Specialized Publications
  - ICC ES listing for IgCC related products
  - Commissioning structure for IgCC buildings

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IgCC Organization & Content

Ch's 1 & 2: Scope, Administration and Definitions

Ch 3: Jurisdictional Requirements – Customization

Ch 4: Site Development and Land Use – Preservation of Natural Resources, Land Use, etc

Ch 5: Material Resource Conservation and Efficiency

Ch 6: Energy Conservation & Efficiency

Ch 7: Water Conservation & Efficiency

Ch 8: Indoor Environmental Quality and Control

Ch 9: Commissioning and Maintenance

Ch 10: Existing Buildings

Appendix A: Project Electives

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IgCC Ch 5 – Material Resource Conservation and Efficiency

- **505.2.4 Bio-based materials.** Bio-based materials shall be those materials that comply with one or more of the following:
  1. The bio-based content is not less than 75% as determined by testing in accordance with ASTM D6866
  2. Wood and wood products…. shall be labeled in accordance with the **SFI Standard, FSC STD-40-004 V2-1 EN, PEFC Council Technical Document** or equivalent *fiber procurement system…*

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The IgCC is currently adopted in:

- Rhode Island
- Maryland
- North Carolina
- Florida
- Oregon
- Richland, WA
- Keene, NH
- Ft. Collins, CO
- Kayenta Township, AZ
- Boynton Beach, FL
- Phoenix, AZ
- Scottsdale, AZ

IgCC Under Review

Colorado: Denver and Denver County

Idaho: City of Ketchum and Boise

Kentucky: State Level Review

Nebraska: Omaha

Nevada: The Southern Nevada Building Officials have indicated they will evaluate the IgCC as an approved regional voluntary code.

New Jersey: State Level Review

Texas: The City of Dallas

Utah: University of Utah has indicated it will adopt the 2012 IgCC

Wisconsin: City of Oak Creek reviewing the IgCC for anticipated municipal construction and a multi use development. AB 737 introduced in 2012 to specify the IgCC or ASHRAE 189.1 for Public Construction (Local Government)

Washington DC: IgCC is under review

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Interest in the IgCC

California: Possible IgCC as basis for Cal-Green

Indiana: Interested

Kansas: Lawrence

Massachusetts: Possible consideration of the IgCC as part of the Stretch Energy Code.

Minnesota: State level, Minneapolis and Maplewood interest

New Mexico: Albuquerque

New York: State considering allowing local govt to offer the IgCC as an option

South Carolina: Interest in SC in making the code one of the optional codes for local adoption.

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You Can Make A Difference

ICC Legislative Alert Service: Every Morning the ICC Government Relations Staff receives a report of all legislation and rules that mention or reference ICC codes, services or products. This includes references to LEED, Green Globe, Brownfield, Energy Efficiency, etc.

ICC Action: Upon receipt of an opportunity for ICC codes or standards to be referenced in legislation or regulation, the ICC Government Relations Rep will contact ICC members and construction industry stakeholders in the state to generate interest for the inclusion of ICC codes or standards in the legislation.

ICC Alert Service: When ICC, ICC members, construction industry stakeholders and other allies determine that the issue is worth actively pursuing, ICC can implement it's Grassroots Alert System to generate emails, calls, faxes and personal contact with legislators to secure their support.

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What can You Do?

Find your ICC Govt Relations Rep:
Go to: http://www.iccsafe.org/gr/Pages/gr-map.aspx Click on the state of interest. You will find contact information for your Govt Relations Rep, ICC Board Member and a list of ICC Chapters in that state. Your first contact should be the Govt Relations Rep. He or she will be familiar with stakeholders and activists on issues like IgCC adoptions.

Find your Elected Officials: Go to: http://capwiz.com/iccsafe/home/ This is ICC's Legislative Action Center. The "Find Your Elected Official" Box will enable you to find contact information for members of your state legislature.

Visit, Write, Fax, E-mail, Phone your Elected Officials: Personal contact from constituents is an extremely effective form of lobbying, and you do not have to be a lobbyist to do it. Work together with your colleagues and business associates to organize a day at the capitol (pick a day when they are in session) to personally visit with your elected officials.

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What can You Do?

Mobilize your Colleagues: Encourage your colleagues and business associates to contact their representatives and senators to support the inclusion of the IgCC into legislation or rules.

Effective Communication with Elected Officials: Encourage your colleagues and business associates to contact their representatives and senators to support the inclusion of the IgCC into legislation or rules.

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For more information see:

www.iccsafe.org/igcc

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