

MEA and Newport Partners are committed to providing Maryland's Energy Code stakeholders with the support and education necessary to improve code compliance and the Maryland built environment.

INSIDE THE ENERGY CODE

Keeping You Informed!



Light It Right!

Lighting requirements are one item that has quietly become increasingly more stringent with each edition of the International Energy Conservation Code. The 2009 version of the code included a prescriptive requirement that 50% of residential lighting had to be considered “high efficacy.” Today, with the 2015 IECC, it is mandatory that 75% of lighting throughout the home be high efficacy.

When we discuss “high efficacy” bulbs or fixtures, we are primarily talking about three types of lighting; LEDs, CFLs, and linear fluorescent lamps. Most of us are familiar with CFLs and linear fluorescents because they have been the go-to-choice for an energy efficient bulb in recent past and are fairly easy to identify. However, the lighting landscape is changing and LEDs are starting to become more and more prevalent in residential lighting. Advancements in technology have increased LED product lines and declining prices are making this lighting technology a more viable, and more efficient option.

Adding steam to the LED movement, GE [recently announced](#) that they will stop making CFLs by the end of the year and make a complete transition to LED technology. Major retail outlets such as Sam’s Club, Walmart, and Ikea have also been moving away from CFLs and replacing them on the shelves with LEDs. Additionally, the US Department of Energy and EnergyStar both

have [proposed new lighting standards](#) that will make it harder for CFLs to qualify.

As LEDs begin to take over the residential lighting market it becomes critical for building professionals to understand what they are looking at or looking for. Identifying whether a bulb or fixture is an LED is not as simple as looking for the squiggly shape of a CFL. Many LED technologies are designed to have the same look as a traditional incandescent and some are even designed to look like a vintage Edison filament bulb. Integrated LED technologies are also becoming more prevalent particularly in vanity fixtures, ceiling surface mounts, and under-cabinet lighting.

The bottom line is that we are all responsible for ensuring the homes in Maryland meet the **MANDATORY** lighting requirements of the Energy Code. Builders and Trade Professionals must understand what their options are for “high-efficacy” lighting and Code Officials must know what to look for and enforce it.



On behalf of the Maryland Energy Administration (MEA), Newport Partners will have a booth at MBIA's BuilderMart on Wednesday, March 23rd at the Maryland State Fairgrounds in Timonium, MD. Now in its 46th year, the event is the largest, one-day building industry trade show in Maryland.

Newport will be on hand to answer questions related to the energy code and discuss some of the preliminary results from the Department of Energy's Residential Field Study. Be sure to stop by our booth to learn about our training and education services and how we can help your team better understand the requirements of Maryland's Energy Code.

[Register for BuilderMart today!](#)



Below is a list of training courses currently scheduled by Newport Partners. If you are interested in attending or hosting one of these trainings, or an on-site field training, please use the registration links below or contact us at energycodecoach@newportpartnersllc.com.

4/7- Charles County, MD

Residential Provisions of the 2015 IECC

3/9- Montgomery County, MD

2015 IECC Commercial: Building Envelope and Lighting

3/10- Montgomery County, MD

2015 IECC Commercial: Mechanical Systems



Contact our Energy Code Coach hotline to get all your Energy code questions answered by our experienced staff. We are here to help you understand the code so you can concentrate on the job at hand.

Contact us today!

energycodecoach@newportpartnersllc.com

301-889-0017



*Copyright © *|2015|* *|Newport Parnters|*, All rights reserved.*