Significant Changes to the 2023 National Electrical Code*

For one and two-family dwelling units

EFFECTIVE MARCH 12, 2024

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1. NEC Section: 210.8(A)
   Topic: GFCIs for Kitchens
   Deccription: This change expands the requirement for GFCI-protected receptacles in the kitchen. The requirement now applies to receptacles anywhere in the kitchen as well as in any area with a sink and permanent provisions for food preparation, beverage preparation, or cooking. This requirement previously was limited to kitchen receptacles serving the countertop surfaces.

2. NEC Section: 210.8(D)
   Topic: GFCIs for Specific Appliances
   Deccription: This change expands the requirement for GFCI-protected branch circuits or outlets to include those serving electric ranges, wall-mounted ovens, counter-mounted cooking units, clothes dryers and microwave ovens, no matter where they are located. The list of appliances was previously found in Section 422.5(A) and included seven items.

3. NEC Section: 210.8(F)
   Deccription: GFCIs for Outdoor Outlets
   Topic: This change removes the requirement for air conditioner condenser units and heat pumps to have GFCI protection. It should be noted that a similar change was also made to the 2020 edition through a Tentative Interim Amendment that went into effect September 2022. The requirement for GFCI was also expanded to include garages that have floors located at or below grade level, accessory buildings, and boathouses.

4. NEC Section: 210.11(C)(4)
   Topic: Garage Branch Circuits
   Deccription: This change clarifies that additional branch circuits are permitted beyond the one supplying the required receptacle outlets in each vehicle bay. It also allows additional equipment to be supplied by the required circuit in garages with a single vehicle bay as long as the rating of such equipment does not exceed the limits of the branch-circuit ampere ratings.

5. NEC Section: 210.12(B)
   Topic: AFCI Protection in Dwelling Units
   Deccription: With the adoption of the 2023 NEC, 120-volt, single-phase, 15- and 20-ampere branch circuits supplying outlets or devices installed in dwelling unit kitchens, family rooms, dining rooms, living rooms, parlors, libraries, dens, bedrooms, sunrooms, recreation rooms, closets, hallways, laundry areas, or similar rooms or areas

6. NEC Section: 210.23(A)

Topic: 10-Ampere Branch Circuits

Deccription: This change establishes a new section allowing 10-ampere branch circuits for lighting and exhaust fans. Certain loads are also prohibited, such as receptacle outlets, garage door openers and laundry equipment. The change addresses higher efficiencies in lighting and other equipment which result in lower electrical loads and may lead to oversizing circuit wiring and connected devices, such as circuit breakers. This change is one of several that are necessary to recognize 14 AWG copper-clad aluminum for branch circuit applications installed using a 10-ampere branch circuit.

7. NEC Section: 210.52(C)(2)

Topic: Receptacles on Kitchen Islands and Peninsulas

Deccription: This change removes the requirement for providing receptacles to serve countertops and work surfaces on kitchen islands and peninsulas but requires undefined provisions for a future receptacle if none are provided. This section previously required one or more receptacles to serve islands and peninsulas based on their countertop area.

8. NEC Section: 210.52(C)(3)

Topic: Kitchen Receptacle Outlet Location

Deccription: This change limits the location of receptacle outlets in kitchens. They can be installed in, on, or above countertops and work surfaces. In addition to these locations, this section previously allowed receptacle outlets to be installed not more than 12 inches below the countertop or work surface. Prior to the 2020 NEC, this allowance only applied to construction for the physically impaired and on certain islands and peninsulas.

9. NEC Section: 220.5(C)

Topic: Load Calculations

Deccription: This adds the requirement for the floor area of garages to be included when calculating the minimum lighting load for dwelling units. Note: The charging language is found in Section 220.41.

10. NEC Section: 230.67

Topic: Surge-Protective Device Ratings

Deccription: This change adds the requirement for surge-protective devices (SPDs) to have a nominal discharge current rating of not less than 10kA. SPDs were added to the 2020 NEC, and no minimum rating was required.

11. NEC Section: 230.85 * See Note 1

Topic: Emergency Disconnects (For new services and existing services with panel changes)

Deccription: This new section requires one- and two-family dwelling units to have a labeled disconnecting means installed in a readily accessible outdoor location.

12. NEC Section: 406.9(C)

Topic: Receptacles Installed Around Tub or Shower Spaces

Deccription: This change clarifies that the zone restricting the location of receptacles around a tub or shower space does not include those spaces separated by a floor, wall, ceiling, room door, window, or fixed barrier. The 2020 NEC extended the zone 3 feet beyond the bathtub rim or shower stall threshold.

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2023 National Electrical Code Adoption Kit

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2023 National Electrical Code

**The information in this document is provided only for general reference and does not reflect all changes in the 2023 National Electric Code (NEC). The National Fire Protection Association develops and publishes the NEC.*

*** Note1:** Part 8 rules of Michigan Electrical Code is set to modify 230.85 Emergency Disconnects as follows:

"230.85 Emergency disconnects. For 1- and 2-family dwelling units, an emergency disconnecting means shall be installed.

(A) General.

(1) Location. The disconnecting means shall be installed in a readily accessible outdoor location on or within sight of the dwelling unit.

Exception: Where the requirements of section 225.41 are met, this section shall not apply.

(2) Rating. The disconnecting means shall have a short-circuit current rating equal to or greater than the available fault current.

(3) Grouping. If more than 1 disconnecting means are provided, they shall be grouped.

(B) Disconnects. Each disconnect shall be a service disconnect.

(C) Replacement. Where service equipment is replaced, all the requirements of this section shall apply.

(D) Exception: Where only meter sockets, service entrance conductors, or related raceways and fittings are replaced, the requirements of this section shall not apply.

(E) Identification of other isolation disconnects. Where equipment for isolation of other energy source systems is not located adjacent to the emergency disconnect required by this section, a plaque or directory identifying the location of all equipment for isolation of other energy sources shall be located adjacent to the disconnecting means required by this section.

(F) Marking.

(1) Marking text. The service disconnecting means shall be marked as follows: "EMERGENCY DISCONNECT, SERVICE DISCONNECT".