

CHAPTER 23

UNIFORM CONSTRUCTION CODE

Authority

N.J.S.A. 52:27D-123, 123a, 123.2, 123.5, 123.8, 124 and 124f.

Source and Effective Date

R.1997 d.409, effective September 9, 1997.
See: 29 N.J.R. 2736(a), 29 N.J.R. 4281(a).

Chapter Expiration Date

In accordance with N.J.S.A. 52:14B-5.1c, Chapter 23, Uniform Construction Code, expires on March 8, 2003. See: 34 N.J.R. 351(a).

Chapter Historical Note

Chapter 23, Uniform Construction Code, was adopted as R.1976 d.344, d.345, d.346 and d.347, effective January 1, 1977 and codified as Subchapter 1, General Provisions; Subchapter 2, Administration and Enforcement Process; Subchapter 3, Subcodes, and Subchapter 4, Enforcing Agencies: Duties, Powers, Procedures. See: 8 N.J.R. 216(b), 319(a), 370(d), 414(a); 8 N.J.R. 546(a). Chapter 23 superseded N.J.A.C. 5:16, Standard Building Code and N.J.A.C. 5:20, Safety Glazing Materials, which were repealed by R.1978 d.360, effective October 6, 1978. See: 10 N.J.R. 377(a), 10 N.J.R. 470(a). Chapter 23 also superseded N.J.A.C. 5:21, Uniform Standards Code for Mobile Homes, which was repealed by R.1982 d.7, effective February 1, 1982. See: 13 N.J.R. 717(a), 14 N.J.R. 142(a). Subchapter 5, Licensing of Code Enforcement Officials, was adopted as R.1977 d.304, effective October 1, 1977. See: 9 N.J.R. 257(b), 9 N.J.R. 413(b). Subchapter 6, Tax Exemption for Solar Facilities, was adopted as R.1978 d.334, effective September 18, 1978. See: 10 N.J.R. 222(b), 10 N.J.R. 418(a). Pursuant to Executive Order No. 66(1978), Subchapter 6 was readopted as R.1980 d.303, effective July 1, 1980. See: 12 N.J.R. 249(c), 12 N.J.R. 452(c).

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 66(1978), Chapter 23 was readopted as R.1983 d.144, effective April 26, 1983. See: 14 N.J.R. 1247(a), 15 N.J.R. 803(c). Subchapter 7, Barrier Free Subcode, was adopted as R.1986 d.448, effective November 3, 1986. See: 18 N.J.R. 757(a), 18 N.J.R. 2194(a). Subchapter 8, Asbestos Hazard Abatement Subcode, was adopted as Emergency New Rules R.1985 d.362, effective June 18, 1985 (expired August 17, 1985). See: 17 N.J.R. 1782(a). The provisions of R.1985 d.362 were readopted as R.1985 d.472, effective August 16, 1985. See: 17 N.J.R. 2249(a).

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 66(1978), Chapter 23 was readopted as R.1988 d.168, effective March 22, 1988. N.J.A.C. 5:23-6.1, 6.2 and 6.3, concerning tax exemption for solar facilities, were not readopted and expired on April 1, 1988. See: 20 N.J.R. 223(a), 20 N.J.R. 893(a). Subchapter 9, Code Interpretations, was adopted as R.1988 d.195, effective May 2, 1988. See: 20 N.J.R. 224(a), 20 N.J.R. 977(a). Subchapter 10, Radon Hazard Subcode, was adopted as R.1990 d.226, effective May 7, 1990. See: 21 N.J.R. 3696(a), 22 N.J.R. 1356(a). Subchapter 4A, Industrialized/Modular Buildings and Building Components, was adopted as R.1990 d.313, effective June 18, 1990, (operative July 1, 1990). See: 22 N.J.R. 691(a), 22 N.J.R. 1915(b). Subchapter 11, Indoor Air Quality Standards and Procedures for Buildings Occupied by Public Employees, was adopted as R.1992 d.33, effective January 21, 1992. See: 23 N.J.R. 1730(b), 24 N.J.R. 229(c). Subchapter 12, Elevator Safety Subcode, was adopted as R.1991 d.325, effective July 1, 1991. See: 23 N.J.R. 805(a), 23 N.J.R. 2046(a).

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 66(1978), Chapter 23 was readopted as R.1993 d.106, effective February 3, 1993. See: 24 N.J.R. 1420(b), 25 N.J.R. 920(a). Subchapter 4B, Manufactured Homes and Manufactured Home Add-On Units Not Subject to Federal Regulation, and Subchapter 4C, Enforcement of Federal Manufactured Home

Standards, were adopted as R.1994 d.96, effective February 22, 1994. See: 25 N.J.R. 5388(a), 26 N.J.R. 1073(a). N.J.A.C. 5:23-7.1 through 7.99 were repealed and 7.100 through 7.116 were recodified as 7.2 through 7.18 by R.1995 d.144, effective March 20, 1995 (operative July 1, 1995). See: 26 N.J.R. 2698(a), 26 N.J.R. 2524(a), 27 N.J.R. 1180(a). Subchapter 11, Indoor Air Quality Standards and Procedures for Buildings Occupied by Public Employees, was repealed by R.1995 d.612, effective December 4, 1995 (operative July 1, 1995). See: 27 N.J.R. 3518(a), 27 N.J.R. 4885(a).

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 66(1978), Chapter 23 was readopted as R.1997 d.409, effective September 9, 1997. See: Source and Effective Date. As a part of R.1997 d.409, effective October 6, 1997, Subchapter 6, Tax Exemption, was repealed. See, also, section annotations.

Cross References

Child care center physical facility requirements, see N.J.A.C. 10:122-5.1 et seq.

Children's group home physical facility requirements, see N.J.A.C. 10:128-4.1 et seq.

Children's shelter physical facility requirements, see N.J.A.C. 10:124-5.1 et seq.

Residential child care facility maintenance and sanitation requirements, see N.J.A.C. 10:127-4.4.

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SUBCHAPTER 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

5:23-1.1 Title; division into subchapters

(a) These regulations shall be known as the “Regulations for the New Jersey Uniform Construction Code” and are referred to herein as “the regulations”.

(b) The chapter consists of the following subchapters:

1. “General provisions” which may be cited throughout the regulations as N.J.A.C. 5:23-1 and when referred to in subchapter 1 of this chapter may be cited as this subchapter.

2. “Administration and enforcement; process” which may be cited throughout the regulations as N.J.A.C. 5:23-2 and when referred to in subchapter 2 of this chapter may be cited as this subchapter.

3. “Subcodes” which may be cited throughout the regulations as N.J.A.C. 5:23-3 and when referred to in subchapter 3 of this chapter may be cited as this subchapter.

i. N.J.A.C. 5:23-3.11B contains references to the Department of Environmental Protection’s rules concerning underground storage tanks, codified at N.J.A.C. 7:14B, which are jointly enforced by this Department and local enforcing agencies pursuant to this chapter.

4. “Enforcing agencies: duties, powers, and procedures” which may be cited throughout the regulations as N.J.A.C. 5:23-4 of this chapter and when referred to in subchapter 4 of this chapter may be cited as this subchapter.

5. “Industrialized/Modular Buildings and Building Components” which may be cited throughout the regulations as N.J.A.C. 5:23-4A and when referred to N.J.A.C. 5:23-4A may be cited as this subchapter.

6. “Manufactured Homes and Manufactured Home Add-On Units Not Subject to Federal Regulations” which may be cited throughout the regulations as N.J.A.C. 5:23-4B and when referred to in subchapter 4B may be cited as this subchapter.

7. “Enforcement of Federal Manufactured Home Standards” which may be cited throughout the regulations as N.J.A.C. 5:23-4C and when referred to in subchapter 4C may be cited as this subchapter.

8. “Licensing of Code Enforcement Officials” which may be cited throughout the regulations as N.J.A.C. 5:23-5 and when referred to in subchapter 5 of this chapter may be cited as this subchapter.

9. “Rehabilitation Subcode” which may be cited throughout the regulations as N.J.A.C. 5:23-6 and, when referred to in subchapter 6 of this chapter, may be cited as this subchapter.

10. “Barrier Free Subcode” which may be cited throughout the regulations as N.J.A.C. 5:23-7 and when referred to in subchapter 7 of this chapter may be cited as this subchapter.

11. “Asbestos Hazard Abatement Subcode” which may be cited throughout the regulations as N.J.A.C. 5:23-8 and when referred to in subchapter 8 of this chapter may be cited as this subchapter.

12. “Code Interpretations” which may be cited throughout the regulations as N.J.A.C. 5:23-9 and when referred to in subchapter 9 of this chapter may be cited as this subchapter.

(d) Post abatement sampling and analysis for an asbestos hazard abatement project shall be performed as per EPA 40 CFR 763.90i. Samples collected within the affected work area shall be analyzed by TEM.

(e) Post abatement sampling and analysis for an asbestos hazard abatement project utilizing the glovebag technique and encapsulation shall be as follows:

1. One sample per 10,000 square feet of work area with a minimum of five samples shall be required. Samples collected within the affected work area may be analyzed by PCM to confirm completion of an asbestos abatement project using the methodology specified in NIOSH 7400.

(f) For TEM analysis, the project shall be considered complete when the results of samples collected in the affected work area comply with 40 CFR 763.90 and Appendix A to Subpart E. Maximum turnaround time from sample collection through data reporting shall be 72 hours.

(g) For PCM analysis, the project shall be considered complete when the results of samples collected in the affected work area show that the concentration of fibers for each of the five samples is less than or equal to 0.01 fibers per cubic centimeter.

(h) When the air analysis results for projects covered by this subchapter show asbestos fiber concentrations above the acceptance criteria, then clean-up shall be repeated until compliance is achieved by re-cleaning all surfaces using wet methods and operating all HEPA equipped air pressure differential units to filter the air.

New Rule R.1986 d.143, effective May 5, 1986.

See: 18 N.J.R. 378(a), 18 N.J.R. 949(a).

Amended by R.1989 d.342, effective July 3, 1989.

See: 20 N.J.R. 1130(b), 21 N.J.R. 1844(b).

Recodified old 8.20 as new 8.21. Section 8.21 was formerly "Demolition".

Recodified from 5:23-8.23 by R.1993 d.198, effective June 7, 1993.

See: 24 N.J.R. 1422(a), 25 N.J.R. 2519(b).

Prior text at section, "Appeals", repealed.

5:23-8.22 Disposal of asbestos waste

(a) The disposal of friable/non-friable asbestos-containing material and asbestos-contaminated waste from the project site shall be in accordance with New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and Energy requirements specified in N.J.A.C. 7:26 and 40 CFR Part 61, Subpart M.

Amended by R.1986 d.143, effective May 5, 1986.

See: 18 N.J.R. 378(a), 18 N.J.R. 949(a).

Recodified from 8.13 and substantially amended.

Amended by R.1987 d.525, effective December 21, 1987.

See: 19 N.J.R. 902(a), 19 N.J.R. 2389(a).

Substantially amended.

Amended by R.1989 d.342, effective July 3, 1989.

See: 20 N.J.R. 1130(b), 21 N.J.R. 1844(b).

Recodified old 8.14 as new 8.15, no change in text. Section 8.15 was formerly "Duties of the asbestos safety technician".

Recodified from 5:23-8.15 and amended by R.1993 d.198, effective June 7, 1993.

See: 24 N.J.R. 1422(a), 25 N.J.R. 2519(b).

Prior section, "Demolition", recodified as 5:23-8.18.

SUBCHAPTER 9. CODE INTERPRETATIONS

5:23-9.1 Interpretation: Application of the Plumbing Subcode to certain mobile homes

(a) Chapter 18 of the Plumbing Subcode (National Standard Plumbing Code) is not applicable to permanently installed mobile homes meeting the Federal Manufactured Home Construction and Safety Standards, 24 C.F.R. Part 3280.

(b) An approved structure placed on a site for use as a permanent dwelling shall meet the requirements of the State Plumbing Subcode, excluding Chapter 18 of the Plumbing Subcode (National Standard Plumbing Code), or, if applicable, the Federal Manufactured Home Construction and Safety Standards.

Amended by R.1995 d.647, effective December 18, 1995 (operative March 18, 1996).

See: 27 N.J.R. 3517(a), 27 N.J.R. 5012(a).

5:23-9.2 Interpretation: Construction Permit for a single family residence

(a) Any application for a construction permit for a single family residence shall be accompanied by at least two copies of plans drawn to scale, with sufficient clarity and detailed dimensions to show the nature and character of the work to be performed. Plans submitted shall not be required to show more detail or include more information than is reasonably necessary to assure compliance with the requirements of the Uniform Construction Code and rules in this chapter.

(b) Plans containing the following information shall be considered to meet the requirements of (a) above:

1. Site diagram consisting of a site plan showing size and location of all new and existing construction on the site with distances from lot lines and indicating new building services, location and size.

2. Construction plans consisting of a scale drawing showing foundation, floor plans, and elevations, including structural framing notes for all floors, ceilings and roofs. Only girders and columns need be identified and located on the plan. Included on the drawings shall be a loading schedule indicating the live loads for which the structure is designed.

3. The following details shall be required:

- i. A cross section through one typical wall showing construction details from footing to and including roof

framing. This section shall indicate all construction materials used including roofing, vapor barriers, sheathing type and thickness, insulation type and thickness, windows, glazing type if other than standard window glazing is used, interior finish material, floor type and thickness, structure, foundation and footings. Decorative material shall not be required to be shown unless it contributes to the structural integrity of the section.

ii. Electrical details indicating lighting; receptacles; motors and equipment; smoke detectors; service entrance locations; size and type (overhead or underground); panel size, location; number of proposed circuits. A symbol legend shall be included.

iii. Plumbing details indicating the locations of fixtures and a notice or table listing water and drainage pipe sizes. A note stating if sewage disposal is to public sewer or individual septic system shall be included.

iv. Mechanical details indicating the type of heating system; location, size and type of heating unit, noting the distribution method and indicating design rates, location of fire dampers and safeguards; and location, type and size of flue.

4. The drawings shall bear the seal and signature of an architect or engineer who prepared the plans and is registered in the State of New Jersey. The seal and signature shall appear on each sheet of each copy of the plans submitted.

i. The construction official shall waive the requirements for sealed plans in the case of a single family home owner who prepares his or her own plans for the construction, alteration or repair of a structure used or intended to be used exclusively as the owner's private residence, and which is to be constructed by the owner, providing that the owner shall submit an affidavit attesting to the fact that he has prepared the plans and that the plans are, in the opinion of the construction official and appropriate subcode officials, legible and complete for the purpose of ensuring compliance with the regulations.

ii. Plumbing plans, electrical plans and mechanical plans may be prepared by licensed plumbers, licensed electrical contractors and mechanical contractors, respectively, in accordance with these regulations.

5. Construction plans, and electrical, plumbing, and mechanical details may be shown on more than one drawing.

6. Where a prototype plan has been approved pursuant to existing regulations, only a site diagram and reference to the approved prototype plan shall be required. This site diagram must be signed and sealed by a registered architect or licensed professional engineer.

7. The Construction Official, upon the advice of the appropriate subcode official, may waive any or all of the requirements for plans in (b)1 through 6 above when the work is of a minor nature.

5:23-9.3 Interpretation: ordinary maintenance

(a) The following items are ordinary maintenance and shall be treated as such by every enforcing agency. No permits for, inspections of, or notice to the enforcing agency of ordinary maintenance shall be required. This is not an all-inclusive listing of ordinary maintenance.

1. Ordinary building maintenance shall include:

i. Exterior and interior painting;

ii. Installation, repair or replacement of any interior finishes of less than 25 percent of the wall area in any given room, in a one or two family dwelling. This shall include plastering and drywall installation;

(1) Vinyl wall covering of any amount is an ordinary repair;

(2) Paneling shall not be considered an ordinary repair;

iii. Wall papering at any location;

iv. The replacement of glass in any window or door. However, the replacement glass shall be of a type and quality that complies with the minimum requirements of the code;

v. The installation and replacement of any window or door, including garage doors, in the same opening without altering the dimensions or framing of the original opening. This shall include storm windows and storm doors. The installation and replacement of means of egress and emergency escape windows and doors may be made in the same opening without altering the dimensions or framing of the original opening, and shall not reduce the required height, width or net clear opening of the previous window or door assembly;

vi. The repair of any non-structural member such as a partition railing or kitchen cabinet;

vii. The repair or replacement of any interior or exterior trim, decoration or moldings;

viii. The replacement or installation of any flooring material, except carpeting, with a new material. However, installation of carpeting in one and two family dwellings will be permitted under ordinary repairs;

ix. The repair of existing roofing material not exceeding 25 percent of the total roof area within any 12 month period;

x. The repair of existing siding with like material not exceeding 25 percent of the total building exterior wall area within any 12 month period;