



ICC CODES - PUBLIC COMMENT FORM

FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE "2008 REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEARINGS"

PLEASE SEE BACK OF FORM FOR PROCEDURES ON SUBMITTING PUBLIC COMMENTS. ALL SUBMITTALS MUST COMPLY WITH THESE PROCEDURES.

CLOSING DATE: All Comments Must Be Received by June 9, 2008. The 2008 Final Action Hearings will be held September 17-23, 2008 in Minneapolis, Minnesota

1) Please type or print clearly: Public comments will be returned if they contain unreadable information.

Name:	Tom Neltner				Date:	6-8-08
Jurisdiction/Company:	National Center for Healthy Housing and Alliance for Healthy Homes					
Submitted on Behalf of:						
Address:	10320 Little Patuxent Parkway, Suite 500					
City:	Columbia	State:	MD	Zip +4:	21044	
Phone:	443-539-4160	Ext:		Fax:	443-539-4150	
e-mail:	tneltner@nchh.org					

2) Copyright Release: In accordance with Council Policy #28 Code Development, all Code Change Proposals, Floor Modifications and Public Comments are required to include a copyright release. A copy of the copyright release form is included at the end of this form. Please follow the directions on the form. This form as well as an alternative release form can also be downloaded from the ICC website at www.iccsafe.org. If you have previously executed the copyright release, please check the box below:

2007/2008 Cycle copyright release on file

3) Code Change Proposal Number:

Indicate the Code Change Proposal Number that is being addressed by this Public Comment: PM3-07/08

4) Public Comment: The Final Action requested on this Code Change Proposal is: (Check Box)

Approved as Submitted (AS):
 Approved as Modified by this Public Comment (AMPC):
 Approved as Modified by the Code Committee as Published in the ROH (AM):
 Approved as Modified by Assembly Floor Action as Published in the ROH (AMF):
 Disapproved (D):

5) Proposed Modification (AMPC only):

EXTERMINATION PEST ELIMINATION. The control and elimination of insects, ~~rats~~ rodents or other pests by eliminating their harborage places; by removing or making inaccessible materials that serve as their food or water; by ~~trapping; and, when necessary, by use of registered pesticides consistent with label instructions in a manner that effectively controls the pest with the lowest exposure to occupants~~ other approved pest elimination methods. ~~The code official may require the use of specific pest elimination methods as needed consistent with the label.~~

Replace the term "Extermination" with "Pest Elimination" in sections 302.5, 308.1, 308.2, 308.3, 308.4, and 308.5 of the *International Property Maintenance Code*.

Modification Continued (Attach additional sheets as necessary)

6) Reason (State the reason and justification to support the Public Comment. Include a bibliography of any substantiating material. It is the responsibility of the commenter to make the material available at the Final Action Hearing):

See next page.

Reason Continued (Attach additional sheets as necessary)

PLEASE USE SEPARATE FORM FOR EACH PUBLIC COMMENT
SUBMITTAL AS A DOCUMENT ATTACHED TO AN EMAIL IS PREFERRED
SEE BACK OF FORM FOR DIRECTIONS ON WHERE TO SEND PUBLIC COMMENTS

Reasons for Proposed Modification

The proposed modification addresses these concerns in the following ways:

1. Does not require the code official to review label information; and
2. Does not require use of specific elimination methods beyond broad categories already in the current definition that deal with harborage, nourishment, and treatment.

The proposed modification also:

1. Changes the name from “Extermination” to “Pest Elimination” to more accurately reflect the purpose of the definition. The definition uses the word elimination three times. Extermination implies that pests must be killed rather than prevented. Pest elimination includes both prevention and extermination, and is more efficient and effective.
2. Eliminates references to specific elimination methods such as poison spraying, fumigating and trapping for the following reasons:
 - a. Keeping these in the code implies that these three methods are approved pest elimination methods. Fumigating is a specialized method used by licensed pest control operators in extraordinary circumstances, usually for mold or especially difficult to control insects in structures with pervasive infestations. Fumigating does not include total release foggers, commonly known as “bug bombs.” Poison spraying is not an approved method for rodent control. For cockroaches, research by Purdue University, Virginia Tech University and North Carolina State University makes it clear that it is poison spraying is not an effective elimination method. See www.healthyhomestraining.org/ipm/Studies.htm.
 - b. The list of methods does not include baiting. Baiting is the common pest control method for the control of common structural pests such as ants, cockroaches, rodents, and other pests because it is more effective than the methods listed. See www.healthyhomestraining.org/ipm.
3. Adds water to complement food as materials that need to be removed or made inaccessible. Rodents and insects need water or moisture on a more frequent basis than food. They can use wet building materials as food; therefore moisture control as important method.
4. Changes “rats” to “rodents” because rats are only one important type of pest. Mice are also significant and exacerbate asthma. Therefore, rodent is a more appropriate term.