

County of Spotsylvania
Founded 1721

Board of Supervisors

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Service, Integrity, Pride

"YOUR ATTENTION PLEASE"

**THE FOLLOWING IS TO NOTIFY YOU OF AN IMPORTANT CHANGE IN THE
INSTALLATION AND INSPECTION OF SINGLE FAMILY HOME and COMMERCIAL
GROUNDING ELECTRODE SYSTEMS**

**EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY ON ALL PERMITS THAT HAVE NOT HAD A FOOTER OR
FOUNDATION INSPECTION AS OF NOVEMBER 1, 2009**

**IRC 2006 section 3508.1 & 2005 NEC art. 250.50 Grounding Electrode Systems:
These sections now state that all electrodes that are "PRESENT" at each building or
structure served "SHALL" be bonded together to form the grounding electrode system.**

IRC section E3508.1.2 & NEC Art. 250.52(A) (3) Concrete-Encased Electrode:

**If 20 feet of one or more reinforcing bar of 1/2" diameter or greater is present in a footer or
foundation that is in direct contact with the earth, it is considered a grounding electrode
and must be bonded to the system. The required size of the grounding electrode
conductor is determined by table 3503.1 including notes "A" through "D" where
applicable, and NEC tbl. 250.66.**

**This installation requires an inspection. Spotsylvania Building Safety Department will
require this method to be installed and inspected in the following manner:**

**The steel bar must protrude out of the top of the foundation and extend into the floor
system above so that it will not be subject to corrosion from outside elements. An
approved clamp shall be used to connect the electrode conductor at this point so that it
can be inspected at the electrical service inspection. Footer and /or foundation steel as
previously described shall be verified at pre-pour footer or foundation inspection to be
continuous for at least 20' by the inspector conducting the footer or foundation pre-pour
inspection. (Steel tie wire is acceptable to bond more than one piece together to achieve
20') County third party inspection forms will have a check box and statement confirming
the presence of 20' of continuous steel bar and the location it protrudes from the
foundation. County inspectors will note on the inspection report its' presence and
location.**

Please reference the attached sketch for clarification.

****NOTE: IF THE ELECTRODE CONDUCTOR CONNECTION TO THE STEEL REBAR IS TO
BE ENCASED IN CONCRETE, A "507" ELEC. GROUNDING AND BONDING INSPECTION
MUST BE PERFORMED BY A COUNTY INSPECTOR PRIOR TO PLACEMENT OF
CONCRETE.**

**Questions concerning this installation and inspection may be addressed to Ernie Deihl,
Inspection Supervisor at edeihl@spotsylvania.va.us or 540-507-7251.**

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