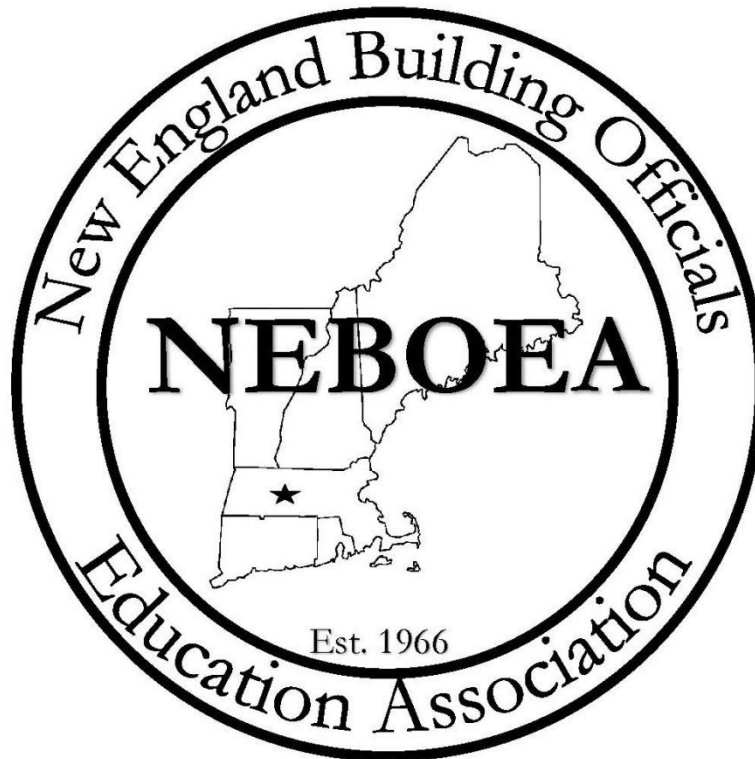


NEBOEA

60th Annual Conference
Murray D. Lincoln Campus Center
University of Massachusetts
Amherst, MA

October 5-7, 2026



In Cooperation with:

Connecticut Building Officials Association
Maine Building Officials Association
Massachusetts Building Commissioners and Inspectors Association
New Hampshire Building Officials Association
Rhode Island Building Officials Association
ICC Building Safety Association of Vermont

Raffle sponsored by
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MONDAY, OCT 05, 2026

	8:30 am – 10:00 am	10:30 am – 12:00 pm	1:00 pm – 2:30 pm	3:00 pm – 4:30 pm
162	Appendix J of 780 CMR Existing Buildings Residential (IRC) Gene Novak	Thermal Resistance vs. Thermal Reality: Aligning Products with Code Intent Adam Broderick, PhD; William Ranson	Construction Fire Safety Plans Erik Wight	
163	Commercial Plan Review Rich Truitt			
165	How to Read & Use Firestop Systems for Inspection Involving Destructive Testing Wayne Barrow			
168	Uptake of 3D Printed Concrete - Emerging Technology and Code Compliance for Seismic Zones Dr. Julian Mills-Beale	Polyiso CI Code Compliant Walls in Type V Construction Michael Rhodes	All Things Battery Mike O’Brian	
174	2021 IRC Flood Standards Katie Paight, Eric Carlson	Substantial Improvement and Substantial Damage Requirements for the 2021 I Codes Katie Paight, Eric Carlson	Concrete Design for Energy Efficiency Darryl Dixon	Artificial Intelligence: How it works and why it matters for building professionals Ed Cilcurso

Visit our exhibitors in the CCA and Concourse.

TUESDAY, OCT 06, 2026

	8:30 am – 10:00 am	10:30 am – 12:00 pm	1:00 pm – 2:30 pm	3:00 pm – 4:30 pm
162	All Things Battery or ESS for the Building Code Official Michael O'Brian	Concrete Troubleshooting and Failed Foundations Kevin Miller	NRMCA 100-2023 (Prescriptive Design of Exterior Concrete Walls for 1 and 2-Family Dwellings) Dr. Julian Mills-Beale	Emergency Action Planning: Focus on Senior Living Jen Hoyt, Joe Igoe
163	Residential Mechanical Provisions Josh Harmon			
165	Beyond the Pour: The Next Generation of Concrete Performance Frank Mruk	Fire-Retardant-Treated Wood and the IBC Christopher Athari	IBC: What you know, What you thought you knew, and where you're wrong Michael Yanovitch	
168	ESS for the Building Code Official Mike O'Brian		Firestopping and Inspections in Today's Buildings Eric Page	
174	Artificial Intelligence: How it works and why it matters for building professionals Ed Cilcurso	Proper Deck Construction Ryan Black	Residential Podium Buildings Erik Wight	

Visit our exhibitors in the CCA and Concourse.

NEBOEA board meeting in the CCA following the completion of the day's program.

WEDNESDAY, OCT 07, 2026

	8:30 am – 10:00 am	10:30 am – 12:00 pm	1:00 pm – 2:30 pm	3:00 pm – 4:30 pm
162	Soft Skills David Evans			
163	Legal Aspects Judith Rothschild			
165	MA IEBC Bill Forte			
168				
174				

Raffle will immediately follow lunch

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

2021 IRC Flood Standards

Katie Paight, Eric Carlson

This course will cover the flood-resistant construction standards in the 2021 International Residential Code found mostly in Chapters 1 - 4.

All Things Battery or ESS for the Building Code Official

Michael O'Brian – Code Concepts Group

All things battery will dive into the IFC and IBC 2024 as well as provide critical updates based on the upcoming changes for the 2027 codes related to lithium-ion batteries. The interactive class will equip code officials with this rapidly changing environment.

ESS systems will provide the necessary information for Building and Fire Code officials related to ESS systems. From residential to commercial and utility systems, this course will outline the issues facing our communities as they navigate to ESS

Appendix J of 780 CMR Existing Buildings Residential (IRC)

Gene Novak

This is a powerpoint presentation which is an overview of Appendix J of the 780 CMR Chapter 51, pertaining to one-and -two family dwellings. Specifically we review the classifications of residential work:

1. Repair
2. Alteration
3. Renovation
4. Reconstruction
5. Additions

Artificial Intelligence: How it works and why it matters for building professionals

Ed Cilurso – ICC

The term "AI" is widespread now, and seemingly every new tool is "AI" based. But understanding what that means, and comprehending the capabilities and limits of the technology, is something often overlooked in the hype. This session uses a series of exercises to help building professionals understand what Large Language Model AI does, and what it doesn't do.

1. Provide a core understanding of Large Language Model AI.
2. Look at how the ICC has harnessed a unique AI structure for its AI Navigator tool, and how that tool works.
3. Discuss the tools coming into the world of building officials, inspectors, architects, etc.
4. Peer into the future of possibilities for AI harnessed for building professionals.

Beyond the Pour: The Next Generation of Concrete Performance

Frank Mruk – NRMCA

The world's most used building material is undergoing a silent revolution. As New England faces increasingly volatile weather patterns and heightened sustainability requirements, the concrete arriving on jobsites today looks very different from mixes of a decade ago. This session dives into the "Next Gen" of concrete technologies, moving beyond standard compressive strength to explore the frontiers of durability, carbon reduction, and digital verification.

Concrete Troubleshooting and Failed Foundations

Kevin Mille

Covering concrete related issues and the failed foundation crisis.

Fire-Retardant-Treated Wood and the IBC

Christopher Athari – Hoover Treated Wood Products

This session is a discussion of fire-retardant-treated wood technical characteristics and building code related applications. Emphasis is placed on the testing and labeling required by the International Building Code.

Concrete Design for Energy Efficiency

Darryl Dixon- National Ready Mixed Concrete Association

Concrete construction can be very energy efficient despite a low material R-value. Thermal mass, inherent in concrete construction provides a practical means for achieving the thermal resistance required by the Code when uninsulated in specific climate regions however, when insulated minimally concrete

constructs comply and often exceed the model energy code.

Concrete constructions include cast-in-place or precast concrete floors, ceiling, and roofs; and in-situ, tilt-up, precast, concrete masonry (CMU) and insulating concrete form (ICF) walls.

This presentation will provide an overview of specific concrete constructions, review the relevant energy code requirements, examine the enhanced performance characteristics of concrete due to mass, as well as offer case studies that demonstrate how the performance of concrete increases energy costs savings, contributes to long-term life cycle performance and resiliency.

Construction Fire Safety Plans

Erik Wight – Rimkus

During the interactive workshop learn what is involved in developing a NFPA 241 Construction Fire Safety Plan by examining two real world examples. Participants will learn all applicable provisions of the NFPA 241 (Standard for Safeguarding Construction, Alteration, and Demolition Operations), explore examples of recent construction fires, and review all the salient points to expect on these critical life safety plans.

Emergency Action Planning: Focus on Senior Living

Jen Hoyt, PE & Joe Igoe – Code Red Consultants, LLC

Following the recent tragic fire in a MA senior living facility, there has been increased focus on the construction, operation, and planning of new and existing high-risk occupancies. Current code provisions require emergency action planning through the fire code; however, to implement these plans, they must be developed and incorporated into the design of the building. We will discuss the structure of EAPs, when they need to be developed, how evacuation planning can affect building construction and fire protection systems, and how to navigate the code requirements to facilitate a smooth transition from building design to certificate of occupancy.

ESS for the Building Code Official

Michael O'Brian – Code Concepts Group

ESS systems will provide the necessary information for Building and Fire Code officials related to ESS systems. From residential to commercial and utility systems, this course will outline the issues facing our communities as they navigate to ESS

Firestopping and Inspections in Today's Buildings

Eric Page – NFS

How to Read & Use Firestop System for Inspection Involving Destructive Testing

Wayne Barrow – VeriCon

This session will combine our popular class on "How to Read Firestop Systems for AHJs" with hands on practice. Following time learning how to read systems and visually assess firestop penetrations attendees will have the opportunity to evaluate firestop system installations on mocked up wall penetrations using destructive testing to verify the installations conform to the assigned UL Certified systems.

IBC: What you know, What you thought you knew, and where you're wrong

Michael Yanovitch – Mass Construction Consultants, Inc.

Program will focus on the often mis-understood and mis-interpreted sections of the code as well regulations you might not even know about.

NRMCA 100-2023 (Prescriptive Design of Exterior Concrete Walls for 1 and 2-Family Dwellings)

Dr. Julian Milles-Beale- National Ready Mixed Concrete Association (NRMCA)

The objective of this presentation is to educate building officials about the National Ready Mixed Concrete Standard for designing exterior concrete walls for one and two-family dwellings. It highlights some of the key design elements ranging from concrete material requirements, foundation and wall geometric designs, reinforcement and below and above-grade wall units, lintel, connection and diaphragm prescriptive designs. Finally, the audience will be briefed on the future of the standard as it undergoes review and update for the next edition.

Polyiso CI for Code Compliant Walls in Type V and Residential Construction

Michael Rhodes - PIMA

Continuous insulation is part of building standards and state and energy codes, due to its ability to reduce thermal bridging and its associated heat loss and energy consumption. This course looks at the use of polyisocyanurate as a continuous insulation in Type V and residential construction, and its use as a multifunctional envelope component—air barrier, weather-resistive barrier and vapor retarder—by

reviewing code requirements for the building envelope.

Proper Deck Construction

Ryan Black – Simpson Strong-Tie

Presenter will go step by step through deck construction based on current IRC and IBC building codes. Attendees will follow along with literature going over building codes for deck construction and the type of connectors and fasteners to be looking for on a project.

Residential Mechanical Provisions

Josh Harmon – Shums Coda

Residential mechanical systems play a central role in protecting occupant health, comfort, and safety. This course provides a comprehensive exploration of how the mechanical chapters of the International Residential Code (IRC) and the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) govern heating, cooling, ventilation, and air distribution in homes. Participants will learn how to evaluate Manuals J, S, and D for accurate load calculations, equipment selection, and duct design; compare different types of residential HVAC systems; and assess Whole-House Mechanical Ventilation strategies for code compliance and indoor air quality performance. The class also reviews updates to the model mechanical and energy efficiency requirements—including additional efficiency package options—and examines how mechanical system choices influence building durability, energy use, and occupant well-being. Through this lens, attendees will strengthen their ability to review residential mechanical designs with a focus on safety, health, and long-term building performance.

Residential Podium Buildings

Erik Wight – Rimkus

Lots of communities are seeing residential podium buildings being constructed. Learn how they are constructed, what to be aware of during your field inspections, identify common code problems, and the key differences with this unique type of construction.

Substantial Improvement and Substantial Damage Requirements for the 2021 I Codes

Katie Paight, Eric Carlson-MA DCR Flood Hazard Management Program

This course will cover requirements for substantial improvement and substantial damage for

construction in flood hazard areas. The course makes use of FEMA guidance documents.

Thermal Resistance vs. Thermal Reality: Aligning Products with Code Intent

Adam Broderick, PhD; William Ranson - Dupont

R-values are widely used to describe thermal performance—but are often misunderstood, misapplied, or taken at face value. What does an R-value actually represent, how is it measured, and when does it fail to predict real-world performance? This session will review the fundamental physics of heat transfer and how thermal resistance is determined in laboratory testing, understand the differences between ideal laboratory testing and the real world, then tie it all together to understand what actually happens in wall assemblies. Attendees will learn how to distinguish between material properties and assembly performance, and why nominal R-values alone do not guarantee durable, energy-efficient, or code-compliant buildings. The discussion will also explore the interaction between thermal and air control layers, emphasizing that insulation performance depends on more than heat flow alone. Through practical examples, we will examine how air leakage, material configuration, and installation details influence overall wall performance. By the end of the session, participants will be equipped to critically evaluate thermal claims, avoid common specification pitfalls, and design high-performance wall assemblies that meet both the letter and the intent of energy codes

Uptake of 3D Printed Concrete - Emerging Technology and Code Compliance for Seismic Zones

Dr. Julian Milles- Beale- National Ready Mixed Concrete Association (NRMCA)

The emergence of 3D Printed Concrete presents both opportunities and challenges for building and code officials in the United States. Its unique design and construction technology means that code and standards at the national, state and local levels need to be ready and equipped to ensure compliance. This presentation aims at highlighting: a) the historical background of 3-D printing in the US and globally; b) the regional environmental and seismic-related challenges of 3-D additive concrete structures; c) the emerging national, state and local code initiatives to

adopt 3-D technology; d) the design examples and concepts using real world 3-D project cases; e) the roles of stakeholders in sustainable and resilient 3-D printed additive concrete structures.