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MEETING FORMAT

6:00 – 6:30	Social
6:30 – 6:45	Announcements & Table Tops
6:45	Dinner Served
7:00 – 8:00	Presentation

DATE:	September 23, 2026
TIME:	6:00pm to 8:00pm
PLACE:	Little Havana
TOPIC:	Plumbing Piping Codes & Standards Updates
SPEAKER:	Brian Conner – Charlotte Pipe

[Register Today](#)



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Local Chapters are not authorized to speak for the Society. Newsletter questions? Please contact [Nicole Murphy](#).



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Mueller Associates
CSwope@muellerassoc.com



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KSchulte@muellerassoc.com



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Please contact Nicole Murphy or Julian Chival

Make checks payable to the Baltimore Chapter of ASPE. Please contact the Chapter Treasurer with any questions.

MEETING SCHEDULE



Meeting Date	Topic & Presenter	Location
Sep 23, 2026	Plumbing Piping Codes & Standards Updates Brian Conner, Charlotte Pipe	Little Havana
Oct 21, 2026	Water Heater DOE Updates Lauren Berenato, Bradford White	Little Havana
Nov 18, 2026	Vacuum Waste Systems Hari Patel, McWane	Little Havana
Dec 16, 2026	LEED v5 Plumbing Points: Water Efficiency & Innovation Topics Aaron Rubin, Mueller Associates	Valley Inn
Jan 20, 2027	Industry Night	Local UA 486
Feb 18, 2027	Panel Discussion – Networking Through Your Career	Little Havana
Mar 10, 2027	Fire Protection 101	Little Havana
Apr 14, 2027	Artificial Intelligence in Plumbing Engineering Tom Mitchell, Urban Engineers	Little Havana
May 19, 2027	Design Development Joe Niedzielski, 2RW	Little Havana



Julian Chival, PE, CPD, LEED AP BD+C
Chapter President

The office of President is the highest officer position in the ASPE chapter structure. The Chapter President is the leader of the chapter and has the responsibility for providing the chapter's guidance during their term of office. For some reason, the membership has entrusted me with this responsibility.

The Baltimore chapter hosted the 2026 Region 1 Presidents Meeting in June. Chapter representatives from each of Region 1's fifteen chapters (from Montreal to Virginia Blue Ridge) joined us in downtown Annapolis for a weekend of idea sharing, problem solving, and camaraderie. Chuck and I spent months planning the weekend and thank goodness it's over! We introduced quite a few out-of-towners to their first crabcakes, and with great success I might add. And more importantly, we learned about what other chapters offer their members (annual clay shoot, anyone?) as well as what ASPE Society is working on.

Speaking of ASPE Society, the next big thing that ASPE's got going on is the Convention & Expo in early October. The 2026 ASPE Convention & Expo will be hosted in Oklahoma City, OK from October 10-14. Explore the latest in plumbing products, services, and design techniques firsthand. Engage in over 25 educational sessions designed to advance your professional career. Solve challenges directly with technical experts on the show floor. Connect with thousands of industry professionals from around the globe and earn CEUs towards your certifications simply by attending. It is not too late to register! More information and registration details can be found at expo.aspe.org.

Quite a few of us will actually be flying in early to serve as delegates of the Baltimore chapter, where we'll vote on ASPE Society's future leadership, hear amendments to the bylaws, and help shape the direction ASPE continues to grow. I'm proud to announce your 2026 Baltimore Chapter Delegation:

1. Julian Chival, Chapter President
2. Justin Saelens, Chapter Vice President, Technical
3. Chuck Swope, Chapter Treasurer and Past-President
4. Abbie La Porta, Chapter AYP Liaison
5. Nikita Patel, Society AYP Liaison
6. Mahallani Bandong, Chapter Member

This is the first time I'm aware of our chapter sending so many delegates, and I must say, I'm proud. Between the Business meeting, committee meetings, educational sessions, the tradeshow floor, and more(!), we'll be busy! Look out for us at the October meeting, I'm sure we'll have plenty to share! We might even convince you to serve as a delegate in 2028.

In addition to attending the Convention, another opportunity to get more involved with ASPE Society is through our committees. As some of you may be aware, in addition to my

service with the Baltimore chapter, I'm also a member of several committees, including the nominating committee, bylaws committee, and AYP committee. Serving on each of these committees has given me immense opportunities to guide ASPE's direction and impact within the industry. Committees are a great way to get involved with ASPE. Did you know there's a working group to get a plumbing option on the PE exam? Right now, they're working with NCEES to write plumbing-focused exam questions. That's cool, right? And you could be a part of that! If you are looking for opportunities to be more involved with the engineering community, I urge you to check out the ASPE website or reach out to learn more about what's out there!

Anyways, that's enough talk of Society, the Baltimore chapter is who we really care about. We've got a full slate of exciting presentations to look forward to this season. Justin Saelens has been hard at work finding the best and brightest presenters to ensure his first season as VPT is a success. We'll also be continuing the traditions of Industry Night and Engineers Week under the new guidance of Sepi McQuay, our education chair. And our new AYP Liaison, Abbie La Porta, is bringing a ton of enthusiasm to the role, and I can't wait to see what she comes up with for us. Aside from that, I'm not trying to rock the boat too much - it's only my third day out here, I don't know. I've heard not to mess with the new treasurer.

One thing I have changed for this year is the Baltimore chapter's sponsor program. In an attempt to expand the visibility that we offer our sponsors, and to ensure that everyone recognizes the support we receive, we are introducing a new three-tier sponsorship program. I hope this will provide additional visibility for the companies who support us throughout the season.

For those interested in sponsoring the Baltimore Chapter, our new tiers are:

Stainless Steel Sponsor (\$1,000) – Full-page newsletter advertisement, company logo displayed at chapter meetings and on the ASPE Baltimore website, and one complimentary tabletop presentation and dinner ticket

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Note: tier names are inspired by respected materials used throughout the plumbing industry and are intended as recognition levels only, not as a comparison of product performance or application suitability.

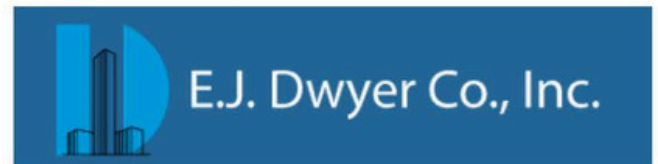
Okay that's all I've got. I hope to see you at Little Havana on September 23.



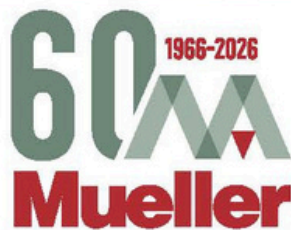


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Chuck Swope, PE, CPD, LEED AP BD+C
Treasurer & Past President

Greetings, ASPE Faithful. It is I, your friendly neighborhood Treasurer, ready to start the new season. I don't want to dwell too long on the transition, but did want to mention that this will be my third position here at Baltimore ASPE and my 9th year on the board. For some reason, you all still keep me around and for that I am grateful. I will not shirk my Guv'nah's Chair position to advise our illustrious president and his board, but it's much more fun to talk about my elected position.

Kathy has dutifully served as our Treasurer for longer than I can remember and she graciously will be sticking around as I figure this all out. I did say that I wouldn't ask anyone to perform a duty that I wasn't willing to do myself and I meant it. There's one upside to all of this, I get to create more spreadsheets! I do love me a good spreadsheet and I've got a few in mind. First things first, I'll be putting together a budget with Julian to make sure we're staying on task and still bringing the wonderful programs we have all come to love, not to mention our ever popular swag. I'll also be making sure that our long term plans are on track and possible. Once our beloved president decides what they are, that is.

The treasurer's position is pretty easy to define: I will handle the collection of Chapter funds, disperse them in a timely manner, maintain financial records, and send a monthly financial report to the Society office and our Region Director. If that sounds familiar, congrats! You're paying attention to the ASPE Chapter Officer Manual, which I totally didn't download for the first time. That all said, I intend to continue the Baltimore ASPE tradition of filling any role necessary. I'll be handling setting up our meeting venues, taking attendance, and other fun tasks!

Last but not least, I will continue as our unofficially official Chief Swag Beast (still working on the title). Anything that our chapter needs, I'll put my best spin on it. Happy to report that our chapter coin initiative is in full swing, with 9 different coins in circulation to date! Baltimore hosts two coins, to match chapter coins from the DC, New York City, Connecticut, New Jersey, Philadelphia, and even one for Region One as a whole! Add that to the Society's Award of Excellence coin, it makes for an impressive display. I understand that even more chapters will be participating in our region and beyond!

See you at the next meeting!

Chuck Swope, PE, CPD
Chapter Treasurer
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2026 REGION 1 PRESIDENT'S MEETING HOSTED IN ANNAPOLIS





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Justin Saelens, LEED AP BD+C
Vice President- Technical

Technical Report

Hello, Baltimore Chapter!

Welcome back for our 2026-2027 season, or if this is your first season with us – welcome! I hope everyone had a great summer and was able to find time for a little bit of rest and relaxation amidst our busy schedules.

To kick off the season, we will be back at Little Havana on September 23rd. Brian Conner, Director of Codes, Standards, and Field Technical Support for Charlotte Pipe, will present on how codes, standards, and product listings work together to give us a road map for construction. Additionally, Brian will discuss the current code and standard tracks, where things stand, and how each of us can get involved. With codes and standards being living, evolving documents, it can be difficult to keep up with the latest and greatest, but understanding how and why these documents are changing can ensure that all parties and project experience and smooth and painless construction process.

This month's technical article was written by Baltimore's very own, Karen Schulte. Originally published in the September 2026 edition of Plumbing Engineer, Karen dives into how the stormwater system for Fuse at Mason Square – the new digital innovation hub at George Mason University – was designed to exceed code requirements for added resiliency and redundancy. With our local climate and weather patterns changing (specifically the increased frequency of short, intense bursts of rainfall), stormwater system designs are evolving to protect our buildings against the storms that lie ahead.

Stepping into my new role as your Vice President – Technical, I know I have some big shoes to fill, but I am very excited to see what the season has in store for the Baltimore Chapter! As always, please don't hesitate to voice your opinion regarding presentation topics, presenters, or venues. While we already have presentations lined up for this season, it is never too early to think about topics for next season! I'm looking forward to seeing everyone on September 23rd at Little Havana! Registration for this month's meeting is available on the Baltimore ASPE website. Earlybird pricing is still available until September 16th!



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PL-101

Resilient Design for the Storms Ahead

Link to Article: [Resilient Design for the Storms Ahead | phcppros](#)

September 1, 2026



For most plumbing engineers, designing water systems means designing to code. However, the rainfall intensities embedded in model plumbing codes are drawn from decades of weather records, and they assume that tomorrow's storms will closely resemble the ones we have already measured.

Across the country, that assumption is falling apart. Short, violent downpours once treated as anomalies now arrive far more often, overwhelming systems sized for a calmer climate (<https://go.nature.com/4wlcipO>). For the engineers who design them, the real question is no longer whether the storms have changed, but whether our assumptions have kept pace with climate change.

At Fuse at Mason Square — the new 11-story digital innovation hub at the heart of George Mason University's Arlington, Virginia, campus — the architecture and engineering team chose not to base its designs solely on code-derived historical data. From the outset, the plumbing systems were shaped by a single principle: that resiliency is not a feature added at the end of a project, but a philosophy that runs through every pipe, pump, valve and drain.

The result: a building engineered to withstand the intense, short-duration storms that increasingly define the U.S. Mid-Atlantic, with resiliency built in at nearly every point where water enters, moves through or leaves the building.



A building worth protecting

Fuse at Mason Square was conceived to break down the wall between the university and private industry by connecting graduate students, faculty researchers and corporate partners in the same building, on the same floors, in deliberate proximity. Northern Virginia is one of the nation's densest concentrations of technology talent, yet demand for that talent outstrips supply. Mason's answer was to design a building where academic discovery and commercial application collide under one roof, and where collaboration arises not by mandate but by purposeful design.

The \$250-million, 360,500-square-foot facility stands on the site of a former department store, in a dense, urban environment, about 2.5 miles from the Potomac River. The project was delivered through a public-private partnership between George Mason University, the Commonwealth of Virginia, Arlington County, and private industry. The Mason Innovation Partners team — Edgemoor Infrastructure & Real Estate, Clark Construction Group and Page (now Stantec) — was engaged to design, build and finance the project.

Architecturally, the design organizes Fuse into "vertical neighborhoods" linked by "Main Street" corridors that run through all 11 stories, encouraging the informal contact from which collaboration grows. Twenty-four specialized laboratory modules support work ranging from robotics and data visualization to human-subjects research, alongside classrooms, incubator spaces, retail spaces and gathering areas.

Mueller Associates designed both electrical and plumbing engineering for Fuse, delivering infrastructure resilient enough to support advanced computing, artificial intelligence and cybersecurity work.

Below Fuse's occupied floors sits a two-level parking structure; but abovegrade are research labs and server-grade computing environments, where a single uncontrolled leak can ruin far more than the building's drywall. That reality is reflected in Fuse's certifications: it earned LEED Platinum and FitWel 2-Star recognition and — significantly from a plumbing engineering perspective — it was designed to RELi resilience standards, the rating system from Green Business Certification that evaluates a building's ability to withstand and recover from stresses, including extreme weather.

Resiliency, in other words, was not an aspiration at Fuse. It was a design objective from the very beginning.

Building capacity for the next cloudburst

The Virginia Plumbing Code establishes a required rainfall rate for sizing roof drains and rain leaders based on historical intensity data for a given locale (<https://bit.ly/4fvit34>). While meeting that minimum satisfies the code, it is also increasingly unrealistic.

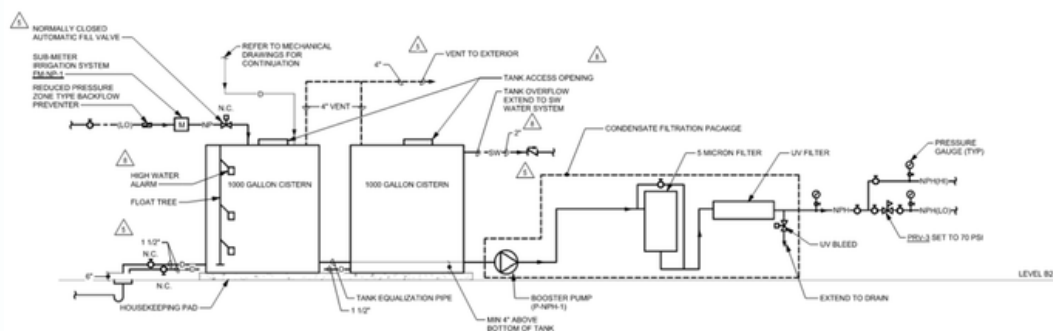
For Fuse, Mueller's engineers instead sized the storm system for a rainfall rate of 4.4 inches per hour — roughly 37% above the code requirement for the neighboring Washington, D.C., area of 3.2 inches per hour — on this straightforward reasoning: a code written from the last century's weather offers little protection against the storms this century's climate models project.

That additional 37% is not an abstraction. On the roof of a large urban building such as Fuse, the difference between the code rate and the design rate can amount to thousands of gallons per hour of additional capacity, or the margin between a system that sheds a cloudburst and one that backs up, collects and finds the path of least resistance.

At Fuse, primary roof drainage is collected through internal rain leaders routed at interior building columns and carried by gravity to the nearest on-site storm main. In accordance with the Virginia Plumbing Code, every drained roof area is backed by a fully independent secondary, or overflow, drainage system piped separately to daylight, so that if a primary drain, or leader, is ever obstructed, a second path is already in place (<https://bit.ly/3TSfcDR>). Redundancy, here, is literal: two ways off the roof for every drop of water landing on it.

Fuse's site makes the drainage challenge more than theoretical. Beneath the building's footprint, an active stormwater box culvert roughly 6 feet by 8 feet ran directly across the planned belowgrade garage, carrying drainage the surrounding neighborhood still depended on.

Rather than fight it, the team designed around it, developing a solution to lower the culvert beneath the new building, while keeping the belowgrade levels buildable. The culvert also shaped the plumbing strategy underground, dividing the sub-slab drainage below Level B2 into distinct north and south zones, each served by its own dedicated pumping system — a physical separation that, by necessity, is another layer of resiliency.



Redundancy as a design philosophy

If sizing the storm system for a harsher climate is Fuse's first line of defense, redundancy is its second. Conventional practice sizes a building's plumbing system to meet demand; a resilient design, however, assumes a component will fail and ensures the building continues to function anyway. At Fuse, that principle governs its plumbing design.

Resilience begins at the water service. A dedicated six-inch domestic service enters a belowgrade water service room, passing through the utility meter and then through dual reduced-pressure-zone (RPZ) backflow preventers arranged in parallel and sized for N+1 redundancy. This ensures that the building never loses potable supply when one assembly is taken out of service for testing or repair, as backflow preventers periodically may be.

Each RPZ is equipped with an automatic shut-off valve that closes if water is sensed discharging through the relief chamber. In such an event, Fuse's building automation system (BAS) receives notification. Each relief chamber is piped full-size to a trench drain, so that even water discharging due to a check valve failure can be captured and drained during the event. Stainless-steel duplex bag filters, provided per Mason's design standards, further improve water quality without interrupting flow.

Because Fuse is a high-rise structure, street pressure alone cannot serve its upper floors. Pressure is bolstered by a triplex domestic water booster package with variable-frequency drives, a hydropneumatic tank and packaged controls. It is here where the redundancy is also deliberate and quantified: each of the three pumps is sized to meet 50% of the building's demand. Two pumps together carry the full load, so any single pump can be down without pressure loss to a single fixture.

Below grade, the same logic applies. Fuse's north and south sub-slab drainage zones created by the box culvert are each served by independent duplex submersible sump systems, so a pump failure — or even the loss of an entire zone's system — cannot flood the other. Foundation drainage outlines the belowgrade walls and runs beneath the lowest garage slab to intercept groundwater, discharging through duplex sump systems, whose basins are sized to limit pump cycling and extend equipment life.

Sanitary flow from any fixtures below the site's sewer invert is lifted by recessed duplex cutter pumps, and every sump and sewage pump in the building shares two nonnegotiable traits: it is connected to emergency power and monitored by the BAS. When the grid fails during the very storm that most threatens the building, the pumps keep running. And, if any pump falters, the BAS alerts an operator before water has a chance to rise.

That same design logic reaches even the most mundane fittings no one thinks about. Isolation valves are provided at every branch and riser take-off. Floor drains throughout the toilet rooms, kitchens, mechanical spaces and both parking levels are fitted with deep-seal traps and waterless trap-seal devices, preserving the barrier against sewer gas while conserving water.

Individually, these choices may seem modest. Together, they create a building where water always has a safe path away.



Efficiency without compromising resiliency

A resiliency-first design does not have to come at the expense of sustainability. At Fuse, the two goals support each other.

The most consequential decision on the domestic-water side was to abandon the conventional model of a central water heating plant feeding long recirculation loops that snake through the building. Those loops lose heat continuously and demand constant pumping. In its place, Mueller's design distributes compact electric storage water heaters near the points of use.

The heaters are placed strategically, not uniformly. Rather than a heater on every floor, the core-area toilet rooms are served by localized electric water heaters placed on every other floor, each serving its own floor and the floor below. This strategy trims equipment count and connected load, while keeping every fixture close to its source of hot water.

Where hot water is generated, it is stored at a minimum of 140 F to guard against Legionella, reduced to 130 F for distribution and then tempered by ASSE 1070 thermostatic mixing valves at public lavatories and hand sinks to a safe 105 F. Shorter runs mean less wasted water, less wasted energy and fewer stagnant stretches of pipe where bacteria can grow. Remote fixtures, such as kitchenette sinks, are served by point-of-use tankless heaters.

On the fixture side, Fuse leans strongly into conservation: ultra-low-flow water closets at 1.1 gallons/flush, pint-flush urinals at 0.125 gallons/flush, sensor-operated lavatories at 0.35 gallons/minute, and low-flow showerheads and sinks. These measures cut Fuse's indoor water use by 40.8% relative to the LEED baseline — notable for any building, but especially for one with the intensive demand profile of a research-and-computing facility.

Fuse even turns one waste stream into a resource. A condensate-harvesting system captures the cooling coil condensate shed by its dedicated outdoor-air systems and routes it to a cistern within the building footprint. There, it is filtered, treated with ultraviolet light, and pumped out to irrigate the building's green roofs.

Domestic water serves as a metered backup for irrigation only when harvested condensate runs low. Water that would ordinarily be dumped into the storm system instead offsets domestic water supply, easing the very drainage load the storm design works so hard to manage.

The through-line

When Fuse at Mason Square opened in the fall of 2025, it began at once to do what it was built for: hosting competitions, housing early-stage research-and-development companies, and throwing students, faculty and corporate partners into the informal contact from which collaborations grow.

Almost no one moving through Fuse's Main Street corridors will ever think about the building's plumbing — and that is precisely a measure of success. The dual backflow preventers, the booster pumps, the sump pump systems on emergency power, the oversized storm drains: it all works invisibly beneath the visible work of research and discovery.

The larger lesson the plumbing design for Fuse teaches us is that as storms grow more intense and less predictable, the gap between compliance and resiliency will keep widening. Closing it will fall to engineers willing to design above code.

This outlook reflects how Mueller Associates approaches every project: not as a system handed over on opening day, but as a building to be stewarded across the decades. Planning for those decades means designing for the conditions they may bring, not for those already on record. That means designing for the coming storm.

The plumbing systems may be invisible. The engineering behind them is not.

Karen Schulte, PE, CPD, LEED-AP BD+C, is a mechanical and plumbing engineer at Mueller Associates, a Baltimore-based mechanical, electrical, plumbing and fire protection engineering firm with 60 years of experience serving higher education and cultural institutions, as well as complex research environments. On Fuse at Mason Square, she served as Mueller's project manager and led its plumbing design. She can be reached at kschulte@muellerassoc.com.

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Nicole Murphy
Vice President- Membership

Membership Report

Hello Baltimore Chapter!

Welcome to the 2026–2027 ASPE Kickoff Newsletter! We're excited for another year filled with opportunities, connections, and growth.

With 139 members and counting, our chapter continues to thrive! Here's why joining ASPE can be a game-changer for your career:

Enhance Technical Expertise:

- Gain access to cutting-edge resources, design guides, and industry standards that help you stay current and excel in your projects.

Professional Development:

- Take part in specialized workshops, seminars, and certification programs focused on plumbing, mechanical, and fire protection engineering.

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- Connect with fellow engineers, industry experts, and manufacturers who understand your challenges and can help you find innovative solutions.

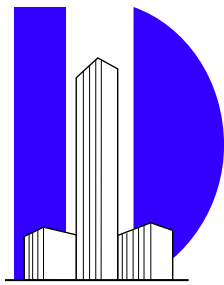
Not a member yet? Now's the perfect time to join and enjoy these benefits!

Learn more or join here: <https://aspe.org/join>

Upcoming Events

- September 23, 2026 | 6:00–8:00 PM – First Chapter Meeting at Little Havana

Let's keep building our community and growing together this year. We look forward to seeing you soon!



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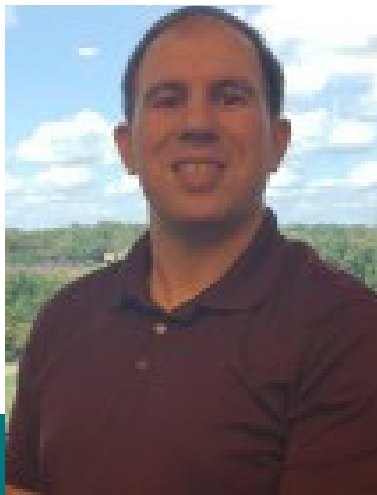
A spec above.



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Chris Imhof, PE, CPD
Vice President- Legislative

Legislative Report

Release of the 2027 International Code Council Codes

The 2027 editions of the ICC are beginning to be released. As of September 4, 2026, the following codes are available,

- 2027 International Fuel Gas Code (IFGC)
- 2027 International Mechanical Code (IMC)

Codes can be viewed here:

<https://codes.iccsafe.org/codes/i-codes/2027-icodes>

DOE and ICC disagree on energy code costs

The DOE and ICC disagree on the cost and payback on the adoption of the 2024 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC). The DOE says that property owners will incur an additional \$127 billion in construction costs since 2006 if all states adopt the 2024 IECC. The ICC says the DOE recently deleted a website that showed adoption of latest energy codes would save businesses \$182 billion between 2010 and 2040. It has long been accepted by the DOE that the energy codes save energy and money. The recent change in opinion by the DOE appears to place upfront affordability ahead of energy savings and long-term spending.

Concerns about Maryland building Code

The Maryland Climate Solutions Now Act of 2022 requires the Maryland Department of Labor (MD Labor) to adopt the IECC within 18 months of each subsequent release. The IECC was most recently published on August 14, 2024. MD Labor may adopt energy conservation requirements that are more stringent than the requirements in the IECC, but may not adopt energy conservation requirements that are less stringent than the requirements in the IECC. However, proposed state amendment's could lead to a weakened adoption of the IECC. For example, the proposal eliminates the IECC requirement that newly constructed large buildings, including warehouses, data centers and apartment buildings, generate a certain amount of renewable energy on-site, such as with a rooftop solar panel array. Similar to the argument between DOE and ICC in above story, the argument is between upfront costs and long-term payback. The proposal would also allow builders to double-count certain energy efficiency measures, reducing the overall amount of energy efficiency work required.

Moratoriums on Data Centers

Data centers are a hot topic these days and Maryland counties have responded. 12 counties currently have moratoriums on data centers, including Prince George's, Montgomery, Howard, Frederick, and Baltimore. Two other counties are considering moratoriums, and Harford County has a permanent ban. Only one county, Anne Arundel, is currently accepting proposals for data centers and six counties have not addressed the issue in zoning codes.



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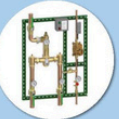
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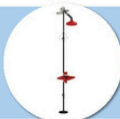
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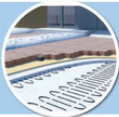
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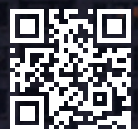
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Abbie La Porta
ASPE Young Professionals Liaison

AYP Report

Hello all

I'm very excited to be stepping into the role of AYP Liaison! If we haven't run into each other at a meeting yet – my name is Abbie La Porta, and I am a mechanical engineer at Mueller Associates. (Yes, we are continuing our mission to fully consume the ASPE Baltimore chapter.) Before working at Mueller, I studied architectural engineering at Penn State with a mechanical focus. I was drawn to this field specifically with an interest in creating more efficient building systems and using resources wisely. I'm looking forward to another great ASPE season of both technical and social events – I know some good things are in the works!

As AYP Liaison, my job is to facilitate the best space for all my fellow young professionals to network, learn, and have fun together. If you have any recommendations for events, please feel free to reach out! You can contact me at ayp@baltimoreaspe.com. I want to hear your ideas. And if we haven't managed to catch each other at a meeting, please introduce yourself if you have a chance! I'll be the one wearing the "Abbie La Porta" name tag.

What is AYP? ASPE Young Professionals is more than just a special interest group; it's a community within ASPE that focuses on the unique needs and interests of young professionals in the plumbing engineering field. Whether you're just starting your career or have a few years under your belt, AYP provides opportunities to network with peers, participate in educational events, and develop your leadership skills. If you're an ASPE member and you're 35 or younger, you're already a part of the group!



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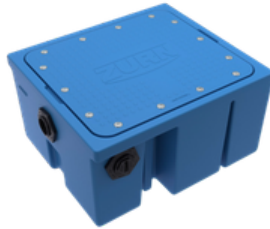
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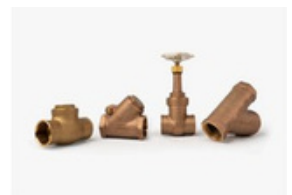
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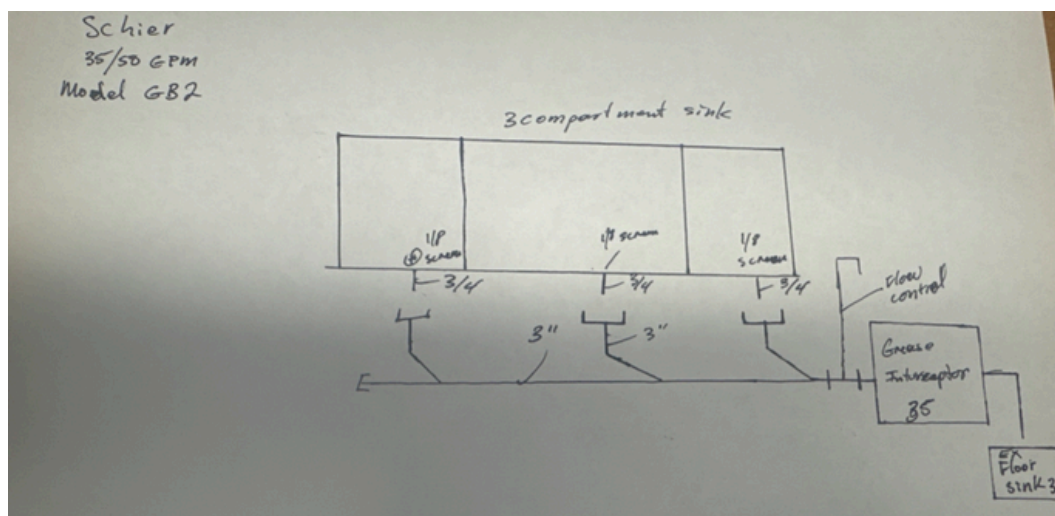


David Bailey
PLUMBING PLANS REVIEWER'S CORNER

Greetings everyone. If you recall in May's DC Chapter Newsletter article, I provided a couple of screenshots taken from a Gas Riser drawing. The points of interest are as follows:

1. The Gas Load Table displayed a total length of 200 feet. Is this TDL or TEL. Please note that if there is an uncertainty of whether length is developed or equivalent, I as a WSSC Project Manager will view the "total length" as TDL and determine the TEL by multiplying the TDL by a factor of 1.3 and read the applicable 2024 IFGC gas sizing table accordingly. (The TDL is confirmed within notations screenshot.) Even though the system supply of 2½" was adequate for the increased length, the branch takeoffs were less forgiving.
2. Notation #2 is disconcerting because it is an either/or condition whereby 7" w.c. is required at the equipment OR 10" w.c. at the meter. The gas supplier is Washington Gas, and the supply is low pressure. Unless things have changed since my design days, Washington Gas will only guarantee 7" w.c. at the meter on their low-pressure natural gas supply systems.

This month's challenge is to determine why this drawing (see below) was not approved per the first plumbing plans review. The applicant noted that the scope of work was limited to a flow-based grease trap and three-compartment sink replacements with the intent of retaining the manifold of the 3" receptors and the indirect discharge of the GI outlet into the 3" floor sink.





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