

Subject **MIACCA November 2020 Newsletter**
From MIACCA <mjdsmith@miacca.org>
To M.J. D'Smith <mjdsmith@miacca.org>
Reply-To M.J. D'Smith <mjdsmith@miacca.org>
Date 2020-11-06 07:03 AM



Working hard to Protect, Promote & Educate our Profession
NEWSLETTER, NOVEMBER 2020



Edition Highlights

- [Statwide Permit Update](#)
- [MIACCA's Efforts on Bill, Which Would Allow Contractors Reasonable Work Experience Credit, Passes Senate and Heads to the House](#)
- [State of Michigan COVID-19 Update Resource](#)
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Statewide Permit Update

The Construction Code Commission (CCC) last met on July 22, 2020, and MIACCA's proposed statewide permit was on the agenda and discussed. MIACCA's Executive Director once again advocated the need for the CCC to prescribe the form on which all permits are to be applied for while allowing each authority having jurisdiction to set their own fees. The CCC and the Bureau of Construction Codes (Bureau) acknowledged the Director Hawks' response to MIACCA's Request for Declaratory Ruling on this subject; which indicated that the CCC has the statutory authority to prescribe such permit forms. After much discussion the CCC has decided to start the process of coming up with statewide permit forms by asking for feedback from stakeholders and municipalities. The Bureau made an initial suggestion to include the statewide permit forms as part of the upcoming code change cycles in 2020-2021. MIACCA would like more detail on how to include permit forms with the new codes when the CCC needs to approve the permit forms and the Director adopts the new codes.

The Statewide permit was an agenda item on the CCC meeting for October 14th to create a committee, but the meeting was cancelled. Their next meeting is in January. MIACCA will continue to advocate for this and keep our members posted on the progress.

MIACCA Requests that House Regulatory Reform Committee support SB 827, which would allow Contractors Reasonable Work experience Credit, to the House of Representatives

SB 827 was passed by Senate roll call on September 30th with 38 yeas and 0 nays. It was then referred to the House Regulatory Reform Committee.

This bill is important to the HVAC industry as it will continue the long standing safety practice of having employers attest to an applicant's mechanical work experience; and provide for a reasonable work experience credit for those who goes to school to learn a skilled trade and successfully completes a recognized HVAC trade school, community college, or university program.

MIACCA sent [this letter](#) to Representative Webber and we encourage you to reach out to these House Regulatory Reform Committee members of this committee in your district and encourage them to introduce the bill to the House of Representatives:

[Michael Webber](#) (R) Committee Chair, 45th District

[Ryan Berman](#) (R) Majority Vice-Chair, 39th District

[Kathy Crawford](#) (R), 38th District

[Diana Farrington](#) (R), 30 District

[Ben Frederick](#) (R), 85th District

[Michele Hoitenga](#) (R), 102nd District

[Graham Filler](#) (R), 93rd District

[Matt Hall](#) (R), 63rd District

[Pauline Wendzel](#) (R), 79th District

[John Chirkun](#) (D) Minority Vice-Chair, 22nd District

[Frank Liberati](#) (D), 13rd District

[Sara Cambensy](#) (D), 109th District

[Jewell Jones](#) (D), 11st District

[Alex Garza](#) (D), 12nd District

[Cynthia Neeley](#) (D), 34th District

[Molly Wingrove](#), Committee Clerk
5173735024

Another way MIACCA is working for you. We will continue to keep you posted on the progress

State of Michigan COVID-19 Updates and Resources

During these risky and uncertain times, please keep yourself informed by using this resource and visiting: <https://www.michigan.gov/coronavirus> The State of Michigan is updating this page constantly to keep Michigan Residents informed.



MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENT, GREAT LAKES, AND ENERGY

Michigan K-12 Public School HVAC Assistance Program

Michigan licensed HVAC contractors are encouraged to be apply to the Michigan K-12 Public School HVAC Assistance Program ([link](#)) for assisting schools with recommendations to reduce infectious aerosol transmission via the heating, ventilating, and air-conditioning systems. Participating HVAC contractors complete a program provided onsite HVAC inspection checklist, at pre-approved K-12 public school buildings, to generate a recommendation report with cost estimates for implementation.

The maximum award is \$15,000 per applicant, with a maximum payment of \$1,500 per completed checklist report. Awards will be given on a first come, first served basis until funding is depleted. Michigan licensed HVAC contractors can apply by completing a brief online application ([link](#)).

Additional information is available on the Michigan K-12 Public School HVAC Assistance Program website ([link](#)). Questions can be directed to David Herb, EGLE Energy Services at HerbD@michigan.gov.





November is Carbon Monoxide Safety Month

Here are some simple precautions which can help prevent carbon monoxide poisoning:

- **Install carbon monoxide detectors.** Put one in the hallway near each sleeping area in your house. Check the batteries every time you check your smoke detector batteries — at least twice a year. If the alarm sounds, leave the house and call 911 or the fire department. Carbon monoxide detectors are also available for motor homes and boats. Carbon monoxide detectors save lives, but less than one-third of American homes have one installed. December and January are the peak months for CO Poisonings.
- **Open the garage door before starting your car.** Never leave your car running in your garage. Be particularly cautious if you have an attached garage. Leaving your car running in a space attached to the rest of your house is never safe, even with the garage door open.
- **Use gas appliances as recommended.** Never use a gas stove or oven to heat your home. Use portable gas camp stoves outdoors only. Use fuel-burning space heaters only when someone is awake to monitor them and doors or windows are open to provide fresh air. Don't run a generator in an enclosed space, such as the basement or garage.
- **Keep your fuel-burning appliances and engines properly vented.** These include:
 - Space heaters
 - Furnaces
 - Charcoal grills
 - Cooking ranges
 - Water heaters
 - Fireplaces
 - Portable generators
 - Wood-burning stoves
 - Car and truck engines

Ask your utility company about yearly checkups for all gas appliances, including your furnace.

- **If you have a fireplace, keep it in good repair.** Clean your fireplace chimney and flue every year.
- **Keep vents and chimneys unblocked during remodeling.** Check that they aren't covered by tarps or debris.
- **Do repairs before returning to the site of an incident.** If carbon monoxide poisoning has occurred in your home, it's critical to find and



HEPA Filter Rebates

Consumers Energy is offering HEPA Filter rebates through our Business Instant Discount Program to help with State of Michigan funded HVAC Assistance Program for K-12 Schools.

See Michigan.gov program details here: https://www.michigan.gov/climateandenergy/0,4580,7-364-85453_85455_85516_85523-539583--,00.html

Current incentive available up to \$80 per qualifying filter at participating distributors. For a list of participating distributors and current instant rebates visit consumersenergy.com/instantdiscount



Hunting Safety Tips

The November 15 firearm deer season opener is here, and Michigan Department of Natural Resources conservation officers encourage hunters to brush up on safety tips and hunting regulations to ensure a safe, enjoyable experience.

[READ MORE](#)

STAY SAFE!!!



**➔ Not a member?
Click here to get
started**

**Message
from
President**

Phil Forner

November is Carbon Monoxide awareness month. This is the time of the year to remind your customers of the importance of furnace inspections and the dangers of carbon monoxide poisoning. Also be aware of the symptoms of carbon monoxide to protect yourself, your employees and customers and get them help if they've been exposed.

Mild Symptoms:

Headache, nausea, dizziness, difficulty concentrating, vomiting, drowsiness, and poor coordination. Most people who develop mild carbon monoxide poisoning recover quickly when moved into fresh air.

Moderate Symptoms:

Impaired judgment, confusion, unconsciousness, seizures, chest pain, shortness of breath, low blood pressure, and coma. Thus, many victims are not able to move themselves and must be rescued.

Severe Symptoms:

Is often fatal. Rarely, weeks after apparent recovery from severe carbon monoxide poisoning, symptoms such as memory loss, poor coordination, movement disorders, depression, and psychosis (which are referred to as delayed neuropsychiatric symptoms) develop.

MIACCA continues to provide

INACOA continues to provide you with up to date information and resources that we feel are fitting to our industry.

Please continue to utilize these COVID-19 resources from our industry experts:

ACCA resources [here](#)

Federated Insurance [here](#)

NATE resources [here](#)

ASHRAE resources [here](#)

As always stay safe and keep up the great work!



**Cost-Effective
Solutions for Mid-
Pandemic Workplace
Controversies**

**Tuesday, November 17,
2020 (12:00 PM CT)**

**60 minutes |
Complimentary |
Advance registration
required**

In this webinar, we will identify seven types of challenges and recurring problems that employers face today, and we will discuss cost-effective solutions your organization can implement to reduce risk while preparing for year-end and for 2021. We'll offer practical tips and resources, and will answer questions at the end of this webinar.

REGISTER NOW





Service Nation 101: Close More Sales with Finance Options

Free Webinar

If your customers don't have money on hand, it makes it a lot harder for your team members to make a sale. And if an issue in a home does not get resolved, it only becomes more costly - which does not help your customers.

On November 5th, Thomas Murphy, Director of the Home Improvement division at Okinus, joins Service Nation 101 to share how you can help customers, regardless of their FICO score/credit history (and close more sales).

This webinar discusses:

- The three types of credit scores and lenders for each type
- How to serve customers with bad credit
- Increasing topline revenue

Thomas is the Director of the Home Improvement Division for Okinus Credit Solutions with 25+ years in the retail and financial services industry. He specializes in the credit-challenged consumer financing space and prides himself on working with contractors to broaden their consumer base and grow sales in the sub-prime market. With years of strategy and an entrepreneurial drive, he works closely with family-owned contractors to national chains, providing operational support, marketing strategies, and product offerings focused on new and repeat consumer business.

Credit shouldn't get in the way of comfort. Learn how to help customers finance what they need with Service Nation 101 and Okinus

NATION 101 and OKINUS.

Time

Nov 5, 2020 01:00 PM
in [Central Time \(US and Canada\)](#)

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Prevention Checklist for HVAC Technicians

Carbon Monoxide (CO) kills nearly 500 people every year, leaves thousands hospitalized and is the leading cause of unintentional poisoning in the United States. Fortunately, many HVAC technicians learn about carbon monoxide detection during their initial technical training and can also seek additional certification on the subject. Following are some of the common techniques HVAC techs use to ensure customers' HVAC units are safe.

Use a CO Monitor

There are various telltale signs that an HVAC technician can look for to determine if the unit is emitting unsafe levels of CO in the home. A thorough inspection would entail not only checking for these signs and repairing the damage, but also using a CO monitor to measure levels. To use a CO monitor, one will need to drill a hole in the HVAC flue and insert the probe of an electric combustion analyzer into the flue. In some cases

into the flue. In some cases, holes will need to be drilled in the ducts to measure CO levels there as well.

Equipment to Check

As many technicians learn in HVAC school, the older the furnace, the more likely it is to have CO emission problems. However, this does not mean that only older furnaces should be checked. Even brand new equipment can emit carbon monoxide if it has not been properly transported and/or installed in a customer's home or office building. There are also instances where the unit is working fine but the duct or venting system is damaged in some way.

An HVAC technician should also consider offering to check not only the HVAC system that he or she is hired to service but also other heating units in the home. Water boilers, furnaces, water heaters, space heaters, gas ovens and gas dryers, can all cause CO poisoning. Checking these for leaks and other forms of damage could save lives.

Signs of Trouble

After using a CO monitor to assess if there are unacceptable levels in the home, an HVAC technician will want to check the entire unit suspected of causing the problem for the following indicators of faulty ventilation:

- Corroded burners, heat exchangers, draft hood and/or flue pipes
- Soot buildup
- Melted wires and/or controls
- Moisture dripping from flues

An HVAC professional should make sure the horizontal vent pipes are angled up slightly as they exit the exterior of the home. It is also important to make sure that any leaky vent pipes are properly patched, as a DIY patch job done by a

homeowner who wants to
save some may be
dangerously ineffective.

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