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## Building Safety Week Announced

May 5-11, 2008



To help raise awareness of building safety issues, the Nevada State Contractors Board is joining the International Code Council in celebrating Building Safety Week from May 5-11, 2008.

Across the nation, other states like Nevada are promoting the use and understanding of building safety and fire prevention codes to

protect lives and property. The theme for this year's Building Safety Week is "Building Safety: Where You Live, Work and Play."

Homeowners and businesses should evaluate their dwellings during Building Safety Week and inspect:

- *Plumbing* – Replace leaking faucet valves and toilet parts to save water usage waste.
- *Heating and Cooling Systems* – To prevent energy loss and higher heating and cooling bills, schedule a regular inspection of both the air conditioner and furnace. Building safety codes require that these appliances are properly installed and maintained to ensure they are safe, functional and efficient.

- *Windows* – Energy loss through windows is another budget buster, if leaks and loose fasteners aren't repaired or replaced.
- *Roofs* – Check your roof for damaged tiles or shingles. Also check your walls and ceilings for signs of water damage.
- *Smoke Detectors* – Building safety codes require smoke detectors outside of each bedroom and on each story of a home. Test your smoke detectors monthly and replace the batteries at least twice a year.
- *Pool and Spa Drain Covers* – Building safety codes require pool and spa drains to have a cover or grate to protect from entrapment or suction. Without the cover, hair or body parts may be trapped, causing serious injury or drowning.
- *Stair Rails* – Building safety codes address the size and space of stair rails to prevent children from falling through stair railings, or getting their heads stuck.

Building Safety Week, first observed in 1980, is sponsored by the International Code Council, a membership organization dedicated to building safety and fire prevention. The council develops the codes used to construct residential and commercial buildings, including homes and schools.

The Nevada State Contractors Board has the responsibility to promote quality construction by Nevada licensed contractors through a regulatory licensing system designed to protect the health, welfare and safety of the public.

For more information on Building Safety Week and other tips to follow, go to: [www.buildingsafetyweek.org](http://www.buildingsafetyweek.org) or contact your city or county building departments.

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