

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

JANUARY 2010

FAMOUS THOUGHTS

"I like a lot the adage that for every problem there is a solution that is simple, obvious, and wrong. A problem worthy of the name is seldom accessible to sudden and simple solution." - Malcolm Grear, designer

SERVICES

According to MSNBC, architects have taken the brunt of the current economic situation making the number one spot on the list of the nine professions that saw the most job losses in 2009. We, however, are still here! To find out more about our services, visit us @ www.dbsem.com or call 732 748 0600.



HISTORY

This newsletter has been published in various forms and formats, somewhat regularly over the course of the past fifteen years—but mostly at the whim of the firm's principals.

We welcome your comments, feedback, and forwarding to friends and neighbors. To unsubscribe send an e-mail with that as the subject line to drafting@dbsem.com.

BIG Code Changes Coming

About every three years—the State of New Jersey adopts many of the International Code Council (ICC) publications with "NJ amendments". All of the states municipalities follow suit. The current adopted NJ Building Code is the 2006 International Building Code (IBC). The NJ DCA's Division of Codes and Standards has published a proposal to adopt a NJ-amended version of selected 2009 ICC Codes. This adoption proposal is explained in a document published by the DCA. The biggest changes include the requirement to install fire sprinklers in one and two family dwellings and enhanced requirements for insulation, high-efficiency mechanical equipment, building envelope testing, and (in some instances) higher efficiency windows. Keep in mind these

continue to be code change proposals, subject to public comment, until such time as they are finally adopted (usually by mid-February); and there is a grace period of six months from the date of a code adoption to apply for a construction permit for those projects that are already in the design pipeline.

In the case of the residential sprinkler requirement, the Department recognizes that adjustment to this new technical code requirement will take time and is proposing an effective date of January 1, 2012. Other changes proposed include limiting child-care facilities of certain Construction Types to one story; requiring areas of refuge at all stairs and elevators regardless of sprinklering, and a reduction in the required hand rail height within dwelling units. Live/work



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units are a new Residential Use subset and provisions are included for their implementation. Ambulatory Health Care facilities are now included under a Business Use Group.

If you are already a client—we've got it covered. If you have any questions about how these changes may affect a project you are planning, never hesitate to contact us. We are here to help.

Room with a View

This kitchen renovation and new family dining bump out replaced cramped quarters and relocated the rear door yard access from the kitchen to a mudroom entry. The straight line work triangle is complemented by an island with a hand/veggie sink, additional seating and a warming drawer. Views of the yard and the drive are available from the all around windows in the eating space.

