




COUNTY OF ALBEMARLE
Department of Community Development
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September 18, 2024

To: Developers, Contractors, and Homeowners

From: Michael Dellinger, CBO Building Official 

Re: Ceiling insulation in residential construction

As most of you are aware, the 2021 Virginia Construction Code became effective on January 18, 2024, at which time the minimum R value of ceiling insulation was increased from R-49 to R-60.

In the meantime, the International Code Council has completed code changes for the 2024 code cycle and reduced the R value back down to R-49 for ceilings through the code development process.

With this reversion published and effective in the 2024 International Codes, Albemarle County Building Department will not be enforcing the R-60 requirement listed in the 2021 Virginia Construction Code cycle but the 2024 cycle standard of R-49.

Links to all three code years are available free below:

[2018 Virginia Energy Conservation Code \(iccsafe.org\)](https://www.iccsafe.org)

[2021 Virginia Energy Conservation Code \(iccsafe.org\)](https://www.iccsafe.org)

[2024 International Energy Conservation Code \(IECC\) \(iccsafe.org\)](https://www.iccsafe.org)