

*Who is the
VBCOA?*



The VBCOA is a statewide organization of building safety professionals dedicated to the protection of the health, safety and welfare of all persons who live, work or visit the Commonwealth of Virginia. Our membership is comprised of code officials, inspectors, design professionals and other industry leaders.

For over 75 years the VBCOA has played a major role in the development and application of model construction codes and standards. Because of this, the citizens of Virginia enjoy a high level of assurance that the buildings and structures they utilize everyday are as safe as current standards allow. Safer and stronger buildings benefit everyone by reducing injuries and damages during emergency situations and disasters as well as enhancing and preserving the value of our properties.

If you have questions concerning building safety issues, please contact your local building department and the professionals who work there to serve you.

*VIRGINIA BUILDING AND CODE
OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION*



Accessibility Awareness



*An organization of building
safety professionals*

May is Accessibility Awareness Month In Virginia



The Virginia Building and Code Officials Association and your local building department reminds you of the importance of accessibility in buildings and structures for the many disabled citizens in Virginia. Your local building department plays an important role in assuring that all new construction meets the current standards for accessibility. Modern building codes recognize that building accessibility is much easier and less expensive to achieve during initial construction than converting a building at a later time. All citizens have the right to enjoy the benefits of society and to be able to perform and participate in everyday life functions. Your local building inspector plays a major role in helping ensure equal accessibility for the buildings in which we all live, work and play.

Accessibility Facts

1. Approximately 54 million Americans have at least one disability, making them the largest minority group in the nation.
2. 21.2 million persons reported having a disability that limits their ability to engage in basic physical activity such as walking, climbing stairs, reaching, lifting or carrying.
3. 6.8 million persons reported a condition that makes it difficult to dress, bathe or get around inside the home.
4. People with disabilities constitute the nation's largest minority group, and is the only group any of us can become a member of at any time.



Accessible Parking

In Virginia, the marking of accessible parking spaces must meet specific requirements in order to be compliant. These include:

- Each space identified by an above grade sign
- Lower edge of sign mounted between 4 and 7 feet above grade
- Must include the language "Penalty—\$100-\$500 Fine—Tow-away Zone"

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