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Washington  
COUNTIES

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# News *Flash*

A quarterly newsletter for electricians and electrical contractors

Fall 2006

## NECA and IEC to sponsor Sept. 6 continuing education session

The National Electrical Contractors Association and the Independent Electrical Contractors of Oregon are co-sponsoring the 2006 code-related class series on grounding and bonding. The third class takes place Wednesday, Sept. 6, from 4-8 p.m., in Room 120C of the State Office Building, 800 NE Oregon St., Portland.

Qualified participants may earn four hours credit for continuing education (master builders), four hours of Construction Contractors Board credit (home inspectors), or four hours of code-related credit for Building Codes Division electrical licensees.

The purpose of the forums is to provide continuing education, communicate the most recent state interpretations and rulings, and discuss and reach consensus on installation methods and code applications to further the consistent application of the code in the region. All area electricians, contractors, remodelers, architects, and building department personnel are invited.

**New location for 2006 code forums  
— State Office Building —  
800 NE Oregon St., Portland**

## New grounding and bonding correspondence course now available

Part 2 of an eight-credit-hour code-related course, designed by Building Codes Division's electrical program staff, is available on the division's Web page, [bcd.oregon.gov](http://bcd.oregon.gov). Part 1

has been available since April. To find the course on the Web site, click on "Continuing Education," then "Electrical."

### **Reminder: Electrical continuing education requirements have changed.**

Recently adopted rules affecting electrical, plumbing, elevator, and boiler licensees have changed some continuing education requirements. An important note for electricians is that the April 1, 2006 deadline for completing code-change electrical continuing education no longer exists. Instead of the April deadline, electrical licensees may now complete all electrical continuing education, including code change, anytime during their license cycle.



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News flash

This year's final  
electrical code  
forum will take  
place Wednesday,  
Sept. 6.

State Office Building  
800 NE Oregon St.  
Portland  
4 p.m.-8 p.m.

# Statewide interpretation issued June 15

**2005 Oregon Electrical Specialty Code**

**Subject:** Required Maintenance Disconnect

**Code section:** 680.12

**Code edition:** 2005 Oregon Electrical Specialty Code

**Effective date:** June 15, 2005

**Contact:** Dennis Clements  
Interim chief electrical inspector  
Dennis.L.Clements@state.or.us  
(503) 378-4459

*John Powell, former chief electrical inspector, authored the interpretation.*

## Question

Does Section 680.12 requiring a maintenance disconnect for swimming pool utilization equipment allow the disconnect to be installed within 5 feet of the inside edge of the swimming pool or spa?

## Answer

No. The code intends that electrical equipment, including disconnecting means, is to be located at least 5 feet from the inside edge of the pool or spa.

## Analysis

During the 2002 code cycle, Section 680.12 was changed to make the intent of the code clearer. However, the language restricting the disconnecting means to be located "within sight" left out the rest of Article 680 and the need to maintain the 5-foot clearances from the inside edge of the pool or spa.

## Dennis Clements named interim chief electrical inspector

BCD recently named Dennis Clements the interim chief electrical inspector while the division recruits for a permanent chief. Clements has served as the assistant electrical code chief since July 2005.

440-2725 (8/06/COM)

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