

How to Find Information on Building and Other Codes

by Christine Bruzzese

Building Code. The City Hall Library maintains a collection of *Building Codes* back to 1896. Most are indexed. The current *Building Code* is available in loose-leaf format and updated periodically. Please note that *Codes* were/are not necessarily published annually. The 1968 *Building Code*, also known as Local Law no. 76 of 1968, includes a copy of the City Council Committee on Buildings report.

Electrical Code. The first New York City *Electrical Code* was issued in 1911 by the Department of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity. In the 1960's, Department of Public Works took over the responsibility. Under the Koch administration, the responsibility was transferred to the Municipal Service Administration. Department of Buildings currently oversees the Bureau of Electrical Control and publishes this *Code*. Completely revised versions were issued from 2001 to 2003 in conformity with the National Electrical Code.

Air Pollution Control and Noise Code. First issued in 1963, by the Department of Air Pollution Control, the *Air Pollution Control Code* was revised in 1987 by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). *New York City Noise Code* was published in 1987, also by DEP. Currently, these codes can be found in Title 24 of the *New York City Charter and Administrative Code*.

Housing Maintenance Code. First published in 1967 by the Department of

Buildings, the *Housing Maintenance Code* was amended in 1988. This deals with maintenance, service, physical standards and related matters for multiple dwellings. This is now part of Title 27 of the *New York City Charter and Administrative Code*.

Fire Code. The current *Fire Code* is part of Title 27 of the *New York City Charter and Administrative Code*. Separate editions were published in 1988 and 1990 and can be used for historical research. Title 15 of the *Charter and Administrative Code* and Title 3 of the *Rules of the City of New York* also deal with fire regulations.

Websites. Check www.nyc.gov for links to websites of agencies such as Department of Buildings. The *New York City Charter and Administrative Code* plus the *Rules of the City of New York*, can be found by going to www.nyc.gov and clicking on the link "Laws of the City of New York" under the category "Most Requested."