

SUGGESTED CHANGES TO CHAPTER SPS 322

1. **322.21 (2)** Clarify that wind wash protection is required for the vertical ends of batt insulation at the eaves? Also, limit the applicability of this section to air-permeable insulation that is more than 30 degrees from horizontal?
2. **322.32 (9)** [or some other convenient section] Clarify that the vertical surface in a skylight shaft is considered a wall for insulating purposes.
3. **322.33** Clarify the extent of slab-edge insulation for unheated attached garages. Also, somehow address the protection of vertical slab edge insulation at garage doors for heated garages, especially those with in-floor heat.
4. **322.38 (2) Q&A:** I'm hearing some debate on the use of a vapor barrier on floors of rooms over open areas. For example, a room over a garage, or a 4 season room off the ground built like a deck where the cold air can blow underneath in the winter.

What is the position of the State on the vapor barrier? I've heard there should be one on top of the joists under the decking/sheathing, and I heard one is not needed on the joists, and builders are not sure how it is supposed to be. One builder said he was told moist air pushes out and/or up, thus the floor does not have to have the vapor barrier, but walls and ceilings do.

One problem I run into is the conversion from a 3 season room to a 4 season room, how do you install the vapor barrier?

Answer: On the one hand, s. SPS 322.38 (2) lists wood-frame floors as needing the vapor retarder. You would then have the V.R. on the warm-in-winter side, just like always, in which case it should be on top of the joists between the subflooring and the batt insulation. On the other hand, plywood subflooring is already reasonably impermeable to water vapor, and adding a sheet may be an unnecessary burden, especially with remodels.

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