

**CHANGE TYPE:** Addition

**CHANGE SUMMARY:** The new ICC Storm Shelter standard, *ICC/NSSA Standard for the Design and Construction of Storm Shelters*, is now included as a referenced standard for regulating the design and construction of hurricane and tornado shelters.

**2009 CODE:**

**SECTION 423  
STORM SHELTERS**

**423.1 General.** In addition to other applicable requirements in this code, storm shelters shall be constructed in accordance with ICC-500.

**423.1.1 Scope.** This section applies to the construction of storm shelters constructed as separate detached buildings or constructed as safe rooms within buildings for the purpose of providing safe refuge from storms that produce high winds, such as tornados and hurricanes. Such structures shall be designated to be hurricane shelters, tornado shelters, or combined hurricane and tornado shelters.

**423.2 Definitions.** The following words and terms shall, for the purposes of this chapter and as used elsewhere in this code, have the meanings shown herein.

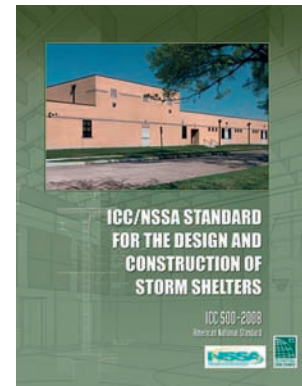
**STORM SHELTER.** A building, structure, or portion(s) thereof, constructed in accordance with ICC-500 and designated for use during a severe wind storm event, such as a hurricane or tornado.

**Community Storm Shelter.** A storm shelter not defined as a "Residential Storm Shelter."

**Residential Storm Shelter.** A storm shelter serving occupants of dwelling units and having an occupant load not exceeding 16 persons.

**CHANGE SIGNIFICANCE:** The new ICC Storm Shelter standard, *ICC/NSSA Standard for the Design and Construction of Storm Shelters*, establishes minimum requirements for structures and spaces designated as hurricane, tornado, or combination shelters. The standard addresses the design of such shelters from the perspective of the structural requirements for high wind conditions, and addresses minimum requirements for the interior environment during a storm event. Although the IBC does not mandate that storm shelters be provided, it does regulate their design if they are constructed.

## 423 Storm Shelters



ICC 500-2008