

## Storm shelters

Storm shelters, sometimes called safe rooms, though not required by the code, offer added protection from the destructive forces of high winds, hurricanes, and tornadoes. The design and construction of storm shelters, either as detached structures or safe rooms within a dwelling, must conform to the requirements of ICC/NSSA-500, Standard on the Design and Construction of Storm Shelters (Figure 4-11). Primarily designed for life safety considerations, storm shelters protect occupants from serious injury due to high wind and flying debris. The shelters are designed to withstand impact from windborne projectiles, referred to as missiles, such as 2 by 4s or other construction or natural material debris that are common to high-wind events. The outer shell of above-ground shelters may be concrete, steel, composite or other materials that have been tested to the prescribed large missile tests. [Ref. R323]

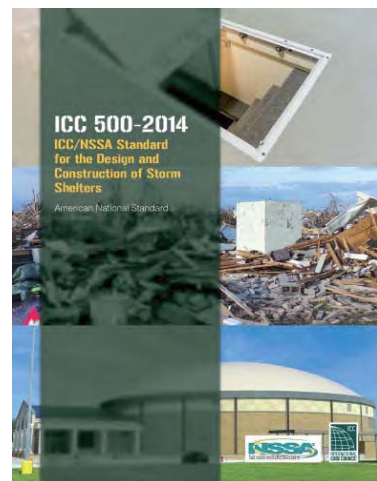


FIGURE 4-11 ICC 500