Effective March 12th 2023 the NFPA 7o National Electrical Code will be in effect here are some of the changes to get more go to web site dli.mn.gov/necfaq23

3. **Section 210.8(A)(6):** GFCI protection requirements in dwelling unit kitchens has been expanded. The revised language in the 2023 NEC removed the phrase "where the receptacles are installed to serve the countertop surfaces", thereby expanding the GFCI protection requirement to include any 125-volt through 250-volt receptacle in kitchens — not just on countertop surface. Now the NEC will require GFCI protection for all kitchen receptacles; including the wall space receptacles required by 210.52(A), and the kitchen countertop surfaces covered in 210.52(B).

4. **Sections 210.8(A)(7) and 210.8(B)(3):** The revised language will require GFCI protection for receptacles located in "areas with sinks and permanent provisions for food preparation, beverage preparation, or cooking". These areas are used similarly to a kitchen, but do not meet the definition. The change could affect an area that includes a "sink" such as a recreation room wet-bar, or a convenience store where beverages or food is prepared. For the purposes of determining the area where receptacle(s) are required to have GFCI protection, the area includes the contiguous countertop or work surface that contains the sink.

5. **Section 210.8(D):** A list of "specific appliances" was added that will require GFCI protection for the branch-circuit or the "outlet" supplying appliances rated 150V or less to ground and 60A or less. The section clarifies that these appliances must have GFCI protection provided whether they are hardwired, or cord- and plug-connected. The expansion also included 5 new appliances:
   - Electric range
   - Wall-mounted oven
   - Counter-mounted cooking unit
   - Clothes dryer
   - Microwave oven

7. **Section 210.52(C)(2):** The requirement for receptacles serving the countertop or work surface of an island or peninsula is made optional; however, if the receptacles are not installed at the time the cabinets and countertops were initially placed, the section requires provisions for a future outlet to be provided. The provision must include a wiring method (conduit, raceway, or cable) to be extended to the island or peninsula and terminated into a junction box with cover.

8. **Section 210.52(C)(3):** In the same section, all receptacle outlets in the kitchen serving the countertop surface will no longer be allowed below the countertop or work surface. The receptacles, or outlet assemblies, located on the top of the countertop or work surface must be listed for the use.

11. **Sections 215.18, 225.42 and 230.67:** New language was added similar to section 230.67 to require surge protection devices (SPDs) for both feeders and outside feeders. The need for the protection is to limit damage to electronic devices and equipment which can be rendered inoperable by a surge. The areas where the surge protection is required has been expanded and will now include new installations as well as replacement distribution equipment located in:

(1) Dwelling units
(2) Dormitory units
(3) Guest rooms and guest suites of hotels and motels
(4) Areas of nursing homes and limited-care facilities used exclusively as patient sleeping rooms

The Type 1 or Type 2 SPD must be installed in or adjacent to the **distribution equipment** connected to the load side of the feeder that contains branch circuit overcurrent protective device(s). This requirement does not apply to a feeder disconnect that supplies a single branch circuit. In addition, the SPD shall have a nominal discharge current rating (In) of not less than 10kA.

15. **Section 352.44(B):** A new (B) was added to address earth movement when installing **underground** PVC conduit. Expansion fittings are now required to compensate for earth settling or movement, including frost heaving, when underground PVC conduit is installed as a complete run (300.18(A)), and emerges from grade. Short sections of PVC conduit installed for physical protection of direct buried cables shall comply with requirements in 300.5(J).

13. **Section 230.85:** In order to provide first responders with a safe method of disconnecting power from a structure, one-family and two-family dwellings are required to have an **emergency disconnect** installed outdoors, within sight, and in a readily accessible location. The emergency disconnect must be rated for the available fault current. Generally, to achieve a short circuit current rating, an unfused disconnect switch constructed to UL 98, would be required to contain overcurrent protection or the installer must provide the overcurrent protection ahead of or adjacent to the equipment. In addition, this requirement will impact service panels that are being replaced. If you have questions regarding the limitations and use of an unfused disconnect - please contact the local AHJ.