

# **Insulation and the Minimum Housing Code**

April 5, 2007



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# R-19 Insulation Recommendation

- Staff recommends that the Gainesville Minimum Housing Code (Chapter 13, Code of Ordinances) be amended to include a Minimum Standard of R-19 Insulation in the attic
- This shall apply to all residential dwelling units in the City of Gainesville (owner occupied and rental)
- This is consistent with the minimum requirements for new construction in the Florida Energy Efficiency Code for Building Construction



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# Important Constraints

## Limiting Conditions:

- Lack of adequate support by half inch ceiling board
- Knob-and-Tube wiring in the attic
- Blown-in cellulose recommended due to ability to reduce air infiltration.
- Additional insulation must not block eave ventilation



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# GRU Assistance through Rebate

## Residential/Small Business:

### **\$ 0.125 per square foot up to \$375 Rebate**

- Minimum installation of R-19 insulation (battling, blanket, board, sprayed-on or blown-in) in the attic
- May be installed by homeowner
- Must be installed prior to the issuance of rebate
- Rebate Form must be completed within 30 days
- Rebate issued as a check or credit on the GRU bill



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# Minimum Housing Code Inspections

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- As part of the rotation Minimum Housing Code Inspections for Rental Units
- Enforcement on a Complaint Basis
- Check for R-19 Insulation would not add substantial time to Inspections
- Minimal Additional Training for Code Enforcement Officers
- Effective 10/1/07, with penalty phase delayed 1 year to allow time for compliance



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## Mayor Unveils London Climate Change Action Plan 27-2-2007

The Mayor of London today set out the first comprehensive plan to cut London's carbon emissions.

By using energy less wastefully London's economy will become more efficient and Londoners and London businesses will be better off through lower energy bills.

As part of today's launch the Mayor announced a major programme of reducing Londoners' energy bills which will start with the **offer of cut-price loft and cavity wall insulation**, available across the whole of London to every home that can benefit from it. **The offer will be free for Londoners on benefits**



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# Recommendation

Community Development to City

Commission:

- Direct the Attorney to draft, and the Clerk to advertise, changes to the Minimum Housing Code (Chapter 13, Article 2, Code of Ordinances, ) to incorporate R-19 insulation as a minimum requirement



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