Builder Tip

Issue No: 87
Issued July 2015
Updated to 2012 Building Code

TEMPERATURE CONTROL IN DWELLING UNITS

ONTARIO BUILDING CODE

12.3.1.1. Application

(1) This section applies to the energy efficiency of a building or part of a building of residential occupancy that is within the scope of Part 9 and is intended for occupancy on a continuing basis during the winter months.

12.3.1.3. Temperature Control in Dwelling Units

(1) Except as provided in Sentence (3) and except where space heating energy is provided by a solid fuel burning appliance or a ground source heat pump, the indoor air temperature in a dwelling unit shall be controlled by at least one programmable thermostatic control device.

(2) The programmable thermostatic control devices required in Sentence (1) shall,

(a) allow the setting of different air temperatures for at least,

i. four time periods per day, and

ii. two different day types per week,

(b) include a manual override, and

(c) allow the setting of the air temperature to,

i. 13°C or lower in heating mode, and

ii. 29°C or higher in cooling mode, where air conditioning is provided.

(3) A manual thermostatic control device is permitted if it,

(a) controls a heating or cooling system where the heating or cooling capacity is not more than 2 KW, or

(b) serves an individual room or space.

OBJECTIVE

The main objective of either space heating or air conditioning is to maintain a temperature difference between indoors and outdoors. The greater the difference in temperature, the greater the energy use and expense. The Building Code provides the occupants of a dwelling with options for lowering the thermostat setting a few degrees in the winter and raising the cooling setting in the summer in order to reduce the indoor/outdoor temperature difference.

Programmable thermostats allow the occupants to adjust various temperature settings at different times of day and for different days of the week to suit their daily schedule. Occupants can set the temperature back while sleeping or at work, and program the thermostat to return to the normal setting prior to waking up or arriving home. These features promote energy conservation by reducing the use of energy when the occupant is provided with options to do so.

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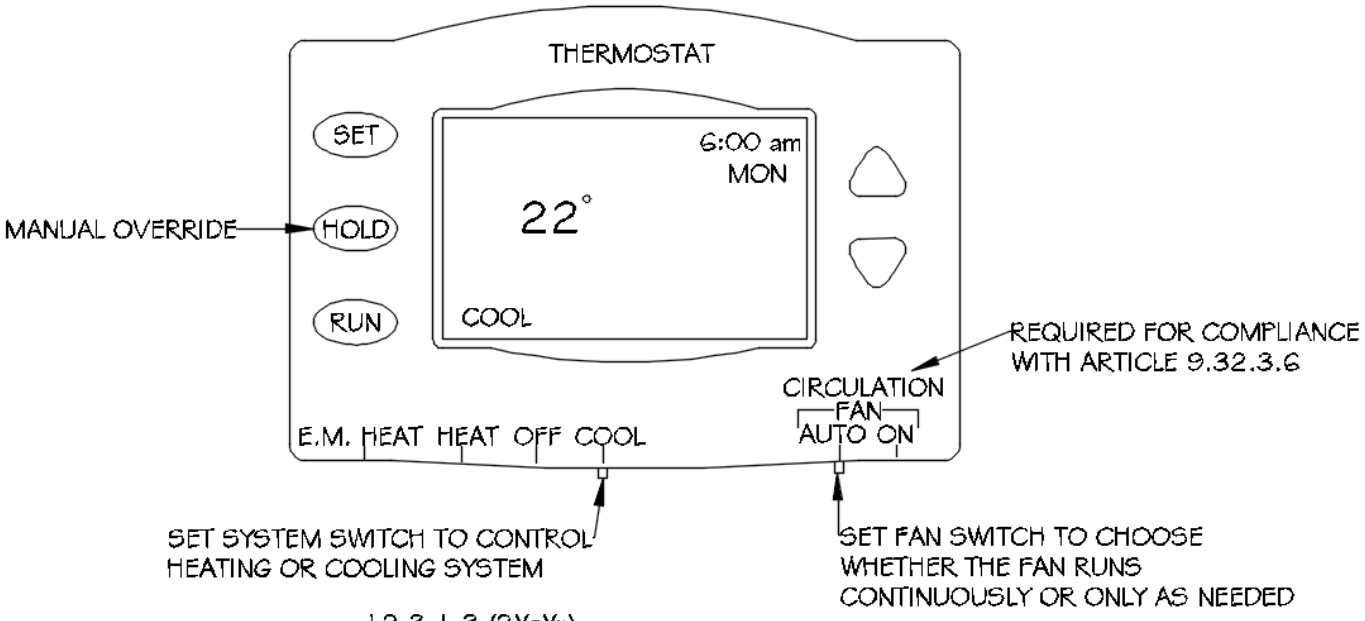

12.3.1.3.(2)(a)(ii)

	Heat (Mon-Fri)	Cool (Mon-Fri)	Heat (Sat-Sun)	Cool (Sat-Sun)
Wake (6:00 am)	22°	25°	22°	25°
Leave (8:00 am)	13°	29°	13°	29°
Return (6:00 pm)	22°	25°	22°	25°
Sleep (10:00 pm)	13°	29°	13°	29°

12.3.1.3.(2)(a)(i)

12.3.1.3.(2)(c)(i)

12.3.1.3.(2)(c)(ii)

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