

LARGE FARM BUILDINGS

2024 Ontario Building Code Changes

These are highlights only. A digital copy of the 2024 Building Code Compendium is available on the provincial website.

NEW BUILDING CLASSIFICATION

All farm buildings that are more than 600m² in building area or more than 3 storeys in building heights used for major occupancies classified as Group G, Division 1, 2 or 3 *agricultural occupancies with no human occupants*, and

Farm buildings or part of buildings containing an *agricultural occupancy* that has an occupant load of not more than one person per 40m² shall be classified according to their *major occupancy* as belonging to Group G, Division 1, 2, 3 or 4.

Small Farm Buildings that are not more than 3 storeys in building heights and not more than 600m² in building area used for major occupancies classified as Group G Division 1, 2 or 3 agricultural occupancies, shall conform to the *National Building Code of Canada*.

GROUP	DIVISION	DESCRIPTION OF AGRICULTURAL OCCUPANCIES
G	1	High-hazard agricultural occupancies
G	2	Agricultural occupancies not elsewhere classified in Group G
G	3	Greenhouse agricultural occupancies
G	4	Agricultural occupancies with no human occupants

ADDITIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

FIRE PROTECTION

Fire alarm provisions, firefighting provisions (similar to Part 3 content)

SAFETY WITHIN FARM BUILDINGS

Travel distance, exits, emergency lighting

HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES PROCESSES AND EQUIPMENT

Exhaust ventilation and explosion venting, liquid manure storage, storage of pesticides, cannabis operations

STRUCTURAL LOADING

Loads due to use and occupancy, snow and earthquake loading (similar to Part 4 content)

HVAC

Ventilation for greenhouses, silos, and grain storage bins, below-floor liquid manure (similar to Part 6 content)