

**April 20, 2009**

**Building Code Hint of the Week: Windows**

Windows whose **openings are less than 24"** above the finished floor and that are more than **72" above grade**, must have grill that meet certain standards for that part of the opening less than 24" above the finished floor. See Section **R613.2 Window sills** on page 6.149 in the 2007 **Residential Code**. The title 'Window sills' is unfortunate because it is not the window sill that is of consequence, but instead it is the opening. This may well give you an inch of additional margin compared to the window sill itself. The requirements are discussed in **Eric Stafford's**, et al *Significant Changes to the Florida Building Code, Residential* book on page 85. Please note: This provision is also in the **Building Volume of the Code in Section 1405.12.2 for R-2 and R-3** occupancies. The language in both Building and Residential Codes is the same and should be interpreted the same. Whether you agree with this provision or not, it was added to the code to address the issue of a **child falling out an open window**.