



Safety duty: Get up-to-date on CEC changes.

In 2015, the Canadian Electrical Code (CEC) boosted the safety protocols around outdoor receptacles. The code outlines new regulations for outdoor receptacles, including requirements for labeling and while-in-use weatherproof covers. Learn more about these important changes with information from Westburne and the experts at Hubbell.



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CEC CHANGES AT A GLANCE:



Rule 26-702 – Weatherproof Covers

The new CEC code affecting weatherproof, while-in-use covers is now in effect across Canada, with the exception of Quebec, which will implement it in June 2017.

There are two key changes to this portion of the CEC:

Subrule (2): Covers for certain receptacles* that are exposed to weather must be approved for wet locations, whether or not a plug is inserted into the receptacle. They must also be clearly marked “**Extra Duty**” and the marking must be visible after installation.

Subrule (3): Identifies the exception to this rule. It permits cover plates marked “**Wet Location Only When Cover Closed**” or equivalent when the receptacle is:

- a) installed facing downward at an angle of at least 45° or less from the horizontal, or
- b) installed at least 1 m above finished grade and not in a wet location.



Subrules 2 and 3 apply to Canadian Standards Association (CSA) configurations 5-15R, 5-20R, 5-20RA, 6-15R, 6-20R, and 6-20RA

Note that Authority having jurisdiction (AHJ) has the final word.

Code Q&A

Does the code apply only to commercial applications?

NO – The new code on Extra Duty covers applies to residential, commercial installations, or anywhere CSA configurations 5-15R, 5-20R, 5-20RA, 6-15R, 6-20R, and 6-20RA (exposed to the weather) are being used.

Do these rule changes apply to outdoor receptacles that are protected from the weather such as soffit and balcony receptacles?

SOMETIMES – The general rule of thumb is: if the receptacle is within the 45 degree drop angle (shadow) of the overhang, then Subrule (3) can be applied. Otherwise the receptacle is deemed to be in a wet location and requires an extra duty cover.

Do Extra Duty covers replace all Weatherproof covers?

NO – Covers with marking “Wet Location Only When Cover Closed” or an equivalent marking can still be installed facing downward at an angle of at least 45° or less from the horizontal; or installed at least 1 m above finished grade and not in a wet location



PICTURE THE CODE:

New safety protocols for weatherproof covers.

1 Area 1
Use covers marked **“Wet Location Only When Cover Closed”** for receptacles facing downward at an angle of at least 45° or less.

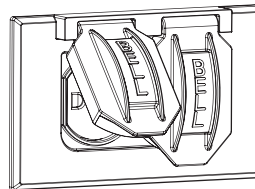
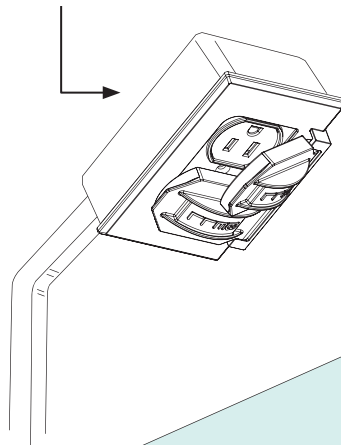
2 Area 2
Covers marked **“Wet Location Only When Cover Closed”** can be used in area two, where the receptacle is installed at least 1 m above grade in a dry location.

3 Wet locations
Covers marked **“Extra Duty”** must be used in wet locations, whether or not a plug is inserted.

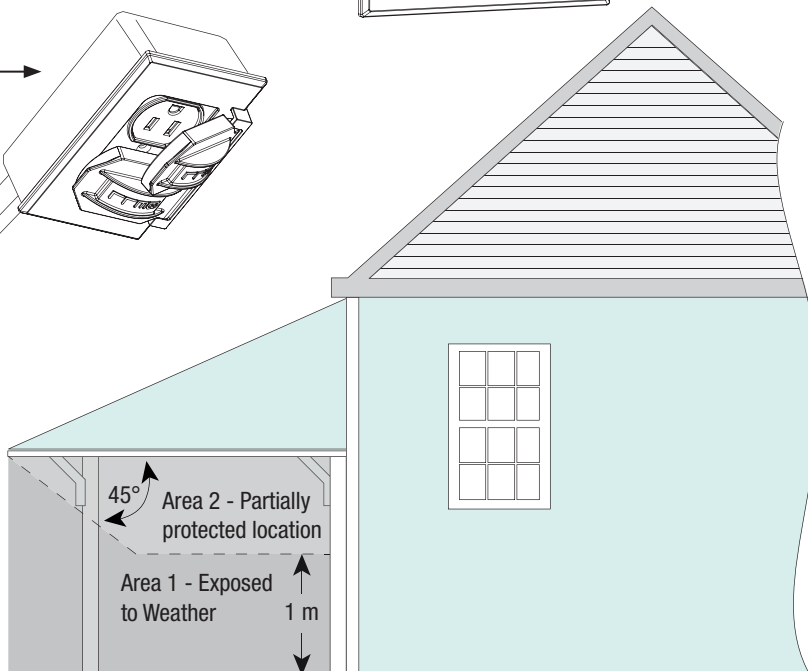
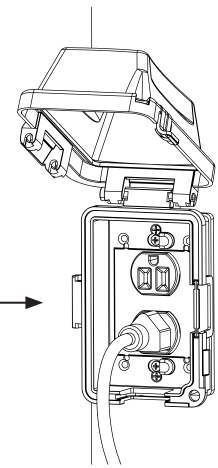
Hubbell and Taymac have you covered.

More than 20-years ago, the first while-in-use cover revolutionized the safety standard for weatherproof covers. Unlike a common flip cover, the while-in-use cover can have a cord left plugged in and remain weatherproof in wet locations. It's a safety innovation founded by Taymac Inc., which joined Hubbell in 2012. Today, Taymac is synonymous with the while-in-use cover and with Hubbell's backing, the Taymac brand continues to set the standard with industry leading innovation in while-in-use cover technologies. It's why you can be sure Hubbell and Taymac's extensive line of outlet enclosures will have you covered when it comes to CEC changes.

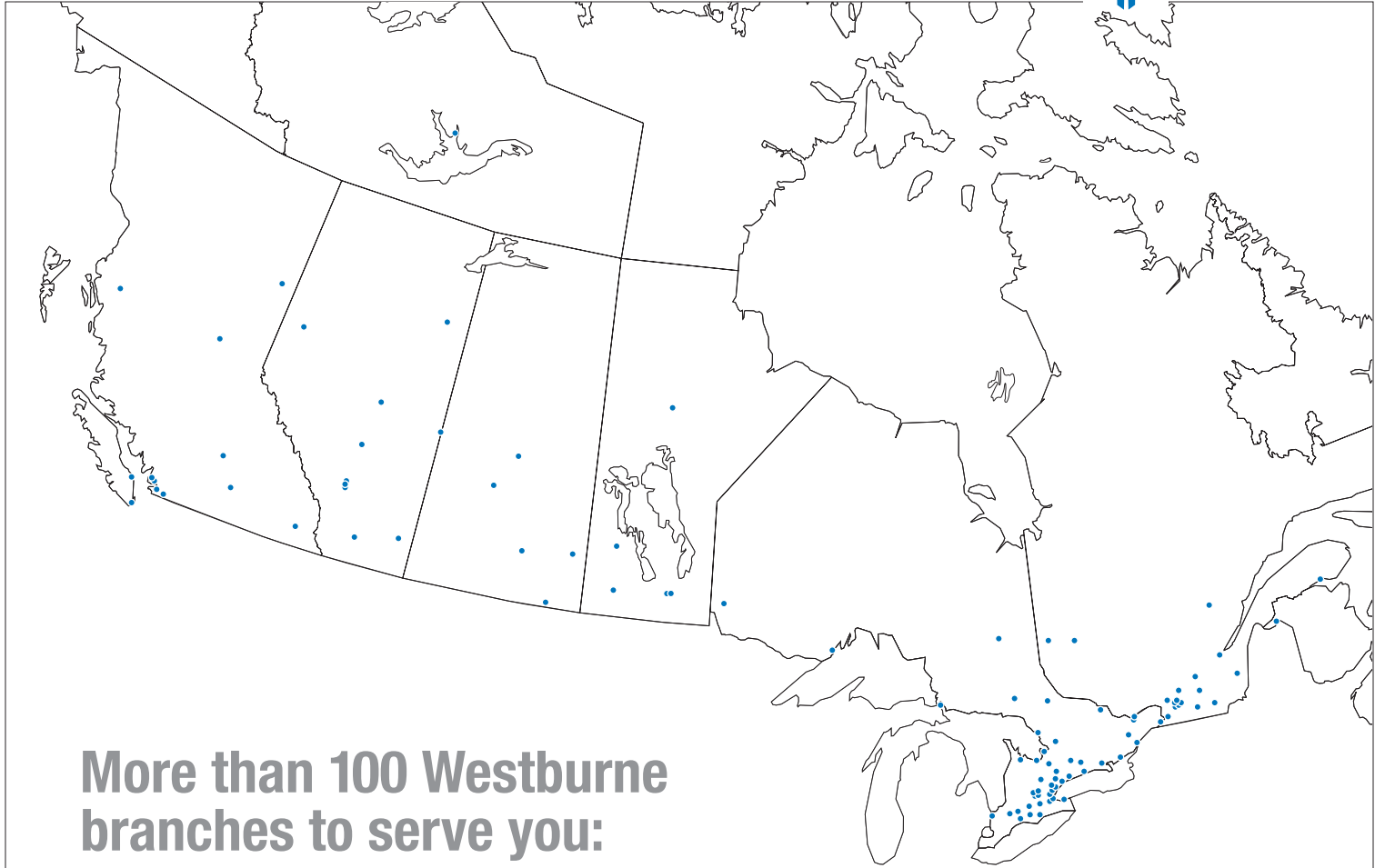
Covers marked “Wet Location Only When Cover Closed” may be used for receptacles facing downward $\leq 45^\circ$ from horizontal for use in Area 1 locations.



Covers marked “Wet Location Only When Cover Closed” are allowed in Area 2.



Covers marked “Extra-Duty” are approved for wet locations whether or not a plug is inserted into the receptacle. These cover types are mandatory where an “in-use type” is required, e.g., in Area 1.



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