

CHAPTER 5
CODE ENFORCEMENT

PART 1

PLUMBING

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PART 1
PLUMBING

§101. DEFINITIONS.

Unless the context specifically and clearly indicates otherwise, the meaning of terms used in this Part shall be as follows:

BOROUGH - the Borough of Wrightsville, York County, Pennsylvania.

BUILDING SEWER - the extension from the end of the building drain from a point 4 feet outside the wall of the building to the lateral.

BUILDING DRAIN - that part of the lowest piping of a building drainage system which receives the discharge from all drainage pipes within the building and conveys it to the building sewer at a point 4 feet outside the building wall.

BUILDING CLEANOUT - a cleanout on the building drain just inside or outside the wall of the building through which the building sewer may be cleaned.

HOUSE TRAP - a device, fitting or assembly of fittings installed on the building drain to prevent circulation of air between the drainage system of the building and the building sewer.

FRESH-AIR VENT - a direct connection leading from the building drain just behind the house trap to the outer air.

LATERAL - that part of the municipal sewer system extending from the sewer main to the curb line, or, if there shall be no curb line, to the property line.

PLUMBING - the construction, alteration or repair of any part of the building sewer or building drain, or appurtenances thereto, which are subject to the provisions of this Part as set forth in §207(1) herein.

PLUMBER - any person licensed by the Borough to engage in the work of plumbing.

PERSON - any individual, partnership, company, association, society, corporation, or other group or entity.

PLUMBING INSPECTOR - the person or persons appointed by the Borough to enforce the terms of this Part.

SEWER - the sanitary sewer and appurtenances operated by the Borough, including the lateral.

(Ord. 5/5/1969D, §1)

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§102. LICENSING OF PLUMBERS.

1. From and after the passage of this Part, no person shall engage in the work of plumbing until he shall have been issued a license to engage in said work by the Borough.
2. Any person with 3 or more years of practical experience in the work of plumbing may make application for such license to the Borough upon forms supplied by the Borough; and if, after proper examination of said application by the Borough such person so applying shall be found qualified, the same shall be approved by the Borough, who shall thereupon issue a license to such person which shall, for the period of 1 calendar year or fractional part thereof next ensuing the date of such qualification, entitle said person to engage in the work of plumbing.
3. Every person who shall desire to be licensed by the Borough shall, upon making application therefor, pay to the Borough a fee of in an amount as established from time to time by resolution of Borough Council. [Ord. 98-4]
4. At the expiration of each calendar year said license shall be null and void. A person desiring to continue in the work of plumbing for the ensuing year shall, between the first and thirty-first day of December of each and every year, renew the license by payment of the fee in the amount prescribed herein.
5. Any license issued hereunder may be revoked by the Borough at any time if the Borough shall find that the holder thereof is not qualified to do plumbing work, or if the holder thereof shall fail to comply with the terms of this Part.
6. Any person aggrieved by the refusal of the Borough to issue a license, or by the revocation of a license, may appeal therefrom in writing to the Borough Council, which shall act on said appeal in due course.
7. Builders and/or contractors desiring to engage in plumbing shall have in their employ a person who shall meet all license requirements, license to be issued in name of builder or contractor listing name of employee who shall supervise all work.
8. Property owners shall be permitted to dig their own ditches, lay pipe and make connections and engage in plumbing on their own property, subject to inspection and approval by Plumbing Inspector. "Their own plumbing" shall be construed to include making repairs, installations, and maintenance and water lines serving their respective properties. Persons doing the work on their own properties shall not be subject to license fees and examinations as listed in this Section.

(Ord. 5/5/1969D, §2; as amended by Ord. 98-4, 9/14/1998)

§103. PLUMBING INSPECTOR.

1. It shall be the duty of the Plumbing Inspector to inspect all plumbing and to enforce the provisions of this Part.

2. The Plumbing Inspector shall have the authority to obtain such information and to make such investigation as may be necessary to determine whether the provisions of this Part have been complied with. For this purpose he is empowered to enter upon and inspect private property at reasonable hours and after reasonable notice to the owners and/or occupants thereof.

(Ord. 5/5/1969D, §3)

§104. REQUIREMENTS FOR PLUMBING.

1. From and after the passage of this Part, all plumbing shall be conducted and constructed under and in accordance with the terms hereof; provided, however, that nothing herein contained shall be taken or construed to require any alterations or changes in any existing plumbing within the walls of any building other than the work specified in §107 hereof.
2. Unless certified in writing by the Plumbing Inspector to be a nuisance or dangerous, all plumbing within any existing dwelling shall be deemed to be adequate which provides at least: (A) a properly installed building sewer; (B) a "Y" branch building cleanout on the building drain; and, (C) either a horizontal intercepting trap on the building drain with a fresh-air vent; or, (D) proper and adequate traps on all fixtures within the building.

(Ord. 5/5/1969D, §4)

§105. APPLICATIONS FOR PLUMBING PERMITS.

No plumbing shall be undertaken unless the licensed plumber proposing to undertake the same shall have filed with the Borough an application for a plumbing permit, and shall have paid the connection fee and a plumbing permit shall have been issued. In filing such application, the plumber shall supply all information as may be required thereon regarding the number of fixtures within the building and the location and construction of the building drain and building sewer.

(Ord. 5/5/1969D, §5)

§106. INSPECTION AND APPROVAL.

No building sewer or building drain, nor any part thereof, shall be covered or concealed in any manner until the same shall have been inspected and approved by the Plumbing Inspector. When such work is ready for inspection, the plumber shall promptly notify the Plumbing Inspector, who shall inspect the same as soon as is reasonably possible.

(Ord. 5/5/1969D, §6)

§107. SPECIFICATIONS FOR PLUMBING.

1. Drains to be Adequate. It shall be the duty of every person owning or constructing any drain, soil pipe, passage or connection between a sewer and any ground, building or establishment served thereby, as well as every person owning or in control or possession of any such ground, building or establishment, to cause and require such drain, soil pipe, passage or connection to be adequate for its purpose and such that all material entering the same shall at all times pass freely through the same.
2. Building Sewer.
 - A. General. A separate and independent building sewer shall be provided to connect the building drain of every house or building with the lateral; provided, however, that where a separate building is located upon the same lot with and to the rear of another building, the building sewer serving the front building may be extended to the rear building; but such extension shall not run through the cellar of the front building. Separate building sewers for adjoining buildings may be laid in the same trench.
 - B. Materials. Building sewers may be constructed of any of the following materials, and no other:
 - (1) Extra-heavy or service-weight cast iron bell and spigot pipe, with calked joints firmly packed with oakum or hemp and filled with molten lead not less than 3/4 inch deep and extending not less than 1/8 inch below rim or hub.
 - (2) Standard strength vitrified clay pipe, either hot poured joints, packed with hemp and made with a hot bituminous compound made in one pour or pre-formed joints as may be approved by the Plumbing Inspector. Vitrified clay pipe shall only be used in trenches providing good foundation support, and at depths in excess of 2 feet below grade.
 - (3) Plastic sewer and drain pipe, with fittings and specials which shall meet or exceed all of the requirements of U.S. Commercial Standards 5270-65 (ABS) and C5272-65 (PVC). The manufacturer of each and every brand of plastic material proposed for use under the conditions of this Part shall place on file, with the Plumbing Inspector, a notarized certificate stating that the proposed material has been tested in accordance with the going standards and that said material meets or exceeds the requirements of the applicable standard.
 - C. Size and Grade. Building sewers shall not be less than 3 inches I.D., and shall be laid to uniform slope of not less than 1/4 inch per foot for pipes less than 4 inches in diameter, and not less than 1/8 inch per foot for pipes 4 inches in diameter or larger.
 - D. Installation.

- (1) Building sewers must be as direct as possible. Changes in direction must be made with the following fittings: "Y's", combination "Y" and eighth bends, or half "Y's" or 1/8 bends. Offsets shall be avoided wherever possible, and where approved by the Plumbing Inspector they shall be made with 45 degree bends or similar fittings.
- (2) Building sewers shall not be laid closer than 4 feet to any building, except upon specific approval of the Plumbing Inspector, in which event they shall be constructed only of cast iron pipe.
- (3) Cleanouts composed of a "Y" fitting and 1/8 bend shall be provided at intervals of not more than 70 feet, and shall be brought to grade and capped.
- (4) Changes in size where the building drain enters the building sewer, or at the lateral, shall only be made by use of fittings.
- (5) Ditches shall be promptly backfilled after inspection by the Plumbing Inspector. Care shall be taken to prevent damage to the pipe in backfilling, and to secure a well-compacted and firm ditch.

3. Building Drains.

- A. Materials. Building drains may be constructed of either of the following materials and no other:
 - (1) Extra-heavy or service-weight cast iron pipe.
 - (2) Plastic sewer and drain pipe, with fittings and specials which shall meet or exceed all of the requirements of U.S. Commercial Standards C5270-65 (ABS) and C5272-65 (PVC). The manufacturer of each and every brand of plastic material proposed for use under the conditions of this Part shall place on file, with the Plumbing Inspector, a notarized certificate stating that the proposed material has been tested in accordance with the foregoing standards and that said material meets or exceeds the requirements of the applicable standard.
- B. Building Cleanout. A "Y" branch cleanout shall be provided on the building drain just inside or outside the wall. The cleanout shall be fitted with a gas-and water-tight cap.
- C. House Trap. The building drain may be provided with a horizontal intercepting trap, not less than 4 inches in diameter, placed inside or outside the cellar wall, or as close thereto as construction circumstances will permit, all as may be approved by the Plumbing Inspector. The trap shall be provided with a hand hole for convenience in cleaning, the cover of which shall be properly fitted and made gas-tight and air-tight. In the event a house trap is not installed, it shall be the responsibility of the property owner to provide proper and adequate traps on all fixtures within the building.

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- D. **Fresh-Air Vent.** If a house trap is installed, the building drain shall be provided with a fresh-air vent just inside the house trap. It shall lead to the outer air, and finish with an open grill or gooseneck. The fresh-air vent shall be no less than 3 inches for 4 inch drains or less; for 5 and 6 inch drains, it must not be less than 4 inches in diameter; for 7 and 8 inch drains, it must not be less than 6 inches in diameter; and for larger drains, it must not be less than 8 inches in diameter.
 - E. **Grade and Installation.** They shall be laid at a uniform slope of not less than 1/4 inch per foot. Changes of direction shall be made only with fittings as specified under subsection (2)(D) for drains located both above and below ground. Where building drains pass through a new foundation wall, a relieving arch shall be built over them, with a 2 inch space on either side of the pipe.
4. Other Work Subject to These Specifications.
- A. **Cellar Floor Drains.**
 - (1) Cellar floor drains may discharge into the sewer only when such drains are provided with a permanent water seal in the traps, and with check valves or back-water valves where such valves are warranted.
 - (2) No floor drains shall be connected to the sewer unless and until the owner of the premises shall execute a release on behalf of himself and all subsequent owners relieving the Borough from all damages, direct or consequential, which may result from said premises being flooded by the stoppage of sewers or back-water from the same.
 - B. **Grease Interceptors.** A grease interceptor shall be installed in the waste line leading from sinks, drains or other fixtures in the following establishments, when in the judgment of the Plumbing Inspector a hazard exists: restaurants; hotel kitchens; bars; factory, school, social or other cafeterias or restaurants; clubs or other establishments where grease can be introduced into the drainage system in quantities that can effect line stoppage or hinder sewage disposal.
 - C. **Public Garages and Service Stations.** Every public garage, service station or other structure for the housing, sale, servicing or repair of motor vehicles shall be provided with a proper means for draining the floors and repair pits. Any drain in the floor or repair pit shall have a special connection discharging through an intercepting trap, located under the direction of the Plumbing Inspector. Such trap shall be so arranged as to intercept all oil, gasoline or other inflammable fluids, sand, silt and other solids for the purpose of excluding the same from the sewerage system. Such trap shall be watertight, so located as to be easily accessible for cleaning and inspection, provided with a suitable manhole frame and cover, and of a design and capacity approved by the Plumbing Inspector. Oil, gasoline or other inflammable fluids, sand, silt or other solids shall be regularly removed and promptly disposed of, and the trap shall be so maintained to insure the exclusion of such substances from the sewerage system.

- D. Garbage grinders or disposal units may be installed in private residences only, and shall be subject to the approval of the Plumbing Inspector as to the ability of such grinder to properly grind food waste disposed of therein.
 - E. Direct Cross Connections Prohibited. No direct cross connection shall be made between the water supply and plumbing connected to the sewer in such manner as to permit back-siphonage of sewage in the water supply system.
 - F. Sump Pumps. A sump pump may be connected to the building drain only under the following conditions:
 - (1) Only domestic waste originating within the household shall be discharged from the sump.
 - (2) The sump shall be constructed with watertight sides and bottom, and shall admit no ground or surface waters. No pipe shall discharge into the sump which serves to drain ground water under cellar floor slabs or from around foundations.
 - (3) Where any sump pump is connected to the sewer, it shall be so noted upon the plumbing permit, and the Borough shall at all times have the right to inspect the sump; and, in the event that waters other than domestic sewage waste are determined to be entering the sump, the Borough shall have the right to order the disconnection of said sump from the sewer and such order shall be immediately carried out.
 - G. Addition of Plumbing Fixtures. It shall be the duty of every person to whom a plumbing permit shall hereafter be issued to promptly notify the Plumbing Inspector of any additional fixtures which may be installed within the property to which the plumbing permit refers, where such fixtures are not included in the fixture count shown upon the permit.
5. Any person, firm or corporation who shall violate any provision of this Part shall be, upon conviction thereof, sentenced to pay a fine of not more than \$1,000 plus costs and, in default of payment of said fine and costs, to a term of imprisonment not to exceed 30 days. Each day that a violation continues shall constitute a separate offense.
[Ord. 98-4]

(Ord. 5/5/1969D, §7; as amended by Ord. 98-4, 9/14/1998)

