

Chapter 13.12 SEWER SYSTEM

Sections:

13.12.010 Definitions.

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

- A. "ASTM Specifications." All references of the form ASTM-C1 shall mean the Standard Specifications or Methods of the American Society for Testing Materials, of the serial designation indicated by the number and, unless otherwise stated, refer to the latest adopted revision of such specification or method.
- B. "BOD (biochemical oxygen demand)" means the quantity of oxygen utilized in the biochemical oxidation of organic matter under a standard laboratory procedure in five days at twenty degrees Centigrade, expressed in parts per million by weight.
- C. "Building drain" means that part of the lowest horizontal piping of a drainage system which receives the discharge from soil, waste and other drainage pipes inside the walls of the building and conveys it to the building sewer, beginning five feet outside the inner face of the building wall.
- D. "Building sewer" means the extension from the building drain to the public sewer or other place of disposal.
- E. "Garbage" means solid wastes from the preparation, cooking and dispensing of food, and from the handling, storage and sale of produce.
- F. "Industrial wastes" means the liquid wastes from industrial processes, as distinct from sanitary sewage.
- G. "Natural outlet" means any outlet into a watercourse, pond, ditch, lake or other body of surface water or groundwater.
- H. "Person" means any individual, firm, company, association, society, corporation or group.
- I. "pH" means the logarithm of the reciprocal of the weight of hydrogen ions in grams per liter of solution.
- J. "Properly shredded garbage" means the wastes from the preparation, cooking and dispensing of food, that have been shredded to such a degree that all particles will be carried freely under the flow conditions normally prevailing in public sewers, with no particle greater than one-half inch in any dimension.
- K. "Public sewer" means a sewer in which all owners of abutting properties have equal rights, and which is controlled by public authority.
- L. "Sanitary sewer" means a sewer which carries sewage, and to which stormwaters, surface waters and groundwaters are not intentionally admitted.
- M. "Sewage" means a combination of the water-carried wastes from residences, business buildings, institutions and industrial establishments, together with such groundwaters, surface waters and stormwaters as may be present.
- N. "Sewage treatment plant" means any arrangement of devices and structures used for treating sewage.
- O. "Sewage works" means all facilities for collecting, pumping, treating and disposing of sewage.
- P. "Sewer" means a pipe or conduit for carrying sewage.
- Q. "Shall" is mandatory; "may" is permissive.

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- R. "Storm sewer" or "storm drain" means a sewer which carries stormwaters and surface waters and drainage, but which excludes sewage and polluted industrial wastes.
 - S. "Superintendent" means the superintendent of sewage works of the city, or his authorized deputy, agent or representative.
 - T. "Suspended solids" means solids that either float on the surface of, or are in suspension in water, sewage or other liquids, and which are removable by laboratory filtering.
 - U. "Watercourse" means a channel in which a flow of water occurs, either continuously or intermittently.
- (Ord. 238 Art. 1 (part) and §§101-121, 1971)

13.12.020 Privys, septic tanks and cesspools prohibited.

Except as hereinafter provided, it is unlawful to construct or maintain any privy, privy vault, septic tank, cesspool or other facility intended or used for the disposal of sewage.

(Ord. 238 §203, 1971)

13.12.030 Installation of toilet facilities and connection to system required when.

- A. The owners of all houses, buildings or properties used for human occupancy, employment, recreation or other purposes, situated within the city and abutting on any street, alley or right-of-way in which there is now located, or may in the future be located, a public sanitary sewer of the city, are required, at their expense, to install suitable toilet facilities therein, and to apply for a permit and pay the fees therefor to connect such facilities directly with the proper public sewer in accordance with the provisions of this chapter, within one hundred eighty days after the date of official notice to do so, providing that such public sewer is within one hundred feet of the property line.
- B. The owner shall make connection to the public sewer system within one hundred eighty days after the permit to connect is issued.

(Ord. 1990-5-261 §2, 1990: Ord. 238 §204, 1971)

13.12.040 Depositing wastes prohibited where.

It is unlawful for any person to place, deposit or permit to be deposited in any unsanitary manner, upon public or private property within the city, or in any area under the jurisdiction of the city, any human or animal excrement, garbage, or other objectionable waste.

(Ord. 238 §210, 1971)

13.12.050 Discharging wastes to watercourses or natural outlets.

It is unlawful to discharge to any natural outlet within the city, or in any area under the jurisdiction of the city, any sanitary sewage, industrial wastes, or other polluted waters, except where suitable treatment has been provided in accordance with subsequent provisions of this chapter.

(Ord. 238 §202, 1971)

13.12.060 Private sewage disposal system-Required when.

Where a public sanitary or combined sewer is not available under the provisions of Section 13.12.030, the building sewer shall be connected to a private sewage disposal system complying with the provisions of Sections 13.12.060 through 13.12.120.

(Ord. 238 §301, 1971)

13.12.070 Private sewage disposal system-Permit-Construction requirements.

Before commencement of construction of a private sewage disposal system, the owner shall first obtain a written permit signed by the superintendent. The application for such permit shall be made on a form furnished by the city, which the applicant shall supplement by any plans, specifications and other information as are deemed necessary by the superintendent. A permit and inspection fee of five dollars shall be paid to the city clerk-treasurer at the time the application is filed.

(Ord. 238 §302, 1971)

13.12.080 Private sewage disposal system-Permit-Inspection requirements.

A permit for a private sewage disposal system shall not become effective until the installation is completed to the satisfaction of the superintendent. He shall be allowed to inspect the work at any stage of construction and, in any event, the applicant for the permit shall notify the superintendent when the work is ready for final inspection, and before any underground portions are covered. The inspection shall be made within forty-eight hours of the receipt of notice by the superintendent.

(Ord. 238 §303, 1971)

13.12.090 Private sewage disposal system-Type, location, and other conditions.

The type, capacities, location and layout of a private sewage disposal system shall comply with the requirements of the Washington State Sanitary Authority and the Washington State Board of Health.

(Ord. 238 §304, 1971)

13.12.100 Private sewage disposal system-Operation and maintenance.

The owner shall operate and maintain the private sewage disposal facilities in a sanitary manner at all times, at no expense of the city.

(Ord. 238 §306, 1971)

13.12.110 Private sewage disposal system-Connection to public system required when.

At such time as a public sewer becomes available to a property served by a private sewage disposal system, as provided in Section 13.12.030, a direct connection shall be made to the public sewer in compliance with this chapter, and any septic tanks, cesspools and similar private sewage disposal facilities shall be abandoned and filled with suitable material, unless the superintendent shall otherwise permit.

(Ord. 238 §305, 1971)

13.12.120 Scope of Sections 13.12.060 through 13.12.100.

The provisions of Sections 13.12.060 through 13.12.100 shall be in addition to and not in derogation of the requirements of general law.

(Ord. 238 §307, 1971)

13.12.130 Connection to or alteration of system-Permit required.

No unauthorized person shall uncover, make any connections with or opening into, use, alter, or disturb any public sewer or appurtenances thereof without first obtaining a written permit from the superintendent.

(Ord. 238 §401, 1971)

13.12.140 Connection and installation costs.

All costs and expense incident to the installation and connection of the building sewer shall be borne by the owner. The owner shall indemnify the city from any loss or damage that may, directly or indirectly, be occasioned by the installation.

(Ord. 238 §404, 1971)

13.12.150 Installation-Size and slope.

The size and slope of the building sewer shall be subject to the approval of the superintendent, but in no event shall the diameter be less than four inches. The slope of such four-inch pipe shall be not less than one-eighth inch per foot.

(Ord. 238 §406, 1971)

13.12.160 Installation-Sewer pipe materials.

The building sewer shall be cast iron soil pipe, or cement asbestos building sewer pipe. Joints shall be tight and waterproof.

(Ord. 238 §405, 1971)

13.12.170 Installation-Joints and connections.

All joints and connections shall be made gastight and watertight. Cast iron pipe joints shall be firmly packed with oakum or hemp, and filled with molten lead and calked tight.

(Ord. 238 §410, 1971)

13.12.180 Installation-Connection to public sewer.

The connection of the building sewer into the public sewer shall be made at the "T" branch, if such branch is available at a suitable location. If no properly located "T" branch is available, the owner shall, at his expense, install a "T" branch in the public sewer at the location specified by the superintendent. The invert of the building sewer at

the point of connection shall be at the same or at a higher elevation than the invert of the public sewer. A smooth, neat joint shall be made, and the connection made secure and watertight.

(Ord. 238 §411, 1971)

13.12.190 Installation-Building sewer elevation.

Building sewers serving buildings with basements shall, whenever possible, be brought to the building at an elevation below the basement floor. The building sewer shall be laid at uniform grade and in straight alignment insofar as possible. Changes in direction shall be made only with properly curved pipe and fittings.

(Ord. 238 §407, 1971)

13.12.200 Installation-Lift for connection to public sewer.

In all buildings in which any building drain is too low to permit gravity flow to the public sewer, sanitary sewage carried by such drain shall be lifted by approved artificial means and discharged to the building sewer.

(Ord. 238 §408, 1971)

13.12.210 Excavations-General requirements.

All excavations required for the installation of a building sewer shall be open-trench work, unless otherwise approved by the superintendent. Pipe-laying and backfill shall be performed in accordance with regulations of the Washington State Sanitary Authority.

(Ord. 238 §409, 1971)

13.12.220 Excavations-Safety barricades and lights.

All excavations for building sewer installations shall be adequately guarded with barricades and lights so as to protect the public from hazard. Streets, sidewalks, parkways and other public property disturbed in the course of the work shall be restored in a manner satisfactory to the city.

(Ord. 238 §413, 1971)

13.12.230 Inspection of installation.

The applicant for the building sewer permit shall notify the superintendent when the building sewer is ready for inspection and connection to the public sewer. The connection shall be made under the supervision of the superintendent or his representative.

(Ord. 238 §412, 1971)

13.12.240 Sewer or septic tank worker-License required.

No person shall construct or attempt to construct a sewer connection within the city until he has first obtained a license as a sewer worker. No person shall engage in septic tank cleaning, construction or repair within the city until he has first obtained a license as a septic tank worker.

(Ord. 238 §601, 1971)

13.12.250 Sewer or septic tank worker-Application for license.

Every person desiring to obtain a license as a sewer worker or septic tank worker in the city shall make application to the sewer superintendent of the city for an examination as a sewer worker or septic tank worker.
(Ord. 238 §602, 1971)

13.12.260 Sewer or septic tank worker-Investigation of qualifications.

The superintendent shall promptly examine the applicant, touching his qualifications to construct sewer connections, testing his familiarity and experience in jointing sewer pipe, and the specifications set forth in this chapter. Septic tank workers will be examined on fundamentals of tank construction, connection, and cleaning.
(Ord. 238 §603, 1971)

13.12.270 Sewer or septic tank worker-Certification of approval.

If the applicant is found to possess sufficient qualification and experience, and satisfy the superintendent, the superintendent shall certify in writing the fact of his approval to the city clerk-treasurer, and deliver such certificate to the applicant.
(Ord. 238 §604, 1971)

13.12.280 License-Fee.

Upon payment of ten dollars to the city clerk-treasurer, he shall issue a license authorizing the applicant to make sewer connections or do septic tank work within the city for a period of one year from the date of license. The license shall state upon the face of same that it is revocable at the pleasure of the city council.
(Ord. 238 §605, 1971)

13.12.290 Appeal from disapproval of certification.

In the event the sewer superintendent should refuse to grant to the applicant the certificate of approval, the applicant shall have the right to appeal to the city council.
(Ord. 238 §606, 1971)

13.12.300 License-Revocation-Council powers.

The council shall have the right at any time to revoke any license granted under the provisions of this chapter, and return the pro rata unearned license fee.
(Ord. 238 §701, 1971)

13.12.310 License-Revocation-Conditions.

In addition to other causes, the neglect, omission, failure or refusal of any sewer worker licensed under this chapter to comply with and observe the provisions of this chapter in the manner of construction, or class of

material used therein, shall be deemed sufficient cause to justify the council in revoking the license of such sewer worker.

(Ord. 238 §310, 1971)

13.12.320 Performing work while license suspended prohibited.

No person whose license has been suspended shall perform any acts for which a license is required by this chapter until the matter of such suspension has been voted by the council.

(Ord. 238 §703, 1971)

13.12.330 License-Exemptions.

The provisions of Sections 13.12.230 through 13.12.280 of this chapter shall not apply to any person who is a bona fide employee of any person or firm in the city duly licensed as a sewer worker; provided, however, that every person engaged in laying pipe and making joints shall be required to obtain a license as provided in Sections 13.12.230 through 13.12.280.

(Ord. 238 §704, 1971)

13.12.340 Stormwater or other unpolluted water-Discharge to sewer prohibited.

No person shall discharge or cause to be discharged any stormwater, surface water, ground water, roof runoff, subsurface drainage, cooling water, or unpolluted industrial process water to any sanitary sewer.

(Ord. 238 §501, 1971)

13.12.350 Stormwater or other unpolluted water-Location for discharge.

Stormwater and all other unpolluted drainage shall be discharged to such sewers as are specifically designated as storm sewers, or to a natural outlet approved by the superintendent. Industrial cooling water or unpolluted process water may be discharged, upon approval of the superintendent, to a storm sewer or natural outlet.

(Ord. 238 §502, 1971)

13.12.360 Prohibited discharges to sewers.

Except as hereinafter provided, no person shall discharge or cause to be discharged any of the following described water or wastes to any public sewer:

- A. Any liquid or vapor having a temperature higher than one hundred fifty degrees Fahrenheit;
- B. Any water or waste which may contain more than one hundred parts per million, by weight, of fat, oil or grease;
- C. Any gasoline, benzene, naphtha, fuel oil, or other flammable or explosive liquid, solid or gas;
- D. Any garbage that has not been properly shredded;

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- E. Any ashes, cinders, sand, mud, straw, shavings, metal, glass, rags, feathers, tar, plastics, wood, paunch manure, or any other solid or viscous substance capable of causing obstruction to the flow in sewers, or other interference with the proper operation of the sewage works;
 - F. Any waters or wastes having a pH lower than 5.5 or higher than 9.0, or having any other corrosive property capable of causing damage or hazard to structures, equipment and personnel of the sewage works;
 - G. Any waters or wastes containing a toxic or poisonous substance in sufficient quantity to injure or interfere with any sewage treatment process, constitute a hazard to humans or animals, or create any hazard in the receiving waters of the sewage treatment plant;
 - H. Any waters or wastes containing suspended solids of such character and quantity that unusual attention or expense is required to handle such material at the sewage treatment plant;
 - I. Any noxious or malodorous gas or substance capable of creating a public nuisance.

(Ord. 238 §503, 1971)

13.12.370 Grease, oil and sand interceptors-Required when.

Grease, oil and sand interceptors shall be provided when, in the opinion of the superintendent, they are necessary for the proper handling of liquid wastes containing grease in excessive amounts, or any flammable wastes, sand, and other harmful ingredients; except that such interceptors shall not be required for private living quarters. All interceptors shall be of a type and capacity approved by the superintendent, and shall be located as to be readily and easily accessible for cleaning and inspection.

(Ord. 238 §504, 1971)

13.12.380 Grease, oil and sand interceptors-Maintenance.

Where installed, all grease, oil and sand interceptors shall be maintained by the owner, at his expense, in continuously efficient operations at all times.

(Ord. 238 §505, 1971)

13.12.390 Wastes requiring pretreatment-Discharge conditions.

The admission into the public sewers of any waters or wastes having (1) a five-day biochemical oxygen demand greater than three hundred parts per million by weight, or (2) containing any quantity of substances having the characteristics described in Section 13.12.360, or (3) containing more than three hundred fifty parts per million by weight of suspended solids, or (4) having an average daily flow greater than two percent of the average daily sewage flow of the city, shall be subject to the review and approval of the superintendent. Where necessary, in the opinion of the superintendent, the owner shall provide, at his expense, such preliminary treatment as may be necessary. Plans, specifications, and any other pertinent information relating to proposed preliminary treatment facilities shall be submitted for the approval of the superintendent and of the Washington State Sanitary Authority, and no construction of such facilities shall be commenced until such approvals are obtained in writing.

(Ord. 238 §506, 1971)

13.12.400 Pretreatment facilities-Operation and maintenance.

Where preliminary treatment facilities are provided for any waters or wastes, they shall be maintained continuously in satisfactory and effective operation by the owner, at his expense.

(Ord. 238 §507, 1971)

13.12.410 Manhole installation conditions.

When required by the superintendent, the owner of any property served by a building sewer carrying industrial wastes shall install a suitable control manhole in the building sewer to facilitate observation, sampling and measurement of the wastes. Such manhole, when required, shall be accessible at all times.

(Ord. 238 §508, 1971)

13.12.420 Tests and analyses-Standard Methods designated-Use of manhole.

All measurements, tests and analyses of the characteristics of waters and wastes to which reference is made above shall be determined in accordance with the Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Sewage, and shall be determined at the control manhole. In the event that no special manhole has been required, the control manhole shall be considered to be the nearest downstream manhole in the public sewer to the point at which the building sewer is connected.

(Ord. 238 §509, 1971)

13.12.430 Pretreatment-Special arrangements not restricted.

No statement contained in this chapter shall be construed as preventing any special agreement or arrangement between the city and any industrial concern whereby industrial waste of unusual strength or character may be accepted by the city for treatment, subject to payment therefor by the industrial concern.

(Ord. 238 §510, 1971)

13.12.440 Inspection-Right of entry.

The superintendent and other duly authorized employees of the city, bearing proper credentials and identification, shall be permitted to enter upon all properties for the purposes of inspection, observation, measurement, sampling and testing in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.

(Ord. 238 §901, 1971)

13.12.450 Damaging or destroying system prohibited.

No unauthorized person shall maliciously, wilfully or negligently break, damage, destroy, uncover, deface or tamper with any structure, appurtenance or equipment which is a part of the municipal sewage works. Any person violating this provision shall be subject to immediate arrest under charge of disorderly conduct.

(Ord. 238 §801, 1971)

13.12.460 Violation-Notice required.

Any person found to be violating any provision of this chapter, except Section 13.12.450, shall be served by the city with written notice stating the nature of the violation and providing a reasonable time limit for satisfactory correction thereof. The offender shall, within the period of time stated in such notice, permanently cease all violations.

(Ord. 238 §1001, 1971)

13.12.470 Violation-Penalty.

Any person who continues any violation beyond the time limit provided for in Section 13.12.460 shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall be fined in the amount not exceeding one hundred dollars for each violation. Each day in which any such violation shall continue shall be deemed a separate offense.

(Ord. 238 §1002, 1971)

13.12.480 Violation-Liability for expenses and damage.

Any person violating any of the provisions of this chapter shall become liable to the city for any expense, loss or damage occasioned the city by reason of such violation.

(Ord. 238 §1003, 1971)