

Article V. - Surface Runoff and Groundwater Discharge to Sanitary Sewer

13.04.650 - Water Discharge into Sanitary Sewer System.

The discharge of water from any roof, surface, ground, sump pump, footing tile or swimming pool or other natural precipitation into the city sanitary sewer collection system has the potential to cause damage to residential property and overload the Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF). Such damage can be caused by the backup of sewage into the living quarters of residential homes creating a potential health hazard and exceeding the capacity of the WWTF. The city, therefore, finds it essential to the maintenance of health, minimization of damage to property and to maintain the life and capacity of the WWTF that the provisions of this section be strictly enforced to avoid and minimize these problems in the future.

(Ord. 998, § 1, 10-7-2013)

13.04.660 - Restrictions and Definitions.

No water from any roof, surface, ground, sump pump, footing tile, swimming pool or other natural precipitation shall be discharged into the sanitary sewer collection system. Dwellings, including new housing construction or houses under construction, and other buildings and structures which require, because of the infiltration of water into basements, crawl spaces and the like, a seepage collection system, or "beaver drain" or sump pump system to discharge water shall have a permanently installed discharge line which shall not at any time discharge water into the sanitary sewer collection system. A permanent installation shall be one which provides for a year-round discharge connection to the city subdrain/storm sewer system. If there is no subdrain available, the surface discharge point shall be located no closer than four feet from the curb or as approved by the city. It shall consist of a rigid discharge line inside the structure, without valving or quick connections for altering the path of discharge and, if connected to the city subdrain/storm sewer line, include a check valve.

(Ord. 998, § 1, 10-7-2013)

13.04.670 - Sump, Pump, and Rigid Pipe: Method of Installation.

- A. A discharge pipe shall be installed through the outside foundation wall of the building with rigid pipe (plastic, copper or galvanized) one inch inside diameter minimum, without valves or quick connections that would alter the path of discharge. The discharge shall be directed away from the foundation wall.
- B. No discharge shall be directed so as to impact neighboring properties or any sidewalks.
- C. Where a sump pit exists in any building, it shall have a pump installed with rigid piping as specified above.
- D. Any plumber or contractor who knowingly installs a sump, pump and/or piping that is not in conformance with this article shall be liable to the city for all damages that arise and be subject to the penalties set forth in Section 13.04.720.

(Ord. 998, § 1, 10-7-2013)

13.04.680 - Disconnections Ordered.

Any person, firm or corporation having a roof, surface, ground, sump pump, footing tile or swimming pool now connected and/or discharging into the sanitary sewer system shall disconnect and/or remove the same. Any disconnects or openings in the sanitary sewer shall be closed or repaired in a manner as approved by the public works director or his or her representative.

(Ord. 998, § 1, 10-7-2013)

13.04.690 - Inspections.

Every person, firm or corporation owning improved real estate or contractors/builders who are building a house or other structure within the city that discharges into the city's sanitary sewer system or on the ground shall allow an employee of the city or their designated representative to inspect the buildings to confirm that there is no sump pump or other prohibited discharge into the sanitary sewer system. This requirement may also be met by having the property owner contract with a licensed plumber to perform the inspection. The plumber must inspect the property and the sump pump system and complete and return an inspection form provided by the city documenting the results of the inspection. All costs associated with an inspection by a privately retained plumber shall be the responsibility of the property owner.

Any property owner or contractor/builder of a new home refusing to allow their property to be inspected within thirty days of the date city employees or their designated representatives have requested admittance to the property, shall immediately become subject to the daily surcharge noted in Section 13.04.720, unless the property owner or contractor/builder of a new home pays the monthly surcharge in lieu of inspection as noted in Section 13.04.720. Any owner of property or contractor/house builder found to violate Article V of this chapter shall make the necessary changes to comply with Article V and furnish proof of the changes to the city within ninety days from the date the city delivered notice of the violation to the owner or contractor/builder.

(Ord. 998, § 1, 10-7-2013)

13.04.700 - Inspections at Point of Transfer.

When ownership of any home or other building is transferred by contract, deed or in any other manner, the building must have an inspection completed and passed within ninety days after the transfer date.

(Ord. 998, § 1, 10-7-2013)

13.04.710 - Future Inspections.

At any future time, if the city has reason to suspect that an illegal connection may exist in a building or on the premises, the owner, after written notice, shall allow city representatives to inspect the building and premises.

(Ord. 998, § 1, 10-7-2013)

13.04.720 - Penalties and Enforcement.

Whoever shall violate any provision of Article V of this chapter for which no specific penalty is provided may be punished as set forth below.

1. Any person found to be violating any provision of Article V of this chapter, shall be served by the city with written notice stating the nature of the violation and providing at least ninety days for the satisfactory correction thereof. The offender shall, within the period of time stated in such notice, permanently cease all violations.
2. Any person who shall continue any violation beyond the time limit provided for in subsection (1) of this section shall be guilty of a municipal infraction. Each day in which any such violation occurs shall be deemed a separate offense.
3. Any person violating any of the provisions of this article shall become liable to the city for any expense, loss or damage occasioned the city by reason of such violation. The city will also retain any and all civil remedies including but not limited to injunction or abatement actions to remedy a violation.
4. In addition to the penalties noted above, a civil surcharge of ten dollars per day may be imposed by invoice and/or added to every sewer billing mailed to tenants or property owners or to the contractor/builder of a new house which are found not to be in compliance herein. The surcharge will be levied daily against those properties found not to be in compliance with Article V of this chapter until the property has been certified by the public works director or his or her representative that the property is in compliance. The surcharge will be levied against the tenant or property owner and/or contractor/builder of a new house on the thirty-first day after notice of the violation has been provided to the tenant/owner/contractor/builder. Should a person who has been notified of noncompliance and has corrected that noncompliance, be found out of compliance with Article V of this chapter a second time, said person will be fined one hundred dollars a day commencing upon the day said person is found to be in noncompliance. There shall be no grace period for bringing the system into compliance a second time.
5. A property owner or the contractor/builder of a new home can pay a monthly surcharge of one hundred dollars in order to avoid a viewing of the property to determine if the property is engaged in an illegal discharge into the sanitary sewer system. This surcharge shall commence on the first day of the month following the month when either the property owner or contractor/builder provides written notice to the city of their intent to act pursuant to this provision or thirty days after the city provides written notice to the property owner or contractor/builder of the need to permit access for inspection and the property owner or builder/contractor fails to permit inspection regardless of whether written notice is given to the city. This surcharge shall continue to accrue as long as the property owner or contractor/builder continues to own the property without providing the information noted above. This surcharge is intended to offset the added cost associated with having the wastewater treatment facility process clear water unnecessarily when the status of a property's connection to the sanitary sewer system cannot be ascertained.

(Ord. 998, § 1, 10-7-2013)