

## CHAPTER 18

### SEWERS AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

#### PART 1

#### SEWER CONNECTIONS

- §101. Connection Required
- §102. Other Disposal Methods Prohibited
- §103. Notice to Connect
- §104. Prohibited Connections; Privies
- §105. Prohibited Connections; Drains
- §106. Conditions for Connections
- §107. Specifications
- §108. Separate Connection Required
- §109. Industrial Waste Discharges; Application; Issuance of Permit
- §110. Prohibited Discharges
- §111. Borough May Do Work; Collection of Costs
- §112. Penalties



PART 1

SEWER CONNECTIONS

**§101. CONNECTION REQUIRED.**

Every owner of property in the Borough of Portage whose property abuts upon any public sanitary sewer presently constructed or to be constructed in the future by Portage Area Sewer Authority (hereinafter called the "Authority"), shall connect, at his own cost, the house, building or other structures located on said property with the aforementioned public sanitary sewers for the purpose of disposing of all sanitary sewage as is customarily disposed of in such a system of sanitary sewers.

(Ord. 6-1996, 12/2/1996, §1)

**§102. OTHER DISPOSAL METHODS PROHIBITED.**

It shall be unlawful for any owner, lessee or occupier of any property in the Borough abutting on any line of the public sanitary sewer to employ any means, either by septic tank, cesspool, privy vault, mine hole or otherwise, for the disposal of sanitary sewage other than *into and through said public sanitary sewers.*

(Ord. 6-1996, 12/2/1996, §2)

**§103. NOTICE TO CONNECT.**

Where any structure in the Borough is now or hereafter may be using any method for the disposal of sanitary sewage other than through said public sanitary sewer, *it shall be the duty of the Authority Secretary or other person authorized by the Authority to notify the owner, lessee or occupier of said structure in writing, either by personal service, certified mail or registered mail, to disconnect the same and make proper connections for the discharge and disposal of the sewage through the said public sanitary sewers, as herein provided, within 60 days after receiving such notice; provided, however, notwithstanding anything herein contained to the contrary, no owner, lessee or occupier of such structure shall be required to make a connection where his structure is more than 150 feet from said public sanitary sewer.*

(Ord. 6-1996, 12/2/1996, §3)

**§104. PROHIBITED CONNECTIONS; PRIVIES.**

No privy vault, cesspool, septic tank, mine hole or similar receptacle for human excrement shall at any time, now or hereafter, be connected with the aforesaid public sanitary sewers.

(Ord. 6-1996, 12/2/1996, §4)

§105. PROHIBITED CONNECTIONS; DRAINS.

It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation connected to the aforementioned public sanitary sewers to connect any roof drain thereto or permit any roof drain to remain connected thereto, or to permit, allow or cause to enter into said public sanitary sewer any stormwater, foundation drain water, spring water or surface water or any sewage from any property other than that for which a permit is issued.

(Ord. 6-1996, 12/2/1996, §5)

§106. CONDITIONS FOR CONNECTIONS.

No person, firm or corporation shall make or cause to be made any connection with any of the aforementioned public sanitary sewers or shall make or cause to be made any alteration, renovation or modification of an existing sanitary connection or appurtenance until he has fulfilled all of the following conditions:

- A. He shall make application to the Portage Area Sewer Authority upon a permit form to be formulated and supplied by the Portage Area Sewer Authority for permission to connect to the aforementioned public sanitary sewers. Among other things, the applicant must state the character and use of each structure located upon the property.
- B. The applicant shall pay a tap fee or connection charge and shall pay or receive verification by the Authority that frontage assessment for the property, if any, has been paid in the amount specified by resolution by the Board of Directors of the Authority and kept on file at the Authority office at the time of making application for any permit.
- C. No work shall commence before the payment of the tap fee and the proper issuance of the permit has been completed.
- D. The applicant shall notify the Portage Area Sewer Authority 5 days prior to the tentative date that the service lateral is to be installed to the collector line. The applicant shall again notify the Authority a minimum of 24 hours, during normal working hours of the office of the Authority, prior to the time that the line will be ready for the tap connection. During the 5 day period, the applicant shall advise the Authority of any change to the tentative date that the work is to be completed due to construction scheduling, inclement weather or other reasons. It is the responsibility of the property owner to install the service lateral to the Authority collector line for tap. The actual connection to the main shall be made by the Authority.
- E. At the time of the connection of the service lateral to the main collector line by the Authority or at other times agreed upon by the owners of the property and the Authority, the designated inspector or Authority Engineer shall be given complete access to all sanitary and drainage arrangements and facilities in each

building and in and about all parts of the property. No building sewer or service lateral shall be covered over, or in any manner concealed, until after it is inspected and approved by said inspector.

(Ord. 6-1996, 12/2/1996, §6)

#### §107. SPECIFICATIONS.

The construction of all building sewers or service laterals shall be completed in accordance with the following specifications:

A. Definitions.

**BUILDING SEWER** - that part of the sewer from the connection to the building drains from the building to the property line.

**SERVICE LATERAL** - that part of the sewer from the property line to the connection with the main sewer.

- B. All building sewers and service laterals hereafter installed shall be constructed of 6 inch diameter pipe (or larger size where required) laid on a minimum slope of 1/4 inch per foot.
- C. Pipe material is required to be polyvinyl chloride pipe SDR 35 or other material that is approved by the Authority and the Authority Engineer. All such pipe must meet applicable ASTM or ASA specifications for conditions encountered during installation. All joints between sections of pipe shall be permanently sealed, water tight and gas tight.
- D. All pipe in building sewers and service laterals shall be constructed with a minimum of 4 inches of compacted 2A aggregate, as defined by Pennsylvania Department of Transportation Specification 408, under such pipe. In areas where the building sewer or service lateral passes under any driveway or improved portion of a roadway or shoulder the 2A aggregate shall be placed over the pipe, compacted in 4 inch lifts up to subgrade. In other areas other 2A aggregate shall be compacted in 4 inch lifts to a depth of 12 inches over the top of the pipe. The remaining depth of the trench in these areas may be backfilled with suitable earth material in 6 inch lifts. All pipe must have at least 30 inches of cover.
- E. All new house laterals will require the installation of a 6 inch riser pipe (clean-out) of the same materials as the building sewer and service lateral with a removable watertight cap brought to grade, either existing or proposed. This riser pipe is to be installed at the property line.
- F. Building sewers shall be laid on a straight line grade from the building connection to the riser pipe connection. Due to irregularities in existing or proposed surface contours a change in grade may be necessary. In this event,

## SEWERS AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

a clean-out shall be placed at the change in grade in the pipe or at intervals of not more than 100 feet.

- G. Each building sewer or drain must have an approved clean-out trap, either just outside or inside the foundation wall.
- H. Outside venting shall be provided where interior venting is not adequate.
- I. When the service lateral, from the property line to the Authority's main collector line, is installed through an improved street or improved surface, the applicant is responsible for making application for and obtaining a street opening permit. It is the responsibility of the applicant to restore the street in accordance with specifications.

(Ord. 6-1996, 12/2/1996, §7)

### **§108. SEPARATE CONNECTION REQUIRED.**

Unless written permission is obtained from the Authority, separate connections will be required for each individual occupied building whether constructed as a detached unit or as one of a pair or row, but a single connection will be permitted to serve a school, factory, apartment house or other permanent multiple unit, structure whose individual apartments or units may not be subject to separate ownership. The Authority assumes no obligation or responsibility caused by or resulting from any permitted single connections aforementioned.

(Ord. 6-1996, 12/2/1996, §8)

### **§109. INDUSTRIAL WASTE DISCHARGES; APPLICATION; ISSUANCE OF PERMIT.**

- 1. The discharge of industrial wastes into the sewer system without the prior written consent of the Authority is hereby prohibited.
- 2. Any industrial establishment desiring to discharge industrial wastes into the sewer system shall make application to the Authority for a permit therefore. The application for such permit shall furnish the Authority with such information as is required for the purpose of determining whether the proposed discharge of industrial wastes will conform with the requirements of this Part. The granting of such permit may be made contingent upon the applicant providing and maintaining, at the expense of the applicant, apparatus for regulating the rate of discharge and/or pretreating such wastes prior to discharge and for the proper sampling thereof, from time to time, as the Authority or its agents or assigns may deem necessary.

(Ord. 6-1996, 12/2/1996, §9)

**§110. PROHIBITED DISCHARGES.**

1. No cellar seepage, french drain, oils, tars, grease, gasoline, combustible gases or liquids, garbage or insoluble solids or any substance that would impair or interfere with the sewer system or any part thereof in any manner, or with the function of the processes of sewage treatment shall be discharged into the sewer system.
2. No person shall discharge or cause to be discharged into the sewer system any ashes, cinders, sand, mud, straw, hay, shavings, metal, glass, scrap, rags, feathers, plastics, woods or any viscous substance capable of causing obstruction to the flow in the sewer system or other interference with the proper operation of the sewer system or the processes of sewage treatment.
3. All sewage discharged into the sewer system shall meet the following requirements:
  - A. The 5 day biochemical oxygen demand (B.O.D.) shall not exceed 400 parts per million by weight (p.p.m.).
  - B. The suspended solids (S.S.) shall not exceed 400 parts per million by weight (p.p.m.).
  - C. The total other soluble grease (grease, fats or oils) shall not exceed 100 parts per million by weight (p.p.m.).
  - D. The sewage shall be free of any corrosive, volatile, suffocating, inflammable or explosive liquids, solids, vapor or gas, such as gasoline, benzene, naphtha or fuel oil.
  - E. The sewage shall be free of unshredded garbage.
  - F. The use of garbage grinders is restrict to single-family residences or their equivalent in number of persons housed. Grinders are specifically prohibited in hotels, restaurants, clubs, dormitories, boarding house of more than seven rooms, apartment houses except where installed in individual apartments; and, in retail or wholesale food stores or any similar establishes where food is processed or prepared for group feeding larger than single-family units.
  - G. The pH (hydrogen ion concentration) of the sewage shall be between 4.5 and 9.0.
  - H. The sewage shall be free of toxic or poisonous substances in quantities sufficient to injure or interfere with any sewage treatment process, constitute a hazard to humans or animals, or create any hazard in the receiving stream of the sewage treatment plant.

(Ord. 6-1996, 12/2/1996, §10)

## SEWERS AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

### §111. BOROUGH MAY DO WORK; COLLECTION OF COSTS.

If the owner or owners of any occupied building or buildings in the Borough shall neglect or refuse to comply with the provisions of this Part or the written notice as prescribed in §103, hereof, the Authority may perform or cause to be performed such work and labor, and furnish or cause to be furnished such material as may be necessary to comply with the provisions of this Part at the cost and expense of such owner or owners together with 10% addition thereof, and all charges and expenses incident thereto, which sum shall be collected from said owner or owners for the use of the Borough as debts are by law collectible, or the said Authority may, by its proper officer or agent, file a municipal claim or lien therefor against said premises as provided by law.

(Ord. 6-1996, 12/2/1996, §11)

### §112. PENALTIES.

In addition to any penalty hereinabove prescribed, any person, firm or corporation failing to make a proper connection within 60 days after receipt of notice as provided hereunder shall, upon conviction thereof, be sentenced to pay a fine of not more than \$5,000 plus costs and, in default of payment of said fine and costs, to imprisonment for a term not to exceed 30 days. Each day that a violation of this Part continues shall constitute a separate offense.

(Ord. 6-1996, 12/2/1996, §12; as amended by Ord. 3-1999, 4/5/1999; and by Ord. 5-2000, 2/7/2000)