

CHAPTER 11

SEWER

ARTICLE 11-1 Definitions

In this chapter unless the context requires otherwise:

- A. "B.O.D.", denoting biochemical oxygen demand, means the quantity of oxygen utilized in the biochemical oxidation of organic matter under standard laboratory procedure in five days at 20 degrees centigrade expressed in parts per million (P.P.M.) in weight.
- B. "Branch sewer" means a sewer which received sewage from lateral sewers from a relatively small area.
- C. "Building sewer" and "House sewer" mean the extension from the building drain to the building connection or other place of disposal.
- D. "Combined sewer" means a sewer receiving both surface runoff and sewage.
- E. "Developer" means any person or persons engaged in the organizing and financing of a sewage collecting system within an area tributating to a trunk sewer of the Town sewer system. Such may be either a subdivider or a legally constituted improvement district.
- F. "Garbage" means solid wastes from the preparation, cooking and dispensing of food and from the handling, storage and sale of produce.
- G. "Industrial wastes" means the liquid wastes from industrial processes as distinct from sanitary sewage.
- H. "Lateral sewer" means a sewer which discharges into a branch or other sewer and has no other common sewer tributary to it.
- I. "Main sewer" means a sewer which receives sewage from one or more branch sewers as tributaries.
- J. "Natural outlet" means any outlet into a watercourse, ditch, or other body of surface or ground water.
- K. "pH" means the logarithm of the reciprocal of the weight of hydrogen ions in grams per liter of solution.
- L. "Properly shredded garbage" means garbage that has 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-fourth inch in any dimension.

- M. "Public sewer" means a sewer controlled by public authority.
- N. "Sanitary sewer" means a sewer which carries sewage and to which storm, surface and ground waters are not intentionally admitted.
- O. "Sewage" means a combination of the water-carried wastes from residences, business buildings, institutions and industrial establishments together with such ground, surface and storm waters as may be present.
- P. "Sewage works" means all facilities for collecting, pumping, treating and disposing of sewage.
- Q. "Sewage treatment plant" means any arrangement of devices and structures used for treating sewage.
- R. "Sewer connection" means the connection to the public sewer and the extension therefrom of the sewer to the property line at the alley or the curb line of the street, whichever is applicable, depending on the location of the public sewer.
- S. "Sewer connection fee" means the initial sewer connection charge as set forth in Article 11-2 of this chapter and shall apply to all sewer connections to the public sewer after the effective date of this code.
- T. "Sewer department" means those officers and agents of the Town supervising sewer operations for the Town.
- U. "Storm sewer" or "Storm drain" means a sewer which carries storm and surface waters and drainage, but excludes sewage and polluted industrial wastes.
- V. "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.
- W. "Trunk sewer" means a sewer which receives sewage from many tributary main sewers, and serves as an outlet for a large territory.
- X. "Watercourse" means a channel in which a flow of water occurs either continuously or intermittently.

ARTICLE 11-2 Application for Sewer Service

No sewer connection connecting the Town sanitary sewer system to any consumer shall be made or used by any person or the Town except upon written application furnished to the Town by the owner, or his/her authorized agent, of the premises to which sanitary sewer service is to be furnished. An initial sewer connection fee shall be required according to the rates fixed by the Town. The initial sewer connection fee is non-refundable.

ARTICLE 11-3 **Department and Consumer Responsibilities**

- 11-3-1 Sewer Department Responsibilities and Liabilities
- 11-3-2 Consumer Responsibility
- 11-3-3 Interference with Water Department, Sewer Department or Building Official;
Digging Up Streets without Permit
- 11-3-4 Unsanitary Disposal of Excrement Prohibited
- 11-3-5 Private Sewage Systems
- 11-3-6 Tampering with Equipment Prohibited
- 11-3-7 Permit Required
- 11-3-8 Application
- 11-3-9 Inspection and Approval by Sewer Department or Building Official
- 11-3-10 Records to Be Kept by Sewer Department

Section 11-3-1 **Sewer Department Responsibilities and Liabilities**

- A. The sewer department shall not be responsible for the installation, maintenance or inspection of the consumer's service line piping or apparatus or for any defects therein.
- B. The sewer department shall have the right to refuse service unless the consumer's lines or piping are installed in such manner as to prevent cross connections or backflow.
- C. Under normal conditions, the consumer shall be notified of any anticipated interruption of service.
- D. The sewer department shall not be responsible for the negligence of third persons or forces beyond the control of the sewer department resulting in an interruption of services or damage to the property of the consumer.
- E. The sewer department may refuse service to any prospective consumer when the capacity of the sewer system will not permit additional loads being placed thereon.
- F. The sewer department may discontinue its service without notice for the following reasons:
 - 1. To prevent fraud or abuse.
 - 2. The consumer's willful disregard of or refusal to comply with this chapter or other rules as may be adopted by the Council.

Section 11-3-2 **Consumer Responsibility**

- A. Building or house sewer connections on the consumer's premises shall be so arranged as to provide service to one lot. If additional service is required it will be considered as a separate and individual account.
- B. The consumer's house or building service line, sewer connection and apparatus shall be installed and maintained by the consumer, at the consumer's expense, in a safe and efficient manner and

in accordance with the sewer department's rules and regulations and in full compliance with the regulations of the State Department of Health.

- C. The consumer shall safeguard the sewer department's property placed on the consumer's premises and shall permit access to it only by the authorized representatives of the sewer department.
- D. In the event that any loss or damage to the property of the sewer department or any accident or injury to persons or property is caused by or results from the negligence or wrongful act of the consumer, his/her agents or employees, the cost of necessary repairs or replacements shall be paid by the consumer to the sewer department and any liability otherwise resulting shall be assumed by the consumer. The amount of such loss or damage or the cost of repairs may be added to the consumer's bill and if not paid, service may be discontinued by the sewer department.
- E. When service to a consumer shall require the laying of any Town sewer lines or the installation of any other Town property on, under, across or over the consumer's property the consumer will grant to the Town an easement, right of way, or license for such installation.

Section 11-3-3 Interference with Water Department, Sewer Department or Building Official; Digging Up Streets Without Permit

It is unlawful for any person:

- A. To interfere in any way with the officers of the Town water department, sewer department or building official in the discharge of any of their duties, either in the tapping of any sewer pipe, main or lateral belonging to the Town or in the laying or connecting of such pipe, main or lateral.
- B. To dig up or cause to be dug up any street or alley in the Town for the purpose of connection with the sewer system of the Town without first obtaining a permit from the sewer department.
- C. Who, having a permit, to dig up any portion of any street or alley of the Town for the purpose of connecting with the sewer system of the Town and fail or neglect to place the street or alley in its original condition under the supervision of the sewer department and as required by it.

Section 11-3-4 Unsanitary Disposal of Excrement Prohibited

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

Section 11-3-5 Private Sewage Systems

- A. Compliance with Article. Except as provided in this article, it is unlawful to construct or maintain within the Town any privy, privy vault, septic tank, cesspool or other facility intended or used for the disposal of sewage.

- B. When Permitted; Sanitation. Where a public sanitary or combined sewer is not available within the Town or in any area under the jurisdiction of the Town, the building sewer shall be connected to a private sewage disposal system which complies with the regulations of the State Department of Public Health. Such private sewage disposal system shall be constructed, maintained and operated at all times in a sanitary manner.
- C. Discontinuance. Within 90 days after a public sewer becomes available within 300 feet of any property served by a private sewage disposal system, a direct connection shall be made to the public sewer in accordance with the provisions of this chapter and any septic tanks, cesspools, and similar private sewage facilities shall be abandoned and filled with suitable material.

Section 11-3-6 Tampering with Equipment Prohibited

No person shall maliciously, willfully or negligently break, damage, destroy, uncover, deface or tamper with any structure, appurtenance or equipment which is a part of the municipal sewage works.

Section 11-3-7 Permit Required

No unauthorized person shall uncover, make any connections with or opening into, use, alter, or disturb any public sewer or appurtenance or equipment which is a part of the municipal sewage works.

Section 11-3-8 Application

Upon issuance of a required permit to any person, each and every permit issued shall be presented by the person to the sewer department and application made for the building connection.

Section 11-3-9 Inspection and Approval by Sewer Department or Building Official

No building sewer will be connected to the building connection until it has been inspected and approved by the sewer department or building official.

Section 11-3-10 Records to be Kept by Sewer Department

The sewer department shall keep a record of all building connections made and the purpose for which they are to be used, together with the name of the owner of the property and his/her agent or representative.

ARTICLE 11-4 Use of Public Sewers

- 11-4-1 Prohibited Substances
- 11-4-2 Interceptors Required
- 11-4-3 Authority of Sewer Department
- 11-4-4 Preliminary Treatment
- 11-4-5 Manholes
- 11-4-6 Tests and Analyses
- 11-4-7 Special Agreements with Industrial Concerns

Section 11-4-1 Prohibited Substances

- A. No person shall discharge or cause to be discharged any storm water, surface water, ground water, roof runoff, subsurface drainage, cooling water or unpolluted industrial process waters to any sanitary sewer.
- B. Except as provided in this section no person shall discharge or cause to be discharged any of the following described waters or wastes into any public sewer:
 - 1. Any liquid or vapor having a temperature higher than 150 degrees Fahrenheit.
 - 2. Any water or waste which may contain more than 50 parts per million (50 ppm) by weight of fat, oil or grease.
 - 3. Any gasoline, benzene, naphtha, fuel oil or other flammable or explosive liquid, solid or gas.
 - 4. Any garbage that has not been properly shredded.
 - 5. Any ashes, cinders, sand, mud, straw, shavings, metal, glass, rags, feathers, tar, plastics, wood, paunch manure, grits such as brick, cement, onyx, carbide 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 sewer works.
 - 6. Any waters or wastes having a pH lower than 5.5 or higher than 9, or having any other corrosive property capable of causing damage or hazard to structures, equipment and personnel of the sewage works.
 - 7. 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.
 - 8. Any waters or wastes containing suspended solids of such character and quantity that unusual attention or expense is required to handle such materials at the sewage treatment plant.
 - 9. Any noxious or malodorous gas or substance capable of creating a public nuisance.

Section 11-4-2 Interceptors Required

- A. Grease, oil, and sand interceptors shall be provided when, in the opinion of the sewer department, 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 or dwelling units.

- B. Grease and oil interceptors shall be constructed of impervious material capable of withstanding abrupt and extreme changes in temperature. They shall be substantial construction, watertight and equipped with easily removable covers which, when bolted in place, shall be gastight and watertight.
- C. Where installed, all grease, oil, and sand interceptors shall be maintained by the owner, at his/her expense, in continuously efficient operation at all times.

Section 11-4-3 Authority of Sewer Department

The admission into the public sewers of any waters or wastes having any of the following characteristics shall be subject to the review and approval of the sewer department:

- A. A five-day biochemical oxygen demand greater than three hundred parts per million (300 ppm) by weight.
- B. Containing more than three hundred and fifty parts per million (350 ppm) by weight of suspended solids.
- C. Containing any quantity of substance having the characteristics described in Section 11-4-1.
- D. Having an average daily flow of greater than two percent (2%) of the average daily sewage flow of the Town.

Section 11-4-4 Preliminary Treatment

- A. Required. Where necessary in the opinion of the sewer department, the owner shall provide, at his/her expense, such preliminary treatment as may be necessary to:
 - 1. Reduce the B.O.D. to three hundred parts per million (300 ppm) and the suspended solids to three hundred and fifty parts per million (350 ppm) by weight.
 - 2. Reduce objectionable characteristics or constituents to within the maximum limits provided for in Section 11-4-3.
 - 3. Control the quantities and rates of discharge of such waters or wastes.
- B. Approval. Plans and specifications and any other pertinent information relating to proposed preliminary treatment facilities shall be submitted for approval of the sewer department and the engineering division of the Arizona State Board of Health. No construction of such facilities shall be commenced until such approvals are obtained in writing.
- C. Maintenance of Facilities. 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/her expense.

Section 11-4-5 Manholes

When required by the sewer department, 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 and sampling of wastes. Such manhole, when required, shall be accessible and safely located and shall be constructed in accordance with plans approved by the sewer department. The manhole shall be installed by the owner at his/her expense and shall be maintained by him/her so as to be safe and accessible at all times.

Section 11-4-6 Tests and Analyses

All tests and analyses of the characteristics of waters and wastes to which reference is made in this Article shall be determined in accordance with "standard methods for examination of water and sewage", and shall be determined at the control manhole provided for in the preceding section or upon suitable samples taken at such control manhole.

Section 11-4-7 Special Agreements with Industrial Concerns

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

ARTICLE 11-5 Rates

Rates for the provision of sewer service as provided in this Chapter, and procedures for billing, collection and enforcement of rates and other fees imposed, shall be set in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 13.

[Ord. 278, 08/21/1995]