

Chapter 146

PLUMBING STANDARDS

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[HISTORY: Adopted by the Borough Council of the Borough of Dallastown 4-8-1985 by Ord. No. 370. Amendments noted where applicable.]

GENERAL REFERENCES

Sewer and Water Authorities — See Ch. 8.
Building construction — See Ch. 90.
Fire prevention — See Ch. 114.

Sewers — See Ch. 159.
Stormwater management — See Ch. 173.
Water — See Ch. 217.

§ 146-1. Title.

This chapter shall be known and cited as the “Plumbing Code for the Borough of Dallastown, York County, Pennsylvania.” It shall be administered by the Borough Council of Dallastown.

§ 146-2. Definitions.

As used in this chapter, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

CODE – This chapter, as amended, together with the BOCA Basic Plumbing Code and any rule or regulation promulgated hereunder by the Borough Council of Dallastown.

MASTER PLUMBER — A person to whom a current valid master plumber’s license has been issued by the Borough of Dallastown in accordance with the provisions of this Code.

OFFICIAL COPY — A copy of the BOCA Basic Plumbing Code marked with the words “Dallastown Borough Official Copy” and appropriately amended so as to reflect any differences with the code, shall be deemed to be an official copy of the code.

PLUMBING INSPECTOR — A person hired by the Borough Council of Dallastown to perform the duties as assigned in the Code.

§ 146-3. Sewer Authority.

- A. There is established a Sewer Authority to consist of five members.¹ The members of the Authority shall be appointed by the Borough Council of Dallastown, York County, Pennsylvania, to serve for terms of five years.
- B. The Authority shall establish standards and procedures for the qualification, examination and licensing of plumbers, not inconsistent with other provisions of the code, and shall issue a license to each person who meets the qualifications thereof and successfully passes the examination given by the Authority.
- C. The Authority shall interpret the provisions of the Plumbing Code of Dallastown Borough and the amendments thereto and shall hear and grant requests for variances from the terms of said Code as will not be contrary to the public interest and shall hear and decide appeals where it is alleged there is error in any order, requirement, decision or determination made by the Plumbing Inspector in the enforcement of said code and shall perform such other duties as may be provided or made necessary in said code.
- D. All appeals and requests for variance shall be in writing and filed with the Plumbing Inspector at least five days prior to the date of the meeting of the Authority at which they are to be heard.
- E. Meetings of the Authority.
 - (1) The Authority shall meet at such intervals as may be necessary for the proper performance of its duties, but in any case not fewer than four times a year.
 - (2) Meetings of the Authority for the purpose of hearing appeals, requests for variances and performance of its other duties may be called by the Chairman of the Authority on five days' written notice to the members of the Authority and all parties interested in the matter to be heard.
 - (3) The Authority shall keep an official record of all its transactions.

§ 146-4. Plumbing Inspector.

- A. The office of Plumbing Inspector is hereby created. The Plumbing Inspector shall be a bonded borough employee, hired by the Borough Council of Dallastown to serve at its pleasure for such compensation as said Council shall from time to time determine.
- B. The duties of the Plumbing Inspector are as follows:
 - (1) Maintain public office hours necessary to efficiently administer the provisions of this code and amendments thereto.

¹ Editor's Note: See Ch. 8, Municipal Authorities, Art. I, Sewer Authority, for the establishment of the Sewer Authority for the Borough of Dallastown.

- (2) Require submission of descriptions describing clearly the character, kind and extent of work covered by applications for a permit and, upon approval thereof, issue the permit applied for.
 - (3) Keep a permanent, accurate account of all fees for license issued and other moneys collected and received as provided by this code, the names of the persons upon whose account the fees were paid, the date and amount thereof, together with the location of premises to which they relate.
 - (4) Enforce the provisions of this code in a manner consistent with the intent thereof and inspect all plumbing and drainage work authorized by any permit to assure compliance with provisions of this code or amendments thereto, approving or condemning said work in whole or in part as conditions require.
 - (5) Condemn and reject all work done or being done or materials used or being used which do not in all respects comply with the provisions of this code and amendments thereto.
 - (6) Order changes in workmanship and/or materials essential to obtain compliance with all provisions of this code.
 - (7) Investigate any construction or work regulated by this code and issue such notices and orders as deemed necessary.
 - (8) Keep a complete record of all the essential transactions of his office.
 - (9) Transfer all fees collected by him to the proper authority provided by law to receive such funds.
 - (10) Maintain an official register of all persons, firms or corporations lawfully entitled to carry on or engage in the business of plumbing or to perform at the trade of plumbing to whom a plumber's license has been issued.
- C. The Plumbing Inspector shall carry proper credentials, upon exhibition of which he shall have the right of entry, during usual business hours, to inspect any and all buildings and premises in the performance of his duties, only if plumbing work is being done.

§ 146-5. Registration and licensing of plumbers.

- A. No person shall work at or carry on the business of plumbing, house drainage or building drainage unless and until he shall have been registered as such by the Authority, nor unless and until he shall have been licensed as such as herein provided.
- B. No person shall be eligible to be registered or licensed as a plumber unless regularly engaged for the major portion of his livelihood in the business of plumbing, house drainage and building drainage, nor unless he regularly maintains a separate place of business in which the major portion of the business conducted therein is that of plumbing, house drainage and building drainage.
- C. A record shall be kept of all such registrations and licenses which shall be available for inspection by any interested persons.

§ 146-6. Application for new license.

Application for new license shall be made in the handwriting of the applicant on a proper form supplied by the Plumbing Inspector. The applicant shall state the type of work, together with a description of and a reference to substantial jobs performed. The application shall be accompanied by one or more letters from former employers certifying to the applicant's character, qualifications and fitness to receive the license applied for. The application shall be accompanied by the prescribed fees.

§ 146-7. Licensing of master plumbers.

- A. All plumbers doing any type of plumbing work in the Borough of Dallastown shall be licensed by the borough before performing any such work. This shall be accomplished by either displaying a valid masters license from another municipality for which an examination has been taken or by taking a plumbing examination given by the Borough of Dallastown.
- B. Upon successfully completing the examination and approval by the Authority for licensure as a master plumber, the Plumbing Inspector, after the applicant has paid the applicable fee, shall issue a master plumber's license to the applicant.
- C. The master plumber's license fee shall be an annual fee. The particular fee as imposed and established will be set by resolution of the Borough Council.²

§ 146-8. Examinations.

- A. Examinations shall be written responses to appropriate questions concerning the code.
- B. In order to qualify for a master plumber's license, the applicant shall, if examined in writing, correctly answer at least 75% of the questions propounded.
- C. Any person who fails to pass an examination prescribed by the Authority may apply for reexamination at the next test conducted by the Authority.

§ 146-9. Term and renewal of licenses.

All licenses issued hereunder shall expire on December 31 of each year and may be renewed by filing an application for renewal with the Plumbing Inspector and the payment of the applicable fee between December 1 and December 31.

§ 146-10. Grant of plumbing permits.

Plumbing permits will only be granted to a master plumber, duly licensed in Dallastown Borough.

² Editor's Note: Amended at time of adoption of Code (see Ch. 1, General Provisions, Art. I).

§ 146-11. Fees; examinations and licenses.

Fees for examination and licenses shall be set from time to time by resolution of the Sewer Authority.

§ 146-12. Application for plumbing permits.

- A. Issuance of permits. No hookups, connections, repairs, replacements or otherwise alter or replace an existing or new sewer line work shall be undertaken unless and until the registered and licensed master plumber proposing to undertake the same shall have filed with the Plumbing Inspector an application for a plumbing permit for such work and shall have paid the necessary fee therefor and a plumbing permit shall have been issued therefor. No permit shall be issued until plans and specifications showing the proposed work in reasonable detail shall have been submitted to the Plumbing Inspector and he has determined from examination of such plans and specifications that the proposed work will conform with the provisions of the code. If a permit is refused, written notice thereof shall be provided to the applicant who may submit such revised plans and specifications as are necessary to obtain approval. If, in the course of the work, it is found necessary to obtain approval to make any change from the plans and specifications on which a permit has been issued, amended plans and specifications shall be submitted and a supplementary permit shall be issued to cover the change after the same conditions required to secure the original permit have been satisfied.
- B. Exceptions. Repairs which involve the working parts of a faucet or valve, the clearance of stoppages, the repairing of leaks or the replacement of defective faucets or valves may be made without permit, provided that no alterations are made in the existing piping to fixtures.
- C. Fees for permits and inspections. Fees shall be set from time to time by resolution of the Borough Council.

§ 146-13. Protection of water supply system.

The Sewer Authority shall make such rules and regulations in furtherance of the purpose of this code and not inconsistent with the specific provisions of this code for installation, repair or alteration of water-cooled air-conditioning systems, water treatment equipment and such other water-operated devices as it may deem necessary to properly protect the water supply system.

§ 146-14. Condemned equipment.

The Plumbing Inspector shall condemn any plumbing material or equipment which is so worn, damaged, defective or constructed as to constitute a sanitary or safety hazard, and such condemned material or equipment shall not be reused for plumbing purposes. Where, in the opinion of the Plumbing Inspector, condemned material or equipment should be destroyed to prevent its reuse, he may order such destruction.

§ 146-15. Plumbing and drainage specifications.

- A. The BOCA Basic Plumbing Code shall be used for all specifications unless otherwise herein excluded, included or amended, and the same is hereby incorporated herein by reference and made a part hereof.
- B. Inclusions and exclusions to BOCA Basic Plumbing Code:
- (1) Reference Section P-313.3 shall specify three feet zero for line depth.
 - (2) Reference Section P-313.4.1 shall specify Schedule 40 or better for all plastic pipe. If plastic pipe is used, care must be exercised to reduce noise to a minimum.
 - (3) Reference Section P-405.2.1 shall specify Schedule 40 or better for all plastic pipe. If plastic pipe is used, care must be exercised to reduce noise to a minimum.
 - (4) Reference Section P-405.2.2. Underground building drains sanitary and storm.
 - (a) Cast iron, not less than service weights coated with coal tar.
 - (b) Authority may permit use of other approved materials.
 - (c) Where threaded joints are used underground, they shall be coal tar treated and wrapped when installed or otherwise protected in an approved manner.
 - (5) Reference Section P-404.2.3.
 - (a) Building sewer in trench separate from water service: cast iron, not less than service weight, coated with coal tar (all joints watertight and root-proof).
 - (b) Building sewer in trench with water service: cast iron, not less than service weight, coated with coal tar (installed with approved joints and shall be such as to remain watertight and root-proof).
 - (6) Reference Section P-405.2.4. Sewer or drain in filled ground.
 - (a) Cast iron, not less than service weight.
 - (b) Exception. Nonmetallic drains may be used if laid on an approved continuous supporting system of three-fourths-inch granular material at least two pipe diameters thick.
 - (7) Reference Section 405-2.5 shall read in its entirety as follows:

“Existing building sewers and drains may be used in connection with a new building sewer and drainage systems after examination and approval by the Plumbing Inspector as to the adequacy of existing material to perform satisfactorily with the new building and sewer drainage systems.”
 - (8) Reference Section P-405-3.2. Aboveground within buildings.
 - (a) Brass or copper pipe.
 - (b) Copper, not less than DWV weight.
 - (c) Cast iron, not less than service weight.

- (d) Galvanized wrought iron.
 - (e) Galvanized open hearth iron.
 - (f) Galvanized steel pipe.
 - (g) ABS plastic, not less than Schedule 40.
 - (h) PVC plastic, not less than Schedule 40.
- (9) Reference Section P-601.0. In Table P-601.1, fixture unit valves for all types of showers shall be three.
- (10) Reference Section P-601.8. Add "Minimum size of building sewer shall be four inches in diameter."
- (11) Reference Section P-601.9. Add "Minimum size of building drain servicing a single structure shall be four inches in diameter to the first three-inch or larger stack."
- (12) Reference Section P-912.1. The maximum distance of a fixture from a vent should be three feet six inches.
- (13) Reference Section P-1001.2. Size of a trap for a single shower stall shall be two inches.

§ 146-16. Special procedures.

- A. Sewer stoppage. In the event of a stoppage of a main building drain or sewer, the owner or tenant shall first contact a plumber to ascertain the location of the stoppage, and in the event that the stoppage is in the property lateral between the main and curblines, the plumber shall in turn notify the borough office.
- B. Building removed. When any building is removed or any drainage or sewer system is abandoned or dismantled or removed, the sewer connection shall be disconnected at the curb or property line and properly sealed, plugged or capped and inspected.
- C. Basement flooding. When a permit is issued for a building having plumbing fixtures in a basement or a section of the building below grade construction, the owner shall be required to sign a written agreement or waiver upon a form furnished by the borough in the hands of the Plumbing Inspector, releasing the borough from any damage that may result from any damage that may result from this area being flooded by the stoppage or backflow of sewers. In areas where stoppage or backflow is prevalent, the building shall be provided with a backwater valve or check valve.
- D. Notification of changes. In the event of any changes in plumbing procedure under this code, the Authority, through the Plumbing Inspector's office, shall issue in writing to such licensed Master Plumber a directive of such changes.
- E. Warranty. All plumbers must warrant their work for one year against defects of material or faulty workmanship.
- F. Floor drains are prohibited to be connected to the building sanitary sewer systems.

§ 146-17. Enforcement.

- A. Any portion of a plumbing system found by the Plumbing Inspector to be unsanitary as defined herein is hereby declared to be a nuisance.
- B. Whenever it is brought to the attention of the Authority that any unsanitary conditions exist or that any construction or work regulated by this chapter does not meet the code, the Authority may request an investigation by the Plumbing Inspector who, upon determining such information to be fact, shall order such person, firm or corporation using or maintaining any such condition or responsible for the use of or maintenance thereof to repair, alter, change, remove or demolish the same as may be considered necessary for the proper protection of life, health or property. Every such order shall be in writing, addressed to the owner, agent or person responsible for the premises in which such conditions exist and shall specify the date or time of compliance with such order.
- C. Refusal, failure or neglect to comply with any such notice or order shall be considered a violation of this chapter.
- D. When any plumbing system is maintained in violation of this chapter and in violation of any notice issued pursuant to the provisions of this section or where a nuisance exists in any building or on a lot on which a building is situated, the Plumbing Inspector shall institute any appropriate action or proceeding in any court of competent jurisdiction to prevent, restrain, correct or abate the violation or nuisance.

§ 146-18. Violations and penalties.³

Any person violating any of the provisions of this chapter shall, upon conviction thereof, be punishable by a fine of not more than \$600, plus costs of prosecution, and in default of payment of such fine and costs by imprisonment for not more than 30 days.

§ 146-19. Applicability.

This chapter shall apply to all of Dallastown Borough.

³ Editor's Note: Amended at time of adoption of Code (see Ch. 1, General Provisions, Art. D).