

STANDATA bulletin 20-PCB-001

Plumbing

Drainage systems with municipal requirements

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Purpose

This bulletin informs the plumbing industry of requirements for installations where sewage from a plumbing system is discharged into a municipal sewage collection system. Municipalities may require the treatment of sewage to a better quality, deliver sewage under pressure, retain sewage to manage maximum flow rates from being exceeded or require other criteria to be met so the discharge is compatible with municipal infrastructure.

Any device/pipe/tank, whether inside or outside the building, that is used to house a pump for flow management or act as any form of wastewater treatment in a plumbing system that connects to a municipal sewer:

- is part of a plumbing system and requires a plumbing permit;
- is not a building sewer and is not subject to the exemption of building sewers from permitting requirements provided in section 14(2) of the Permit Regulation AR 204/2007;
- requires inspection by a safety codes officer; and
- does not require a private sewage disposal system permit.

Notes:

The municipality may apply conditions to the quality, flow rate, and pressure of the wastewater discharged to the municipal sewage collection system as this is not regulated by the plumbing code. These conditions may be required to ensure the successful operation of the communal sewer collection system (materials, pressure, backflow protection, effluent quality, elevation, etc.).

The holder of a water/sewer installer certificate (R Ticket) cannot apply for a plumbing permit for these systems.

Unless stated otherwise, all Code references in this STANDATA are to the National Plumbing Code of Canada.

Issued by the Provincial Plumbing Administrator

[Original signed]

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The Permit Regulation allows the holder of a private sewage installer certificate of competency to obtain a plumbing permit for that portion of a plumbing system that is located outside of a building, and required for the treatment, flow control and/or pressure delivery of wastewater from a plumbing system that discharges into a municipal sewage collection system.

The Alberta Private Sewage Systems Standard of Practice requirements apply. The following must be considered:

- Article 2.1.1.9 Service Access;
- Article 2.1.3 General System Requirements (suitability of material and equipment);
- Section 2.3 and 2.4 System Controls;
- Article 2.5 Piping Considerations;
- Article 4.1.1.2 Sludge and Scum Accumulation (storage capacity in primary treatment tanks - does not apply when grinder pumps are used);
- Section 4.2 Septic Tanks (location, capacity, certification of tanks);
- Section 5.2 Packaged Sewage Treatment Plants; and
- Part 6 Effluent and Pre-treatment Tanks.

Other legislation considered in the development of this information bulletin include:

- **Safety Codes Act: Interpretation 1(1)(z)** - "Private sewage disposal system" means the whole or any part of a system for the management, treatment, and disposal of sewage on the site where the sewage is generated.
- **Permit Regulation AR 204/2007: 14(2)** - A permit is not required to install a building sewer or storm sewer outside of a building.

Examples: