

CHAPTER 6 SEWERS

601.0 Sewer use generally

- 601.1 No Person* shall connect a private sewer, Storm Sewer or Sanitary Sewer to an Authority Sewer System without first obtaining a permit from the Authority.
- 601.2 No Person shall do any of the following without the written authorization of the Authority:
- .1 make an opening of any kind in an Authority Sewer Main; or
 - .2 make any connection with any Sewer Lateral.
- 601.3 The Authority may require the Owner of any structure located within the Authority's service area that has access to a public Storm Sewer, Sanitary Sewer, or Combination Sewer to connect to the applicable public sewer or sewers by means of Sewer Laterals constructed, at the property Owner's cost, of materials and in a manner acceptable to the Authority and to the Health Department.
- .1 No structure shall be used or occupied as a Dwelling Unit if the structure or Premises does not have an approved connection with the Authority Sewer System or alternate sewage facilities approved by the Health Department.

602.0 Prohibited conduct

- 602.1 No Person shall:
- .1 Damage, injure or displace, by willful, careless or negligent act, any Sanitary Sewer, Combined Sewer, or Storm Sewer operated and maintained by the Authority, or any portion or component thereof, or anything else pertaining to the Authority's Sewer System.
 - .2 Throw, discard, discharge, or otherwise place or allow to flow or enter into the water of any fountain, pond, lake, stream, or other body of water in or adjacent to any park or any tributary, stream, Storm Sewer or drain flowing into such waters, any hazardous materials or other substances that the person knows or should know will result in pollution of the water.
 - .3 Open, remove or in any way disturb or tamper with the lid, grate, or cover of any manhole, inlet, or catch basin that is a part of the Authority's Sewer System.
- 602.2 No Person shall discharge or permit the discharge or infiltration of any of the following substances into any Authority sewer:
- .1 mineral acids, waste acid, pickling or plating liquors from the pickling or plating of iron, steel, brass, copper, or chromium, or any other dissolved or solid substances, in such amounts that shall endanger health or safety, interfere with the flow in sewers, attack or corrode sewers, or otherwise interfere with the operation of the Sewer System or ALCOSAN;
 - .2 cyanides or cyanogen compounds capable of liberating hydrocyanic gas on acidification;

* Words with initial capital letters are defined in section 102.0 of these Rules and Regulations.

- .3 gas tar, phenols in concentrations greater than 60 parts per million, residues from petroleum storage, refining or processing, excess fuel or lubricating oil, gasoline, naphtha, benzene, or explosive, flammable liquids, solids, or gases;
- .4 ashes, cinders, sand, mud, lime, or acetylene sludges, straw, shavings, metals, glass, rags, feathers, tar, plastics, wood, sawdust, paunch manure, hair, hides, dead animals, spent mash and grain, pulp from food processing, water or wastes containing excess grease, cement or cementitious materials, or any other solid, semi-solid, or viscous substances capable of causing obstruction to the flow in sewers or other interference with the proper operation of the Authority's or ALCOSAN's facilities;
 - .1 the combined concentration of oil and grease shall not exceed 200 parts per million;
- .5 sludges or other materials from septic tanks or similar facilities or from sewage or industrial waste treatment plants or from water treatment plants, unless the discharge of such sludges and other materials is permitted by existing permits, regulations, code, or orders of the Authority, the City, the Health Department, ALCOSAN, or the Commonwealth;
- .6 garbage, whether ground or not, except properly shredded garbage in a private Dwelling Unit, hotel, commercial restaurant, or retail food store resulting from the proper use of a garbage grinder or disposer of a type approved by the City, the Health Department, or ALCOSAN and maintained in good operating condition;
- .7 water or wastes having a pH lower than 5.0 or higher than 10.0 or having any other corrosive property capable of causing damage or hazard to structures, equipment, or individuals;
- .8 any industrial, commercial, or medical waste or discharge that violates Categorical or General Pretreatment Standards as established by authorized agencies of the federal government or of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania or which violates specific ALCOSAN discharge standards;
- .9 any waste that exceeds the naturally occurring background levels for alpha, beta, or gamma radiation or any Wastewater containing any radioactive wastes or isotopes of half-life or concentration not in compliance with applicable federal or state regulations;
- .10 any wastes that are defined or listed as hazardous under the laws and regulations of the federal government or the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; or
- .11 any noxious or malodorous liquids, gases, or solids that either singly or in combination with other wastes may create a public nuisance or adversely affect public health or safety.

602.3 Penalties and damages:

- .1 The Authority will refer to the City for prosecution as a summary offense any violation of section 602.1 or 602.2 of these Rules and Regulations. Any Person who is found to have violated any of these provisions shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of \$300.00 for each offense, recoverable with costs, and in default of payment of the fine and costs, shall be subject to imprisonment for a period not exceeding 30 days. Each day that a violation is continued shall constitute a separate offense. If the offender is a partnership or association, the penalty may be imposed upon the partners or members thereof. If the offender is a corporation, the penalty may be imposed upon the officers thereof.

- .2 Any Person who willfully or negligently discharges or permits the discharge into an Authority sewer of any substance prohibited by section 602.2 shall be responsible for the containment, clean up, abatement, removal, and disposal of any pollutant or obstructing substance or material discharged into the Sewer System. The Authority shall give notice to such Person that a violation has occurred and shall require such Person to immediately contain, clean up, abate, remove, and dispose of the discharge. Such notice shall be sufficient if hand delivered or mailed to the Person at the person's last known address.
- .3 If a Person notified under section 602.3.2 fails to comply with the notice, the Authority may perform the containment, clean up, abatement, removal, and disposal of the discharge. Costs incurred by the Authority in such activities shall be charged to the Person notified.
- .4 When the Authority determines that a discharge to the Sewer System in violation of this section has caused an imminent threat to human health or the environment, the Authority may contain, clean up, abate, remove, and dispose of any such discharge without prior notice. Costs incurred in such activities shall be charged to the Person who has violated this section 602.
- .5 When the Authority charges its costs to a Person under this section 602.3.2, 602.3.3, or 602.3.4, such charges shall be due within 30 days of the date the bill is rendered. If the charges remain unpaid more than 30 days after the date the bill is rendered, a lien in the amount of the bill shall be recorded against the property causing the discharge.
- .6 The penalties and remedies contained in this section 602 shall be cumulative, not exclusive. Further, the penalties and remedies contained herein shall be in addition to any other penalties or remedies available under federal, state, or local laws, regulations or ordinances.

602.4 No Owner or Occupant of any real property fronting a street shall fail to keep the street gutters open and clear of refuse, debris, snow, and ice, so as to prevent an obstruction of the street gutters.

603.0 Sewer Lateral connections

603.1 All connections to the Authority's Sanitary Sewers, Combined Sewers, and Storm Sewers shall be made in conformity with plans and specifications approved by the Authority and shall be subject to the Authority's inspection.

603.2 Requirements for connections to Authority Sanitary Sewer, Combined Sewer, or Storm Sewer Mains for residential Development greater than a single family residence or involving proposed flows of greater than 799 gallons per day, and for Business Use Properties, are contained in the Authority's Procedures Manual for Developers, which is incorporated in these Rules and Regulations and made a part hereof.

603.3 A Small Residential Development involving some change in use or change in Wastewater flow, but not involving new sewer taps or connections, need not submit tap-in drawings, but a Customer Application, Sewer Lateral Connection Application or other completed forms, available at the Authority's permit counter, may be required.

604.0 Specifications For Sewer Laterals

604.1 Sewer Laterals shall be designed, constructed, and installed in compliance with Health Department regulations and requirements.

605.0 Ownership and maintenance of Sewer Laterals

- 605.1 Ownership of Sewer Laterals serving Residential Properties and Business Use Properties, up to and including the connection of the Sewer Lateral to the Sewer Main, lies with the property Owner. The property Owner is responsible for the operation, inspection, maintenance, repair, replacement, abandonment, and removal of the Sewer Lateral as so described.
- 605.2 Should the condition of a Sewer Lateral be such that there is a risk to public health or safety or of damage to public property, and the property Owner fails to take prompt action to cure the problem following notice to do so, the Authority shall have the right, but not the duty, to make the necessary repair or replacement and to charge the property Owner with the reasonable cost of the repair or replacement. Should the property Owner fail to reimburse the Authority within 30 days of the Authority's invoice therefor, the Authority shall have the right to file a lien against the property or properties served by the Sewer Lateral.

606.0 Ownership and maintenance of Storm Sewers

- 606.1 The Authority has a duty to operate, maintain, inspect, repair, replace or abandon only those Storm Sewers that are a part of or connected to the public Sewer System and that fall into one of the following classifications:
- .1 Storm Sewers leased to the Authority by the City under the Capital Lease Agreement effective July 27, 1995, as amended;
 - .2 Storm Sewers constructed by the City or the Authority for public use since July 27, 1995; and
 - .3 Storm Sewers dedicated to public use and accepted by the Authority on or after July 27, 1995.
- 606.2 Storm sewers that have been created or constructed by parties other than the City or the Authority, that have never been dedicated to or accepted for public use, or that do not connect to any of the Authority's Sewer Mains are not owned by the City or the Authority, and neither the City nor the Authority has any responsibility for their condition, operation, maintenance, inspection, repair, replacement, or abandonment. Responsibility for such private or common storm sewers lies with the Owners of the property or properties served by them.

607.0 Illegal Surface Storm Water Connections

- 607.1 No Person shall construct, install, maintain, repair, operate, use or allow an Illegal Surface Storm Water Connection on real estate that Person owns. This prohibition expressly includes, without limitation, Illegal Surface Storm Water Connections made prior to the effective date of the Dye Testing Ordinance and prior to the effective date of these Rules and Regulations.

608.0 Sales of real property and City Lien Verification Letters

- 608.1 A request to the City for a City Lien Verification Letter must be accompanied by:
- .1 a valid Evidence of Compliance Statement; or
 - .2 a valid Temporary Evidence of Compliance Statement.

609.0 Applications for Evidence of Compliance Statement

- 609.1 Any Person selling real property located within the City shall apply to the Authority for an Evidence of Compliance Statement at least 14 days in advance of the date of closing and shall pay the required application fee. The application for an Evidence of Compliance Statement may be found at www.pgh2o.com/dyetest.htm or by calling 412-255-0801.
- 609.2 If the Authority determines that the real property is served by a Combined Sewer, the Authority shall issue a certified Evidence of Compliance Statement within 7 business days of the Authority's receipt of the properly completed application therefor.
- 609.3 If the Authority determines that the real property is served by a Sanitary Sewer, then within 7 business days of its receipt of the properly completed application for an Evidence Of Compliance Statement, the Authority shall notify the applicant that a Dye Test is required and provide the applicant with a Dye Testing Results Form.

610.0 Sales of vacant, undeveloped property

- 610.1 Where the real property proposed for sale is vacant property upon which no buildings or structures exist, the applicant for an Evidence of Compliance Statement shall so indicate and, within 7 business days of receipt of the application, the Authority shall conduct a visual inspection of the property to verify that there are no Illegal Surface Storm Water Connections.
- 610.2 If the Authority verifies upon visual inspection that there are no Illegal Surface Storm Water Connections on the property, the Authority shall issue an Evidence of Compliance Statement within 3 business days of the visual inspection.
- 610.3 If the Authority determines upon visual inspection that there are possible Illegal Surface Storm Water Connections on the property, then within 3 business days of the visual inspection, the Authority shall notify the applicant by issuance of a letter that a Dye Test is required as provided under section 612 of these Rules and Regulations.

611.0 Intended demolition of buildings and structures

- 611.1 If the buyer of real property located within a portion of the City served by Sanitary Sewers intends to demolish all existing buildings and/or structures on the property, the application for the Evidence of Compliance Statement shall so indicate.
- 611.2 The Authority shall issue an Evidence of Compliance Statement to the Person buying the real property within 7 business days of the Authority's receipt of the appropriately completed application for Evidence of Compliance Statement and a sworn affidavit from the buyer acknowledging that if all buildings and structures on the property are not demolished within 1 year of the date of closing, that the Evidence of Compliance Statement will be null and void and the Person must conduct a Dye Test of the property in accordance with section 612 of these Rules and Regulations.

612.0 Dye testing

- 612.1 Except for visual inspection requests for vacant properties containing no buildings or structures pursuant to section 610 of these Rules and Regulations, and sales that are exempt under the Dye Testing Ordinance, any Person selling real property located within the City shall have a Registered Plumber perform a Dye Test on the property to be sold.

- 612.2 Upon completion of the Dye Test, the Registered Plumber shall complete the Dye Testing Results Form confirming that the dye testing has been completed and certifying the results of the Dye Test.
- 612.3 If the Registered Plumber certifies that there are no Illegal Surface Storm Water Connections on the property to be sold, the Authority shall issue a certified Evidence of Compliance Statement within 7 business days of the Authority's receipt of the properly completed Dye Test Results Form.
- 612.4 If the Dye Test reveals the existence of an Illegal Surface Storm Water Connection, the Registered Plumber shall certify that there is an Illegal Surface Storm Water Connection on the real property.
- 612.5 If one or more Illegal Surface Storm Water Connections exist on the real property, the Authority will not issue an Evidence of Compliance Statement until the connection or connections have been disconnected or removed as required by section 616 of these Rules and Regulations and the disconnection and removal has been certified by a Registered Plumber.
- 612.6 The Authority shall issue a certified Evidence of Compliance Statement within 7 business days of the Authority's receipt of:
- .1 a properly completed statement by a Registered Plumber describing and certifying the disconnection and removal of the Illegal Surface Storm Water Connection; or
 - .2 verification that the real property in question is not located in an area served by Sanitary Sewers.
- 612.7 A certified Evidence of Compliance Statement shall be valid for 3 years following the date of its issuance. If any additions are made to the property within the 3 year period, certification that the addition has no Illegal Storm Water Connections shall be provided to the Authority by a Registered Plumber. Provided, however, that if the Evidence of Compliance Statement is issued because the property in question is served by a Combination Sewer, and the public sewers serving the property are divided into separate Sanitary Sewers and Storm Sewers within the 3-year period, then the Evidence of Compliance Statement will automatically expire.
- 613.0 Application for Temporary Evidence of Compliance Statement due to inclement weather**
- 613.1 In the event that weather conditions or other factors do not permit a Dye Test to be done in a timely manner, the sellers and the buyers of the real property may submit a signed agreement promising that dye testing will be completed as soon as conditions permit. The agreement must provide that the buyer of the real property will be responsible for the performance of the Dye Test.
- 613.2 An Application for a Temporary Evidence of Compliance Statement must be accompanied by the agreement and by a \$1,000.00 security deposit in the form of cash, certified check, or cashier's check to guarantee that the Dye Test will be completed. The security deposit will be returned to the applicant after a Registered Plumber certifies that the Dye Test has been completed.
- 613.3 Once conditions permit the performance of the Dye Test, the test shall be performed, the results certified, and the Evidence of Compliance Statement issued as provided in section 612 of these Rules and Regulations.

614.0 Application for Temporary Evidence of Compliance Statement with present Illegal Surface Storm Water Connection

614.1 In the event an Illegal Surface Storm Water Connection is discovered during the performance of a Dye Test or otherwise, and the necessary remediation of the condition would require a length of time to perform such that it would create an undue hardship on the applicant to perform prior to the date of closing on the sale of the real property, the applicant may apply to the Authority for a Temporary Evidence of Compliance Statement, which must be accompanied by the following:

- .1 a bona fide, executed agreement between the applicant and a Registered Plumber requiring the Registered Plumber to complete the necessary remedial work to correct and/or disconnect and remove the Illegal Surface Storm Water Connection, and granting the Authority the right and power to enforce the contract as a third-party beneficiary;
- .2 a security deposit in the form of cash, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount of 120 percent of the contract described in section 614.1.1 above, which will be held by the Authority in a non-interest bearing account and returned to the applicant upon the Authority's receipt of a properly completed statement by a Registered Plumber describing and certifying the disconnection and removal of the Illegal Surface Storm Water Connection; and
- .3 a written acknowledgement and notarized agreement in which the buyer agrees to be responsible for all cost overruns related to the remedial work, together with the grant to the Authority of a license to enter upon the property to complete the work at the expense and cost of the buyer should the contractor or the applicant default on the agreement.

614.2 Should the Authority issue a Temporary Evidence of Compliance Statement, it will be effective for no more than 60 days. The expiration date of the Temporary Evidence of Compliance Statement will be clearly noted on the Statement.

614.3 Remediation of the Illegal Surface Storm Water Connections shall proceed as required by sections 616 and 617 of these Rules and Regulations.

614.4 If, upon the expiration of the Temporary Evidence of Compliance Statement, the Authority has not received certification from a Registered Plumber that the Illegal Surface Storm Water Connection has been remedied, then the Authority may use the cash security, or a portion of the cash security, to have the required remedial work completed. Any balance remaining in the security deposit will be returned to the buyer. Any additional cost of the remedial work, in excess of the security deposit, will be the sole and exclusive responsibility of the buyer and will constitute a lien against the property.

615.0 Permit requirements of other government entities

615.1 Prior to the commencement of any remedial work on the Illegal Surface Storm Water Connection, all necessary and required building permits, street opening permits, sidewalk opening permits, tap-in permits and fees, and other approvals and permits that may be necessary to accomplish the disconnection and redirection of the Storm Water shall be obtained.

616.0 Methods of Illegal Surface Storm Water disconnections

- 616.1 Acceptable remediation of an Illegal Storm Water Connection to the Sanitary Sewer shall mean that the Illegal Storm Water Connection is disconnected from the Sanitary Sewer, the access point to the Sanitary Sewer is capped and sealed, and the private storm Sewer Lateral redirected as directed by the Health Department.
- 616.2 In no event is Storm Water to be collected and discharged upon or across public sidewalks or upon public streets, or discharged upon adjacent property owned by another person.

617.0 Completion of Illegal Surface Storm Water disconnections

- 617.1 After disconnection of the Illegal Surface Storm Water Connection to the Sanitary Sewer and the redirection of the Storm Water, the real property shall be Dye Tested again to demonstrate that all Illegal Surface Storm Water Connections have been remedied.
- 617.2 The disconnection and the successful repeat Dye Test shall be certified by a Registered Plumber on a Dye Testing Results Form submitted to the Authority.
- 617.3 The Authority shall issue an Evidence of Compliance Statement within 7 business days of the submission of the appropriately completed Dye Testing Results Form.

618.0 Rejection of applications

- 618.1 The Authority may reject an application for an Evidence of Compliance Statement or a Temporary Evidence of Compliance Statement whenever the requirements of the Dye Testing Ordinance or of these Rules and Regulations have not been met.
- 618.2 In rejecting the application for an Evidence of Compliance Statement or Temporary Evidence of Compliance Statement, the Authority shall specify the nature of the deficiency and what action or actions must be taken to comply with the requirements of the Dye Testing Ordinance and/or these Rules and Regulations.
- 618.3 In the event of such a rejection, the applicant may file an appeal as set forth in section 619 of these Rules and Regulations.

619.0 Application appeals

- 619.1 Any applicant or person aggrieved by a decision of the Authority rejecting an application for an Evidence of Compliance Statement or a Temporary Evidence of Compliance Statement shall have the right to appeal to the Authority Board of Directors, provided that a written application for an appeal is made within 30 days of the date of the Authority's rejection. Appeals shall be made in writing and sent by certified mail to the Authority, to the attention of the Executive Director.
- 619.2 Any appeal made under this section shall state with specificity the reason(s) why the applicant is appealing the rejection and shall provide sufficient factual information and documentation, including a statement by a Registered Plumber or professional engineer, to support the appellant's position that the Evidence of Compliance Statement or the Temporary Evidence of Compliance Statement should have been issued by the Authority.

620.0 Fees

- 620.1 All applications for an Evidence of Compliance Statement or Temporary Evidence of Compliance Statement or for visual inspection by the Authority shall be accompanied by the appropriate application fee set from time to time by the Authority. No application shall be processed by the Authority if it is not accompanied by the applicable fee.
- 620.2 Fees for applications for Evidence or Temporary Evidence of Compliance are set forth in section 304.2 of these Rules and Regulations.

630.0 Illegal connections to public Storm Sewers

- 630.1 No Person shall construct, install, maintain, repair, operate, or use any drain or conveyance, whether on or below the surface, that allows any non-Storm Water discharge, including the discharge of Sewage, process Wastewater, or wash water, to enter the public Storm Sewers operated and maintained by the Authority. This prohibition expressly includes, without limitation, connections made prior to the effective date of the Dye Testing Ordinance and/or prior to the effective date of these Rules and Regulations.
- 630.2 Provided they do not significantly contribute to pollution of the waters of the Commonwealth, the following discharges may enter the Storm Sewers:
- .1 discharges from firefighting activities;
 - .2 potable water from sources such as de-chlorinated water lines and fire hydrant flushings;
 - .3 air conditioning condensate;
 - .4 pavement wash waters, unless contaminated by toxic or hazardous materials or detergents;
 - .5 flow from watering of lawns, unless contaminated by fertilizers or by toxic or hazardous materials;
 - .6 de-chlorinated swimming pool discharges;
 - .7 water from car washing on Residential Property, unless contaminated by detergents or toxic or hazardous materials;
 - .8 water from external washing of Residential Property or Business Use Properties, unless contaminated by detergents or toxic or hazardous materials;
 - .9 irrigation drainage, unless contaminated by fertilizers or by toxic or hazardous materials;
 - .10 water from crawl space pumps, unless contaminated by toxic or hazardous materials;
 - .11 uncontaminated water from foundations or from footing drains;
 - .12 uncontaminated springs;
 - .13 uncontaminated flows from riparian habitats or wetlands;
 - .14 uncontaminated groundwater; and

.15 any activity authorized by a valid Pennsylvania permit for discharge to the waters of the Commonwealth.

630.3 Should the Authority, the City, or the Commonwealth Department of Environmental Protection determine that any of the discharges otherwise permitted by section 630.2 significantly contribute to the pollution of the waters of the Commonwealth, then the Authority, the City or the Department of Environmental Protection will notify the responsible Person to cease the discharge.

640.0 Termination of Sewer Lateral connections; removal of abandoned or unused Sewer Laterals

640.1 An Owner of a Small Residential Development intending to terminate a Sewer Lateral connection to the property must complete a Tap Termination Permit Application, which may be obtained from the Authority's permit counter or by calling 412-255-2443. Tap termination drawings are required only if the applicant proposes to terminate three or more taps or the termination involves more than one Dwelling Unit. The applicant must pay the termination fee to the Authority before commencing the termination work. Upon request, Authority permit counter staff will provide the applicant with the appropriate standard details for terminations.

640.2 Requirements for termination of Sewer Lateral connections to properties other than Small Residential Developments can be found in the Procedures Manual for Developers.

640.3 The applicant for a Sewer Lateral termination permit must notify the Authority three business days in advance of the termination date to permit an Authority inspector to be on site during the termination. Notice should be given to the Sewer/Service section at 412-231-0891 or 412-231-0892.

640.4 If the applicant chooses to terminate the connection using trenchless technology, then the applicant must conduct closed-circuit televised video ("CCTV") inspections of the pipe before and after the termination. Copies of the videos must be submitted to the Authority. All CCTV inspections must comply with current Authority standards.

640.5 Removal of those portions of abandoned or unused Sewer Laterals owned by the property Owner, as provided in section 605 of these Rules and Regulations, is the responsibility of the property Owner. Absent the written agreement of the Authority to the contrary, should the Authority remove an Owner's abandoned Sewer Laterals, the cost of their removal shall be a lien upon the property.