

CHAPTER 2. VILLAGE WASTEWATER SYSTEM

- 2.1 **APPLICABILITY.** The Village of Vermontville public wastewater system shall be governed by the rules, regulations and procedures set forth in this Chapter.
- 2.2 **DEFINITIONS.** Unless the context specifically indicates otherwise, the meaning of terms in this Chapter shall be as follows:
- A. "Sewage Works" shall mean all facilities for collecting, pumping, treating and disposing of sanitary sewage.
 - B. "Superintendent" shall mean the superintendent of the municipal sanitary sewer works of the Village of Vermontville, Michigan, or authorized Village of Vermontville representative.
 - C. "Inspector" shall mean any person or persons duly authorized by the Village to inspect and approve the installation of building sewers and their connection to the public sanitary sewer system.
 - D. "Sewage" shall mean a combination of water carrying wastes from residences, business buildings, institutions, all public and private structures, and industrial establishments, together with such ground, surface, and storm waters as may be present.
 - E. "Sewer" shall mean a pipe or conduit for carrying sewage.
 - F. "Public Sewer" shall mean a sewer in which all owners of abutting properties have equal rights to its usage, and is controlled by the public authority, the Village of Vermontville.
 - G. "Combined Sewer" shall mean a sewer receiving both surface run-off and sewage.
 - H. "Sanitary Sewer" shall mean a sewer which carries sewage and to which storm, surface and ground waters are not intentionally admitted.
 - I. "Storm Sewer" or "storm drain" shall mean a sewer which carries storm and surface water and drainage, but excludes sewage and polluted industrial wastes.
 - J. "Industrial Wastes" shall mean the liquid wastes from industrial processes as distinct from sanitary sewage:
 - K. "Garbage" shall mean solid wastes from the preparation, cooking, and dispensing of food, and from handling, storage, and sale of produce.
 - L. "Properly Shredded Garbage" shall mean the wastes from the preparation, cooking, and dispensing of food that have been shredded to such a degree that particles be will carried away freely under the flow conditions normally prevailing in the public sewers, with no greater particle than one-half (1/2) inch in any dimension.

- M. "Building Drain" shall mean that part of the lowest horizontal piping of a drainage system which receives discharge from soil, waste, and other drainage pipes inside the walls of the building or structure and conveys it to the building sewer, beginning five (5) feet outside the inner face of the building wall.
- N. "Building Sewer" shall mean the extension from the building drain to the public sewer or other place of disposal.
- O. "B.O.D.", Denoting "Biochemical Oxygen Demand", shall mean the quantity of oxygen utilized in the biochemical oxidation of organic matter under standard laboratory procedure in five (5) days of 20 (twenty degrees Centigrade or sixty eight degrees Fahrenheit) centigrade, expressed in parts per million by weight.
- P. "PH" shall mean the logarithm of the reciprocal of the weight of hydrogen ions in grams per liter of solution.
- Q. "Suspended Solids" shall mean solids that either float on the surface of, or are in suspensions in water, sewage, or other liquids, and which are removable by laboratory filtering.
- R. "Natural Outlet" shall mean any outlet into a watercourse, pond, ditch, lake or other body of surface or ground water.
- S. "Watercourse" shall mean a channel in which a flow of water occurs, either continuously or intermittently.
- T. "Person" shall mean any individual, firm, company, association, society, corporation, or group.
- U. "Shall" be construed as mandatory.
- V. "May" shall be construed as permissive.

2.3 USE OF PUBLIC SEWERS REQUIRED. It shall be unlawful for any person to deposit, or permit to be deposited, in an unsanitary manner upon public or private property within the Village of Vermontville, Michigan, or in any area under the jurisdiction of the village, any human or animal excrement or garbage or other objectionable waste which ordinarily would be regarded as sewage or industrial wastes.

- A. It shall be unlawful to discharge to any natural outlet within said village, or in any area under the jurisdiction of the Village of Vermontville, any sanitary sewage, industrial waste, or other polluted waters, except where suitable treatment has been provided in accordance with subsequent provisions of this Chapter.
- B. Except as hereinafter provided, it shall be unlawful to construct or maintain any privy, privy vault, septic tank, cesspool or other facilities intended or used for the disposal of sewage.
- C. The owner of all houses, buildings or properties used for human occupancy, employment, recreation, or other purposes situated within the Village and abutting any street, alley, or

right-of-way in which there is now located or may in the future be located a public sewer or combined sewer of the Village, is hereby required at his expense to install suitable toilet facilities therein, and to connect such facilities directly with the proper public sewer in accordance with the provisions of this Chapter, within thirty (30) days after date of official notice so to do; provided that said public sewer is within one hundred (100) feet of the property line.

Revised 10-7-2004/Revision B

2.4 PRIVATE SEWAGE DISPOSAL. Where a public sanitary or combined sewer is not available under the provisions of Section 2.3, C of this Chapter, the building sewer shall be connected to a private sewage disposal, complying with all requirements of the state board of public health and/or requirements of the County of Eaton.

- A. The owner shall operate and maintain the private sewage disposal facilities in a sanitary manner at all times, at no expense to the Village of Vermontville.
- B. At such time(s) as a public sewer becomes available to a property served by a sewage disposal system, as provided in Section 2.3, C of this Chapter, the building sewer shall be directly connected to the public sewer in compliance with this Chapter, and any septic tanks, cesspools, and similar private sewage disposal facilities shall be abandoned and filled with sand or a suitable material.
- C. No statement contained in this Chapter shall be construed to interfere with any additional requirements that may be imposed by the state board of health.

2.5 BUILDING SEWERS AND CONNECTIONS. No unauthorized person shall uncover, make any connection with or opening into, use, alter, or disturb any public sewer or appurtenance thereof without first obtaining a written permit from the Village. Before a permit may be issued for excavating for plumbing in any public street, way or alley, the person applying for such permit shall have executed unto the Village of Vermontville and deposited with the Village Treasurer a corporation surety bond in the sum of \$10,000.00 conditioned that he will perform faithfully all work with due care and skill, and in accordance with the laws, rules and regulations established under the authority, or any ordinance of the Village of Vermontville pertaining to plumbing. This bond shall state that the person will indemnify and save harmless the Village of Vermontville and the owner of the premises against all damages, costs, expenses, outlays and claims of every nature and kind arising out of unskillfulness or negligence on his part in connection with plumbing or excavating for plumbing as prescribed in this Chapter. Such bond shall remain in force and must be executed for a period of one year, except that on such expiration it shall remain in force as to all penalties, claims and demands that may have accrued there under prior to such expiration.

- A. Permits. There shall be two (2) classes of building sewer permits:
 - 1) Residential service.
 - 2) Industrial/commercial.

- 3) In either case, the owner or agent shall make application on a special form furnished by the Village of Vermontville. The permit application shall be supplemented by any plans, specifications, or to her information considered pertinent, in the judgment of the superintendent or inspector. A permit and inspection fee in amounts established by resolution of the Village Council for all classes of sewer building permits, shall be paid at the time the application is filed.
- B. Costs of Installation. All costs and expense incidental to the installation and connection of the building sewer shall be borne by the Owner. The owner or the person installing the building sewer for said owner shall indemnify said Village from any loss or damage that may directly or indirectly be occasioned by said installation.
- C. One Connection per Lot. A separate and independent sewer shall be provided for every building, except where one building stands at the rear of another on an interior lot and no private sewer is available or can be constructed to the rear through an adjoining alley, court, yard, or driveway, the building sewer from the front building may be extended to the rear building and the whole considered as one building sewer, except for billing purposes. Other exceptions may be allowed only by special permission of the Vermontville Village Council.
- D. Existing Sewers. Old building sewers or portions thereof, may be used in connection with new buildings, only when they are found on examination and test of the inspector to meet all requirements of this Chapter.
- E. Required Materials. Must be built to Village specifications.
- F. Sealed Joints Required. All joints and connections shall be made gas tight and water tight. Vitrified clay sewer pipes shall be fitted with factory made Resilient Compression joints meeting the current ASTM "Specifications for Vitrified Clay Pipe Joints Having Resilient Properties" (Designation C424). Asbestos cement or concrete sewer pipe joints shall be of the rubber ring, flexible compression type, similar and equal to joint specified for vitrified clay pipe. The joints and connections shall conform to the manufacturer's recommendations.
- G. Size and Slope. The size and slope of the building sewers shall be subject to the approval of the said inspector, but in no event shall the diameter be less than six inches. The slope of such six (6) inch pipe shall not be less than one-eighth (1/8) inch per foot.
- H. Basement Service. Whenever possible the building sewer shall be brought to the building at elevation below the basement floor. No building sewer shall be laid parallel to or within three (3) feet of any bearing wall, which might be thereby weakened. The depth shall be sufficient to afford protection from frost. All excavations required for the installation of a building sewer shall be open trench work unless otherwise approved by the inspector. Pipe laying and backfill shall be performed in accordance with current ASTM specifications, except that no backfill shall be placed until the work has been inspected by the inspector or his representative.

- I. Pressure Discharge. In all buildings in which any building drain is too low to permit gravity flow to the public sewer, sanitary sewage carried by such drains shall be lifted by approved artificial means and discharged to the building sewer.
- J. Connection Location. The connection of the building sewer into the public sewer shall be made at the "Y" branch designated for that property, if such branch is available at a suitable location. Any connection not made at the designated "Y" branch in the main sewer, shall be made only as directed by the said inspector.
- K. Connection Supervision. The applicant for the building sewer shall notify the said inspector when the building sewer is ready for inspection and connection to the public sewer. The connection shall be made under the supervision of the said inspector or representative.
- L. Excavation Protection. All excavations for building sewer installations shall be adequately guarded with barricades and lights so as to protect the public from hazard. Streets, sidewalks, parkways and other public property disturbed in the course of the work shall be restored in manner satisfactory to the said Village.
- M. Connection Charge. Each premise other than a single family residential unit shall pay a connection charge multiplied by a residential equivalent factor representing a ratio of sewer by such class of premise to a normal single family residential use factor.

2.6 USE OF THE PUBLIC SEWERS.

- A. Stormwater Prohibited. 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 without a permit from the Village of Vermontville.
- B. Hazardous Discharges Prohibited. No person shall discharge or cause to be discharged to any public sewer, any harmful water or waste: whether liquid, solid, or gas, capable of causing obstruction to the flow in sewers, damage or hazard to structures, equipment and personnel of the sewage works, or other interference with the proper operation of the Village of Vermontville's sewage works.
- C. Required Interceptors. Grease, oil, and sand interceptors shall be provided, when in the opinion of the inspector, they are necessary for the proper handling of liquid wastes containing grease in excessive amount or any flammable wastes, sand, and other harmful ingredients, except, that such interceptors shall not be required for private living quarters or dwelling units. Where installed, they shall be maintained by the owner, at the owner's expense, in continuously efficient operation.
- D. Pretreatment. The admission into the public sewers of any waters or waste having harmful or objectionable characteristics shall be subject to review and approval of the superintendent, who may, prescribe limits on the strength and character of these waters or waste. Where necessary, in the opinion of the superintendent, the owner shall provide at

the owner's expense, such preliminary treatment as may be necessary to treat these wastes prior to discharge to the public sewer. Plans, specifications, and any other pertinent information relating to proposed preliminary treatment facilities shall be submitted for the approval of the superintendent and of the Michigan state board of health, and no construction of such facilities shall be commenced until said approval is obtained in writing. Where preliminary treatment facilities are provided for any water or wastes, they shall be maintained continuously in satisfactory and effective operation by the owner at the owner's expense.

E. Manhole Access. When required by the Village of Vermontville, the owner of any property served by a building carrying industrial wastes shall install and maintain at their expense, a suitable control manhole in the building sewer to facilitate observation, sampling and measurement of the wastes. All measurements, test, and analyses of the characteristics of waters and wastes shall be determined in accordance with "standard methods for the examination of water and sewage", and shall be determined at the control manhole or upon suitable samples taken at said control manhole. In the event that no special manhole has been required, the control manhole shall be considered to be the nearest downstream manhole in the public sewer to the point at which the building sewer is connected.

2.7 **PROTECTION FROM DAMAGE.** No unauthorized 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 or system.

2.8 **POWERS AND AUTHORITY OF INSPECTORS.** The superintendent, inspector, and other duly authorized employees or representatives of the Village of Vermontville, bearing proper credentials and identification, shall be permitted to enter upon all properties for the purpose of inspection, observation, measurement, sampling, testing, in accordance with the provisions of this Chapter.

2.9 **CONDITIONS OF SERVICE**

A. The Village Council shall establish by resolution a privilege to connect charge which shall consist of a base fee plus the amount of actual costs of materials and labor to connect with the sewer main. The Village of Vermontville shall install that portion of the service from the main to the lot easement line. The size and shape of the building sewers shall be subject to the approval of the authorized personnel of the village, but, in no event shall the line be less than six (6) inches in diameter.

B. Applications may be cancelled and/or sewer service disconnected by the Village for any violation of any rule, regulation or condition of service, and especially for any of the following reasons:

- 1) Misrepresentation in the application as to the property or fixtures to be serviced by the sanitary sewer system.
- 2) Nonpayment of bills.

- 3) Improper or imperfect service pipe or fixtures or failure to keep the same in suitable state of repair.
- C. Billings. Bills and notices relating to the conduct of the business of the village will be mailed to the customer at the address listed on the application, unless a change of address has been filed in writing at the business office of the village, and the village shall not be otherwise responsible for delivery of any bill or notice nor will the customer be excused from nonpayment of a bill or from any performance required in said notice.
- D. Due Date. Bills are due on the thirtieth (30th) day of each month.
- E. Late Penalty. All bills not paid by the thirtieth (30th) day of the month, shall be termed delinquent, and a ten (10%) per cent penalty shall be added to the bill. If said bill is not paid within thirty (30) days after the due date, the water/sewer service to the customer will be discontinued.
- F. Deposits. Where the water or sewer service to a customer has been discontinued for nonpayment of a delinquent bill, the Village reserves the right to require a sum, to be set by resolution of the Village Council, for deposit with the Village without incurring any interest for the purpose of establishing credit with the Village. Any connection or resumption of services will not be made until all past due delinquent bills and any applicable turn on fees are paid.
- G. The Village shall make all reasonable effort to eliminate interruption of service, and when such interruption occurs, will endeavor to reestablish service with the shortest possible delay. Whenever service is interrupted for the purpose of working on the collection system or the treatment equipment, all consumers affected by such interruption will be notified in advance whenever it is possible to do so.
- H. The Village shall, in no event, be held responsible for claim made against it by reason of the breaking of any mains or service pipes, or by reason of any other interruption of service caused by breakage of machinery or stoppage for necessary repairs, and no person shall be entitled to damages nor have any portion of a payment refunded for any interruption.
- I. The premises receiving sanitary sewer service shall at reasonable hours be subject to inspection by authorized representatives of the Village of Vermontville.
- I. MAINTENANCE OF SERVICES. The owner of property into which Sewer is connected to by a service pipe will be required to install and maintain in perfect order, at his own expense, the said service pipe from the village right of way to his premises, including all fixtures therein provided for removing or carrying sewerage away. In case such service and fixtures are not so kept in repair, the Village of Vermontville may file complaint with the County Health Department for condemnation of said premises. Any expenses incurred in this process shall be paid by the property owner. Revised 4-5-08

2.10 PENALTIES

- A. Any person found to be violating any provisions of this Chapter shall be served with written notice by the Village of Vermontville, stating the nature of the violation and providing a reasonable time limit for the satisfactory correction thereof. The offender shall, with the period of time stated in such notice, correct and cease all violations.
- B. Any person who shall continue any violation beyond the reasonable time limit given, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction, be fined not less than five hundred (\$500.00) dollars and/or confined for not more than ninety days in the county jail.
- C. Any person violating any of the provisions of this Chapter shall become liable for any expenses, loss or damage incurred by the village because of such violations to the Village of Vermontville.

2.11 SEWER CHARGES. The following charges shall be established by resolution adopted by the Village Council from time to time:

- A. Readiness to serve charge.
- B. Usage charge shall be based on water meter reading.
- C. Late Penalty. There shall be a 10% penalty added to all bills not paid within thirty days.