

CHAPTER 95

SANITARY SEWER SERVICE POLICIES

95.01 Service Characteristics
95.02 Engineering Practice
95.03 Sewer Line Tap

95.04 Costs of Installation; Permit Required
95.05 Construction Materials and Methods

95.01 SERVICE CHARACTERISTICS. The Utility will accept and treat normal sanitary sewer waste per the requirements of the United States Environmental Protection Agency and/or the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. The normal sanitary sewer discharges will be treated as required by law. Large sanitary sewer users or those with special discharges requiring special or additional pretreatment shall be handled on a case-by-case basis by contract with the City and IDNR.

95.02 ENGINEERING PRACTICE. Facilities of the Utility shall be constructed, installed, maintained and operated in accordance with accepted good engineering practice in the sewer industry to assure – as far as reasonably possible – continuity of service and safety of persons and property. The Utility shall require compliance with applicable provisions of the *Iowa Plumbing Code* for service line construction as the standards of accepted good practice.

95.03 SEWER LINE TAP. The customer or plumber must make application with the City for a sewer tap prior to the installation of the sewer service. The plumbing contractor will make the sewer connection/tap. All excavation in preparation for the tap and backfill after the tap is completed shall be completed/paid for by the owner.

95.04 COSTS OF INSTALLATION; PERMIT REQUIRED. The owner of a property to be served must assume the responsibility and bear the entire cost of the sewer service line, which runs from the sewer main to the building. All sewer services shall be installed to comply with the *Iowa Plumbing Code*. The sewer service line shall be owned, maintained and repaired by the property owner. This service line includes the piping, and cleanouts. The Utility will not be responsible for the failure of any pipe or fixtures associated with the property owner's service line. All owners, at their own expense, must keep their service lines (from the point of connection with the Utility's main to their premises) in good working condition. Any failure of the service line during normal operation by a Utility employee shall be repaired and paid for by the service line owner. No person shall lay pipe in connection with or to be connected to the City sanitary sewer system without first obtaining a permit from the Public Works Director. There is no permit fee for this connection.

95.05 CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS AND METHODS.

1. Material. Service pipes from the sewer mains onward shall be a minimum Schedule 40 PVC or other approved pipe by the Utility. The pipe diameter of any service shall be a minimum of four inches. Alternative materials may be used if approved by the City.
2. Pipe Laying. The laying of pipe shall be commenced at the lowest point, with the spigot ends pointing in the direction of flow. All pipe shall be laid with ends

abutting and true to line and grade. They shall be carefully centered, so that when laid they will form a sewer with a uniform invert.

3. Minimum Pipe Slope. Pipe shall be laid accurately to the line and at a grade not less than one-eighth-inch fall per lineal foot.

4. Depth of Lines. All service pipes shall be laid at least 42 inches below the surface of the ground.

5. Abandoned Sewer Service Lines. All sewer services that become obsolete because of the laying of new or larger services must be cut and shut off at the main and reported to the Utility. When a building is to be torn down or moved, eliminating the need for a sewer service, the service must be capped on the owner's property. All expenses and work incurred in cutting and shutting the service off permanently is the responsibility of the owner.

6. Repair; Replacement. When a repair is necessary on an old service pipe and such repair shall indicate the necessity for the replacement of more than one-half of the service pipe, an entire new service shall be installed to conform with the rules and regulations for new service. If less than one-half requires replacement, the new section shall conform to rules and regulations governing new services.

7. Sanitary Sewer Connection Required. Every building intended for human habitation, occupancy or use on premises abutting on a street, alley or easement in which there is a public sewer within 500 feet shall have a connection with the public sewer, unless such sewer is otherwise unavailable for use as determined by the City. Notice shall be given to those owners requiring them to make connections as it becomes available. If the connections are not made by the property owners within the time fixed in the notice, the City Council shall proceed with assessment proceeding to cause such connections to be made and the cost thereof shall be assessed as a lien against the benefited property.

8. Private Sewage Disposal Systems. When public sewer is not available within 500 feet or otherwise unavailable for use as determined by the City, an individual sewage disposal system shall be installed. The individual sewage disposal system shall be found to be adequate and of an approved design as recommended by the Iowa State Department of Health in Appendix B, *Iowa State Plumbing Code*. A sewer permit shall be required from the City and Sioux County Engineer. If and when such system has failed or once every 10 years, whichever occurs first, the required connection to public sewer shall be reevaluated according to the criteria above.

9. Damage To Building or Public Sanitary Sewer. No person shall deposit by any means into the building sanitary sewer system any ashes, cinders, rags, inflammable, poisonous or explosive liquids, gases, oils or any other material which would or could obstruct, damage or overload the public sanitary sewer system.

10. Special Waste Disposal. Wastes detrimental to the public sewer system or detrimental to the functioning of the sewage treatment plant shall be treated and disposed of as found necessary and directly by the Superintendent of Public Works.

Editor's Note:

For definitions of terms used in this chapter and in Chapter 96, see Chapter 110.

For Customer Service Policies, see Chapter 111.

For additional General Service Policies, see Chapter 112.

For Sewer Service Rates, see Chapter 113.

CHAPTER 96

USE OF PUBLIC SEWERS

96.01 Storm Water

96.02 Surface Waters Exception

96.03 Prohibited Discharges

96.04 Restricted Discharges

96.05 Restricted Discharges – Powers

96.06 Special Facilities

96.07 Control Manholes

96.08 Testing of Wastes

96.01 STORM WATER. No person shall discharge or cause to be discharged any storm water, surface water, groundwater, roof run-off, sub-surface drainage, uncontaminated cooling water, or unpolluted industrial process waters to any sanitary sewer. Storm water and all other unpolluted drainage shall be discharged to such sewers as are specifically designated as combined sewers or storm sewers, or to a natural outlet approved by the Public Works Director. Industrial cooling water or unpolluted process waters may be discharged on approval of the Public Works Director, to a storm sewer, combined sewer, or natural outlet.

96.02 SURFACE WATERS EXCEPTION. Special permits for discharging surface waters to a public sanitary sewer may be issued by the Public Works Director where such discharge is deemed necessary or advisable for purposes of flushing, but any permit so issued shall be subject to revocation at any time when deemed to the best interests of the sewer system.

96.03 PROHIBITED DISCHARGES. No person shall discharge or cause to be discharged any of the following described waters or wastes to any public sewers:

1. Flammable or Explosive Material. Any gasoline, benzene, naphtha, fuel oil, or other flammable or explosive liquid, solid, or gas.
2. Toxic or Poisonous Materials. Any waters or wastes containing toxic or poisonous solids, liquids or gases in sufficient quantity, either singly or by interaction with other wastes, to injure or interfere with any sewage treatment process, constitute a hazard to humans or animals, create a public nuisance, or create any hazard in the receiving waters of the sewage treatment plant, including but not limited to cyanides in excess of two (2) milligrams per liter as CN in the wastes as discharged to the public sewer.
3. Corrosive Wastes. Any waters or wastes having a pH lower than 5.5 or having any other corrosive property capable of causing damage or hazard to structures, equipment, and personnel of the sewage works.
4. Solid or Viscous Substances. Solid or viscous substances in quantities or of such size capable of causing obstruction to the flow in sewers, or other interference with the proper operation of the sewage works such as, but not limited to, ashes, cinders, sand, mud, straw, shavings, metal, glass, rags, feathers, tar, plastics, wood, unground garbage, whole blood, paunch manure, hair and fleshings, entrails and paper dishes, cups, milk containers, etc., either whole or ground by garbage grinders.
5. Abnormal Wastewater Characteristics or Flow. Any wastewater (a) having an average concentration of suspended materials and five days BOD greater than 200 parts per million each, by weight, or (b) having ammonia nitrogen (NH₃-N) greater

than 30 parts per million by weight, or (c) having oil and grease in excess of 100 mg/l, or total suspended solids greater than 200 parts per million, or (d) having a flow of 50,000 gallons or more per average workday, or (e) having a flow greater than five percent of the flow to the City's wastewater treatment system, or (f) having in its waste a toxic pollutant in toxic amounts as defined in standards issued under Section 307a of the Clean Water Act and adopted by reference in 567-62.5 of the Iowa Administrative Code, or (g) having a flow of 50,000 gallons or more per average workday, or (h) having a flow greater than five percent of the flow to the City's wastewater treatment system.

96.04 RESTRICTED DISCHARGES. No person shall discharge or cause to be discharged the following described substances, materials, waters, or wastes if it appears likely in the opinion of the Public Works Director that such wastes can harm either the sewers, sewage treatment process, or equipment; have an adverse effect on the receiving stream or can otherwise endanger health, life, limb, or public property; constitute a nuisance; or be in violation of any applicable regulations or standards of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. In forming an opinion as to the acceptability of these wastes, the Public Works Director will give consideration to such factors as the quantities of subject wastes in relation to flows and velocities in the sewers, materials of construction of the sewers, nature of the sewage treatment process, capacity of the sewage treatment plant, degree of treatability of wastes in the sewage treatment plant, and other pertinent factors. The substances restricted are:

1. High Temperature. Any liquid or vapor having a temperature higher than one hundred fifty degrees (150°) F (65° C).
2. Fat, Oil, Grease. Any water or waste containing fats, wax, grease, or oils, whether emulsified or not, in excess of 100 milligrams per liter or 200 milligrams per liter of dispersed or other soluble matter.
3. Viscous Substances. Water or wastes containing substances which may solidify or become viscous at temperatures between 32° F and 150° F (0° to 65° C).
4. Garbage. Any garbage that has not been properly shredded, that is, 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-half (½) inch in any dimension.
5. Acids. Any waters or wastes containing strong acid iron pickling wastes, or concentrated plating solution whether neutralized or not.
6. Toxic or Objectionable Wastes. Any waters or wastes containing iron, chromium, copper, zinc, and similar objectionable or toxic substances; or wastes exerting an excessive chlorine requirement, to such degree that any such material received in the composite sewage at the sewage treatment works exceeds the limits established by the Public Works Director for such materials.
7. Odor or Taste. Any waters or wastes containing phenols or other taste or odor producing substances, in such concentrations exceeding limits which may be established by the Public Works Director as necessary, after treatment of the composite sewage, to meet the requirements of State, Federal, or other public agencies of jurisdiction for such discharge to the receiving waters.

8. Radioactive Wastes. Any radioactive wastes or isotopes of such half-life or concentration as may exceed limits established by the Public Works Director in compliance with applicable State or Federal regulations.
9. Excess Alkalinity. Any waters or wastes having a pH in excess of 9.5.
10. Unusual Wastes. Materials which exert or cause:
 - A. Unusual concentrations of inert suspended solids (such as, but not limited to, Fullers earth, lime slurries, and lime residues) or of dissolved solids (such as, but not limited to, sodium chloride and sodium sulfate).
 - B. Excessive discoloration (such as, but not limited to dye wastes and vegetable tanning solutions).
 - C. Unusual B.O.D., chemical oxygen demand, or chlorine requirements in such quantities as to constitute a significant load on the sewage treatment works.
 - D. Unusual volume of flow or concentration of wastes constituting "slugs" as defined herein.
11. Noxious or Malodorous Gases. Any noxious or malodorous gas or other substance which either singly or by interaction with other wastes is capable of creating a public nuisance or hazard to life or of preventing entry into sewers for their maintenance and repair.
12. Damaging Substances. Any waters, wastes, materials or substances which react with water or wastes in the sewer system to release noxious gases, develop color of undesirable intensity, form suspended solids in objectionable concentration or create any other condition deleterious to structures and treatment processes.
13. Untreatable Wastes. Waters or wastes containing substances which are not amenable to treatment or reduction by the sewage treatment processes employed, or are amenable to treatment only to such degree that the sewage treatment plant effluent cannot meet the requirements of other agencies having jurisdiction over discharge to the receiving waters.

96.05 RESTRICTED DISCHARGES – POWERS. If any waters or wastes are discharged, or are proposed to be discharged to the public sewers, which waters contain the substances or possess the characteristics enumerated in Section 96.04 and which in the judgment of the Public Works Director may have a deleterious effect upon the sewage works, processes, equipment, or receiving waters, or which otherwise create a hazard to life or health or constitute a public nuisance, the Public Works Director may:

1. Rejection. Reject the wastes by requiring disconnection from the public sewage system;
2. Pretreatment. Require pretreatment to an acceptable condition for discharge to the public sewers;
3. Controls Imposed. Require control over the quantities and rates of discharge; and/or
4. Special Charges. Require payment to cover the added cost of handling and treating the wastes not covered by existing taxes or sewer charges under the provisions of Chapter 113.

96.06 SPECIAL FACILITIES. If the Public Works Director permits the pretreatment or equalization of waste flows, the design and installation of the plants and equipment shall be subject to the review and approval of the Public Works Director and subject to the requirements of all applicable codes, ordinances, laws, and regulations. Where preliminary treatment or flow-equalizing facilities are provided for any waters or wastes, they shall be maintained continuously in satisfactory and effective operation by the owner at the owner's expense.

96.07 CONTROL MANHOLES. When required by the Public Works Director, the owner of any property serviced by a building sewer carrying industrial wastes shall install a suitable control manhole together with such necessary meters and other appurtenances in the building sewer to facilitate observation, sampling, and measurement of the wastes. Such manhole, when required, shall be accessibly and safely located, and shall be constructed in accordance with plans approved by the Public Works Director. The manhole shall be installed by the owner at the owner's expense, and shall be maintained by the owner so as to be safe and accessible at all times.

96.08 TESTING OF WASTES. All measurements, tests, and analyses of the characteristics of waters and wastes to which reference is made in this chapter shall be determined in accordance with the latest edition of *Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater*, published by the American Public Health Association, and shall be determined at the control manhole provided, 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. Sampling shall be carried out by customarily accepted methods to reflect the effect of constituents upon the sewage works and to determine the existence of hazards to life, limb, and property. (The particular analyses involved will determine whether a 24-hour composite of all outfalls of a premises is appropriate or whether a grab sample or samples should be taken. Normally, but not always, B.O.D. and suspended solids analyses are obtained from 24-hour composites of all outfalls whereas pH's are determined from periodic grab samples).

[The next page is 501]