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**ITEM 1008 - BUILDING SEWERS AND CONNECTIONS**

**Section 1008.01 Permits Required**

No unauthorized person shall uncover, make any connection (directly or indirectly) with or opening into, use, alter or disturb any public or private sanitary sewer or appurtenance thereof without first obtaining a permit from the Sanitary Engineer.

**Section 1008.02 Separate Building Sewers Required**

A separate and independent building sewer shall be provided for each single family residential building, each single family residential unit of a condominium, each unit of a duplex or triplex, etc. and each service unit of a commercial structure.

The Sanitary Engineer shall determine what units can be considered as single service units and single family residential units for sewer service to structures such as shopping centers, connected apartment buildings, some condominiums and other structures which are of such construction that they can be sold as units, for the purpose of enforcing one connection per single service unit or single family residential unit.

No connection shall serve more than one building. Structures such as shopping centers, apartment buildings, some condominiums, industrial installations and other structures of such construction that they cannot be sold as units shall have a separate and individual sewer connection per building.

No connection shall serve more than one single family residential building or more than one building, unless specific authority is given by the Sanitary Engineer. Such variance from the above stated rules shall only be considered where it is impossible to meet the above rules for specific reasons.

An individual permit shall be issued for each sewer connection.

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**Section 1008.03 Sewer Connection Materials, Size, Grade**

The building sewer shall be constructed of a size not less than and of materials meeting the standards of the Sanitary Engineer. The standard building sewer shall be 6 inch pipe with compression type premium joints. It shall be laid at a minimum grade of 1.00 percent (1 foot per 100 lineal feet) from the building to the public sewer, except that the Sanitary Engineer may authorize the grade to be as little as 0.70 percent (0.70 foot per 100 lineal feet) if he determines such to be desirable or necessary. In no case shall the basement floor be less than 36 inches above the crown of the sewer at the point of connection.

The Sanitary Engineer shall allow or disallow the use of any materials for sewer service connections or sewer lines in accordance with the design criteria and specifications of the Portage County Sanitary Engineering Department and he shall have the authority to make a change in materials authorized for use in systems under his jurisdiction at any time.

**Section 1008.04 Registered Sewer Contractor Required**

Refer to Item 1302 – Contractor Registration.

**Section 1008.05 Sewer Connection Locations**

All sanitary sewer building connections constructed under Item 901 - Sanitary Sewer, shall be located at a minimum of:

- A. Ten feet from gas lines.
- B. Five feet from lot lines.
- C. Five feet from water lines, unless water line can be benched 2 feet from sanitary lateral.
- D. Fifty feet from private well.
- E. One hundred feet from semi-public well.
- F. Three hundred feet from public well.

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Where possible, all sanitary sewer connections shall have a 4'0" minimum cover except where the sewer is under pavement when a minimum of 5'0" cover shall apply. In no case shall the sewer have less than 3'0" of ground cover or 4'0" where the installation is under pavement.

**Section 1008.06 Sewage Pumps Required**

In all buildings in which any building drain is too low to permit gravity flow to the public sewer, sanitary sewage carried by such building drains shall be lifted by an approved means, outside the building and discharged to the sanitary sewer. The sewage pump shall be installed in an external location and at an elevation suitable to protect the building from damage in the event of power or mechanical failure.

**Section 1008.07 Maintenance Of Building Sewer**

The owner of the premises served by a sewer shall be responsible for the maintenance, operation and cleaning of the building sewer from the building to the main sewer and for the repair and reconstruction of the building sewer on his property. If the owner of a defective building lateral fails to make the required repairs after 90 days of official notice to do so and the County is called upon or finds it necessary to repair or maintain such building lateral, the cost of such repairs or maintenance shall be billed directly to the homeowner.

**Section 1008.08 Responsibility Of Permit Holder**

The person, firm or corporation to whom a permit is issued will be held responsible for the proper installation of the building sewer in accordance with these Rules And Regulations, subject however, to the condition that he or it holds Portage County harmless from any loss or damage.

**Section 1008.09 Road Or Street Opening Permits**

The person, firm or corporation to whom a permit is issued shall be responsible for obtaining any required permits to open-cut any street, road or highway, from the appropriate political body or official having jurisdiction over such street, road or highway and shall comply with all conditions required by such permits.

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**Section 1008.10**

**Types Of Connection Permits**

There shall be three types of sewer connection permits: (1) For residential service; (2) For commercial service; (3) For service to establishments discharging industrial wastes. In each case, the owner or his agent shall make application on a special form to be obtained from the Sanitary Engineer. The Application For Permit shall be supplemented by any plans, specifications or other information considered pertinent in the judgment of the Sanitary Engineer.

The fee for residential permits shall be the current fee in effect at the time of application. This fee may be changed as necessary by the Board of County Commissioners. In the event a residential sewer lateral is excessively long, excessively deep, complicated or through poor soils, the amount of the permit fee may be established using the method described for commercial or industrial permits.

The fee for commercial permits and industrial permits shall be all costs of issuance, plan review, inspection and start-up of facilities in accordance with the procedures described in Sections 1300.10 and 1301.08, but not less than the fee for residential permits. Applications shall be accompanied by building plans, site plans and any other information pertinent to determine the volume and character of the waste to be discharged. The Sanitary Engineer may require the installation of any interceptors, trash traps or other pretreatment devices necessary for commercial or industrial discharges. Commercial or industrial discharges shall be subject to an annual review of compliance with the applicable discharge standards then in effect.

The Registered Sewer Contractor or the owner shall make application for each permit. Any misrepresentation in such application shall constitute sufficient grounds for revocation of the applicant's registration and any permits issued.

Permits shall be kept on the job at all times while work is in progress. A permit issued for work in connection with existing buildings shall become void if the work covered under it is not completed and approved within six (6) months of issuance. Permits issued for work in connection with new construction shall become void if the work covered under it is not completed and approved within one (1) year. Permits issued for new construction shall be reviewed annually. The permit fee shall not be refunded under any circumstances.

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A separate permit shall be issued for each sewer connection. No permit shall be issued for connection to any sanitary sewer, which has not been completed and accepted for operation by the Sanitary Engineer.

**Section 1008.11 Connection Or Tap-In Charges**

Any required connection charges or tap-in fees shall be paid in full before a sewer application is approved or a sewer permit is issued. The rates for sewer connection charges shall be determined by resolution of the Board of County Commissioners. The amount of such connection charges or tap-in fees shall not be less than the amount assessed for similar properties and shall be in addition to any permit fees or other fees required. The Board may, by resolution, provide for the payment of connection charges in installments with such security carrying charges or penalties as may be found by the Board in such resolution to be fair and appropriate (Ohio Revised Code, 6117.02).

The Sanitary Engineer may require the submittal of building plans, a statement of use an/or any other information pertinent to the calculation of connection charges. Such submittals shall contain information sufficient to determine the character, volume and the strength of waste being discharged to the sanitary sewer. In addition, such plans shall also show the proposed plan for the elimination of clean water (Section 1004.01) from the premises.

**Section 1008.12 Sewer Maintenance Charge**

Any person, firm or corporation whose premises are benefited by the sewerage system shall pay a sewer maintenance charge where such charges are deemed necessary by the Board and at such rates as are fixed by the Board. Such charges shall be certified to the County Auditor and placed on the real property duplicate against the property served by such connection. Such charges shall be a lien on said property and collected in the same manner as other taxes.

**Section 1008.13 Application For Sewer Permit**

No Application For Sewer Permit shall be approved until the Sanitary Engineer has determined that sewer service is or will be available and all required connection charges, permit fees, inspection fees and deposits have been paid in full. Payment of connection charges must be made by cash, certified or cashiers check payable to the Portage County Sanitary Engineer.

**RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE, OPERATION, USE AND PROTECTION OF SANITARY SEWER SYSTEMS AND THE WATERWORKS SYSTEMS IN THE PORTAGE COUNTY REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT AND STREETSBORO REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT NO. 4**

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Building Sewers and Connections

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A site plan of sufficient detail to determine that a proposed building sewer connection will meet the requirements herein contained is required to be submitted to and approved by the Sanitary Engineer prior to approval of an Application For Sewer Permit. This site plan shall show the method by which all clean water, including but not limited to, storm water, surface water, groundwater, roof runoff, subsurface drainage (including footer drains), cooling water or unpolluted industrial process water shall be permanently plumbed and drained by gravity where possible, to an approved suitable discharge point. This site plan shall also show all necessary plumbing and building locations and elevations. When deemed necessary, the Sanitary Engineer may require a site elevation plan prepared by a Registered Professional Engineer or Surveyor who agrees to supervise the construction to the extent necessary to assure the construction will be acceptable on completion. The following site criteria shall be considered the minimum acceptable requirements for approval.

- A. If positive gravity drainage is provided for all sources of clean water, full gravity sewer service to the lowest occupied area (basement) of the building will be permitted, where possible. The lowest occupied area may not be less than 1 foot above the high water elevation of either the sanitary sewer and storm sewer drainage systems.
- B. If positive gravity drainage is not provided for all sources of clean water, gravity sewer service shall not be provided lower than 1 foot above the lowest occupied area of the building. No connection will be permitted to the sanitary sewer below this level including gray water sump pump connection. The lowest occupied area of the building may not be less than 1 foot above the high water elevation of the storm sewer drainage system. No connection may be made lower than 1 foot above the high water elevation of the sanitary sewer system.
- C. In lieu of a site plan for an existing building, the Sanitary Engineer or his agent, may inspect the property in consultation with the owner and/or his contractor. The site criteria herein contained shall be considered as the basis of review, however, the Sanitary Engineer may authorize the connection if the purpose and intent of these regulations may be met by such other means as he may find acceptable. The Sanitary Engineer may require the installation of such meters as he may find necessary and access to such meter shall be provided to the Sanitary Engineering Department on regular basis.

**RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE, OPERATION, USE AND PROTECTION OF SANITARY SEWER SYSTEMS AND THE WATERWORKS SYSTEMS IN THE PORTAGE COUNTY REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT AND STREETSBORO REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT NO. 4**

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A homeowner installing his own building sewer service lateral or a Registered Sewer Contractor installing a building sewer lateral where extra inspections are anticipated by the Sanitary Engineer, shall deposit with the Sanitary Engineering Department a sum determined by the Sanitary Engineer to be sufficient to guarantee payment of any extra inspection costs to be incurred during the installation.

No Application For Permit or Permit shall be issued to any Sewer Contractor which has an outstanding balance of extra inspection charges until such charges have been paid in full.

On approval of an Application For Sewer Permit, a copy of such application shall be delivered to the Portage County Building And Plumbing Inspectors or the Building and Plumbing Inspectors of the appropriate agency as proof that sewer service can be provided.

Upon completion and approval of the rough plumbing system, a copy of the Plumbing Inspector's approved inspection report shall be delivered to the Sanitary Engineer. The Sanitary Engineer or his agent shall then, upon proper request of the Owner, inspect the building and site for conformance to these Regulations including the clean water drainage requirements. Upon approval of the required plumbing, site and building improvements and upon proper scheduling of the work and inspection(s), the Sewer Permit may be issued.

**Section 1008.14 Inspection Required**

All work performed shall be inspected by an authorized Inspector representing the Sanitary Engineer.

No connection shall be covered until the work has been inspected and approved in writing. Any work covered previous to the inspection shall be uncovered by the Sewer Contractor and an opportunity must be given to inspect the inside as well as the outside of the sewer pipe. The actual connection to the public sewer and the connection at the house shall be done only in the presence of the Sanitary Engineer or his authorized representative.

Building sewer connections shall be installed in strict accordance with the Specifications of the Portage County Water Resources Department governing such work.

**RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE, OPERATION, USE AND PROTECTION OF SANITARY SEWER SYSTEMS AND THE WATERWORKS SYSTEMS IN THE PORTAGE COUNTY REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT AND STREETSBORO REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT NO. 4**

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The Sanitary Engineer shall have the right to inspect all work at all times and all building sewer connections installed shall conform to the design criteria and Specifications of the Portage County Water Resources Department.

The Sanitary Engineer or his authorized representative shall have free access to all buildings to inspect fixtures therein connected with the building sewer. He shall investigate the storm water system of the building to determine that no clean water such as footing drains, downspouts or storm sewers are connected to the sanitary sewer system. The Sewer Contractor or property owner shall assist the Inspector for this investigation. The presence of clean water shall be reason for rejecting the entire building sewer connection.

The Sanitary Engineer may act through properly authorized representatives in any duty prescribed by these Rules And Regulations.

**Section 1008.15 Scheduling And Hours Of Inspection**

No Inspector's services will be available unless proper scheduling or arrangements have been made with the office of the Sanitary Engineer at least 24 hours prior to the time of inspection requirements.

The regular hours of the Inspectors employed by the Sanitary Engineer are established under Section 1301.04.

**Section 1008.16 Homeowners Limited Registration**

A homeowner personally installing his own building sewer service lateral shall apply for a Homeowners Limited Registration on a form prescribed by the Sanitary Engineer describing in detail the materials to be used, method of installation and all other pertinent information required by the Sanitary Engineer to ensure that the installation will be acceptable when completed. The actual connection to the public sewer shall be made only in the presence of the Sanitary Engineer and only after the sanitary sewer lateral, constructed by the homeowner, has been approved by the Sanitary Engineer.

**Section 1008.17 Obligation To Provide Inspectors**

The Sanitary Engineer shall be under no obligation to approve requests for inspections on Saturdays, Sundays or Holidays or for overtime hours or to provide Inspectors at times not scheduled.



**Section 1008.18      Testing Connection**

After the sanitary sewer main has been determined to be operable, the building sewer shall be connected to the public sewer and extended into the building. At the time of inspection, the Sanitary Engineer may require the pipe and any fittings to be tested to determine if the connection is leaking. Any leaks which appear shall be cause for rejection of the work.

If the clean water inspection (Section 1008.14) cannot be made, the Sanitary Engineer may require testing to determine the presence of illegal clean water connections to the building sewer. If clean water connections are determined to be present, either inside or outside the building, the sewer connection permit shall become void and connection to the sanitary sewer shall be prohibited.

Building sewers shall be tested in accordance with procedures described in Item 901 of the Standard Specifications.

**Section 1008.19      Connection May Be Denied**

In addition to the other provisions of these Rules And Regulations, connections to the sanitary sewer may be denied if the proposed connection would be made in a manner whereby the premises may be subjected to flooding in the event of mechanical or power failure at a pumping station or if the connection would be below other known high water elevations of the sewer systems. Connections to the sewer may also be denied if the proposed connection would be below the flood elevation of the storm drainage system or if the property is subject to localized storm water flooding thus subjecting the premises and the sanitary sewer system to storm water flooding.

- END OF ITEM -