

Sample Sewer Ordinance

AN AMENDMENT TO THE ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR FINANCING THE CONSTRUCTION, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF A SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEM AND THE FACILITIES CONNECTED THEREWITH AND DETERMINING THE BASES THEREFORE IN THE MANNER OF COLLECTING THE SAME AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR THE VIOLATION THEREOF

The City does ordain as follows: Section 2, Subsection C is hereby amended to read as follows:

C. In adopting this ordinance, the City Council finds that the discharge of water from any roof, surface ground, sump pump, footing tile or swimming pool or other natural precipitation into the City sewerage system will and has on numerous occasions in the past, flooded and overloaded the sewerage system to such an extent as to cause significant and grave damage to the property of large numbers of city residents. Such damage is caused by the backup of sewage into the living quarters of residents and in addition to other damage *creates* a hazard to health. The City Council therefore, finds it essential to the maintenance of health and to minimize damage to property that the provisions of this ordinance be strictly enforced to avoid emergencies in the future.

No water from any roof, surface, ground, sump pump, footing tile, swimming pool or other natural precipitation shall be discharged into the sanitary sewerage system. Dwellings and other buildings and structures which require, because of the infiltration of water into basements, crawl spaces and the like, a sump pump system to discharge excess water, shall have a permanently installed discharge line which shall not at any time discharge water into the sanitary sewerage system, except as provided herein. A permanent installation shall be one which provides for year-around discharge capability to either the outside of the dwelling, building or structure, or is connected to the City storm sewer or discharges through the curb and gutter to the street. It shall consist of a rigid discharge line, without valving or quick connections for altering the path of discharge, and if connected to the City storm sewer line include a check valve.

Before June 1, _____, any person, firm or corporation having a roof, surface, ground, sump pump, footing tile or swimming pool now connected and/or discharging into the sanitary sewer system shall disconnect and/or remove same. Any disconnects or openings in the sanitary sewer shall be closed or repaired in an effective, workmanlike manner, as approved by the City Water and Wastewater Superintendent.

Every person owning improved real estate that discharges into the City's sanitary sewer system shall allow an employee of the City or their designated representative to inspect the buildings to confirm that there is no sump pump or other prohibited discharge into the sanitary sewer system. In lieu of having the City inspect their property, any person may furnish a certificate from a city plumber certifying that their property is in compliance with this Ordinance. Any person refusing to allow their property to be inspected or refusing to furnish a plumber's certificate within (14) days of the date City employee(s) or their designated representatives are denied admittance to the property, shall immediately become subject to the surcharge hereinafter provided for. Any property found to violate the Ordinance shall make the necessary changes to comply with the Ordinance and furnish proof of the changes to the City by June 1, _____.

At any future time, if the City has reason to suspect that an illegal connection may exist in a premises, the owner, by written notice shall comply with the provisions of this subdivision.

The council shall have the power and duty of hearing and deciding requests for waivers from the applicability of the provisions of this ordinance where strict enforcement would cause undue hardship because of circumstances unique to the individual property under consideration or cause a safety problem.

Application for waivers pursuant to this Subdivision shall be addressed in writing to the City Clerk. The applications shall at a minimum identify the property for which the waiver is being applied for, the name of the property owner/applicant, and describe in detail what characteristics of the subject property create an undue hardship. Within a reasonable time the City Council shall make its order deciding on the matter and serve a copy of such order upon the applicant by mail. Upon approval of an application for a waiver, a property owner shall be allowed to temporarily pump directly into the sanitary sewer system between the dates December 1st and April 1st, and provided the applicant agrees to pay an additional fee of \$25.00 per year for the additional sewer service,

payable April 1 of the year. The holder of a waiver shall employ a licensed plumber to certify prior to April 15 of each subsequent year that their discharge water connection has been removed from the sanitary sewer. Failure to provide such certification will place the waiver holder in violation of this ordinance.

A surcharge of One Hundred (\$100.00) Dollars per month is hereby imposed and added to every sewer billing mailed on and after July 1, _____, to property owners who are not in compliance with this Ordinance. The surcharge shall be added every month until the property is in compliance.

No sanitary or sewerage industrial wastes shall contain any substance which is deemed deleterious substance therein, he shall be required to discontinue the discharge of such substance into the sewage system. If, after ten days written notice, such user continues to discharge such deleterious substance in the sewage system, he shall be subject upon conviction to a fine of not less than \$5.00 nor more than \$50.00. Each day of which such violation continues to exist, after notice to discontinue, such discharge as been given shall be deemed a separate violation.

This Amendment shall take effect from and after it's adoption and publication according to law.

Passed by the City Council at the City of _____, Minnesota, on _____.