

## Sample Sewer Ordinance

### An Ordinance Prescribing Charges for the Connection and Use of the Municipal Sewer System.

The City Council of the City ordains: Ordinance No. \_\_\_\_\_, Section XII, NO \_\_\_\_\_. is amended as follows:

7. roof water, ground water, surface water or any other natural precipitation from any source including but not limited to: sump pumps, foundation drains, roof leaders, area drains or cistern overflows. 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 sewer system, except as provided herein. A permanent installation shall be one which provides for year-round 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 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.

a. Before \_\_\_\_\_, any person, firm or corporation having a roof, surface, ground, sump pump, foundation drain, area drain, cistern overflow, 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 system shall be closed or repaired in an effective, workmanlike manner, as approved by the City.

b. 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. Any person refusing to allow their property to be inspected within fourteen (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 this portion of the Ordinance shall make the necessary changes to comply with the Ordinance and furnish proof of the changes to the City by \_\_\_\_\_.

c. 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 ordinance. Should a property certified in compliance with this ordinance, be found to have reconnected a roof drain, sump pump or any other form of natural precipitation to the sanitary sewer system, the property owner will be subject to the surcharge for all months between the last two inspections.

d. The City 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.

e. Application for waivers pursuant to this subdivision shall be addressed in writing to the City. 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 undue hardship. Within a reasonable time the City 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 of October 15th and April 1st, provided the applicant agrees to pay an additional fee of \$25.00 per year for the additional sewer service, payable April 1st of each year. Employees of the City will divert the discharge and seal the connection of the discharge to the sanitary sewer using a meter seal for this waiver period.

f. A surcharge of one hundred (\$100.00) per month is hereby imposed and added to every sewer billing mailed on and after \_\_\_\_\_, to each property owner not in compliance with this ordinance. The surcharge shall be added every month until the property is in compliance with this Ordinance. The imposition of the surcharge shall not limit the City's authority to prosecute the criminal violations, seek an injunction in district court ordering the person to disconnect the noncomforming connection to the sanitary sewer, or for the City to correct the violation and certify the costs of connection as an assessment against the property on which the connection is made.