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Public Health
Seattle & King County

Significant Code Provisions

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In an effort to clarify the application of certain code provisions and permit/inspection processes, the following items may prove helpful to designers and installers. Please see our website at www.kingcounty.gov/plumbing for additional information. Please note that this information is based on the 2015 Uniform Plumbing Code and the 2015 International Fuel Gas Code. These codes as adopted and amended by the City of Seattle can be viewed at www.seattle.gov/dpd/codesrules/codes/plumbing.

Subject	Code Provision
PLUMBING / GAS **Approved plans available at time of inspection**	The stamped/approved plans from the building department must be available on the job site at the time of all inspections. Additionally, any plans that have been submitted for review to Public Health (food service establishments, water reuse, medical gas, etc.) must also be available during inspection.
PLUMBING **Sink drainage sizing**	Bar sinks for public use, laundry sinks, commercial sinks, and special purpose sinks now required a minimum 2-inch drain as does a kitchen sink.
PLUMBING **Hot water piping insulation**	The 2012 Washington State Energy Code requires ***ALL*** hot water piping in residential construction to be insulated to a minimum R-3, regardless of whether the piping is located within or outside of the heated space. This applies to detached one- and two-family dwellings, townhouses, and Group R-2, R-3 and R-4 buildings 3 stories or less in height above grade plane. See Section R403 for hot water piping provisions for the types of buildings described above. See Section C404 for insulation requirements pertaining to other types of structures.
PLUMBING **Water heater relief valve discharge**	Water heater relief valve drain lines shall discharge to an approved receptor, such as a floor drain, floor sink, mop sink, hub drain, etc., or to the exterior of a building. Where discharging to a receptor, the discharge shall be designed to prevent splashing. This is especially important where the discharge is into a sink or washing machine box. Discharge to a sink tailpiece is prohibited. Where the receptor is subject to infrequent use, the trap seal shall be protected in accordance with Section 1007. Condensate drainage or the installation of a hose spigot nearby does not meet the requirements of Section 1007.
PLUMBING **DWV riser diagrams required for buildings exceeding 3-stories**	Riser diagrams of the drain, waste and vent (DWV) system are required for buildings in excess of 3-stories. There is no fee for this review at this time. The diagrams may be submitted at any time after plumbing permit issuance, but prior to inspection. This will allow opportunity to verify proper venting and suds relief provisions for high-rise installations.
PLUMBING **2-inch roof and deck drains**	2-inch roof drains and horizontal piping is acceptable for roofs, decks and balconies, provided that each drain shall receive the discharge of not more than 1,050 square feet of area. Overflow and scupper requirements still apply. Combining of the primary and secondary drains is prohibited for 2-inch drains.

PLUMBING **Food service establishments**	(1) Construction plans for food service establishments are reviewed by the food service section of Public Health. This review includes a review by the plumbing inspection section. Always refer to the approved plans and associated plan review documents prior to installation. (2) In food service establishments where grease may be introduced into the sewer, grease interception shall be required. (3) Fixtures that are used for food preparation or storage, or for storage of unpackaged ice used for human consumption, are required to be indirectly connected to the drainage system. All other fixtures shall be directly connected unless first approved by the plumbing inspection section.
PLUMBING **Rainwater harvesting systems** See *"Water Reuse Permit and Review Memo"* on our website.	Chapter 17 of the 2012 *Uniform Plumbing Code* addresses rainwater harvesting systems for nonpotable uses. Plans are required for review by Public Health prior to permit issuance. The plan review fee is currently $201, and the plumbing permit fee is required at the time of issuance based on the number of fixtures served by the system.
PLUMBING **When dual pumps or ejectors are required**	***SANITARY:*** Section 710.9 requires dual sewage ejectors for "public use" occupancies. A strict application of this requirement would mandate this for a single toilet and lavatory in a commercial tenant space. Therefore, as a general rule dual pumps and ejectors for sanitary drainage shall be required for buildings or occupancies identified as Risk Category III or IV in accordance with the 2012 International Building Code, Section 1604.5 and Table 1604.5. ***ROOF DRAINAGE:*** Section 1101.13 requires dual pumps where serving "public use" occupancy buildings. For this application, detached one- and two-family dwellings or townhouses as defined in the 2012 International Residential Code shall not be considered "public use" occupancy buildings. However, in all occupancies where the roof drainage discharges to a pump, secondary roof drainage shall be provided by means of a separate piping system in accordance with Section 1101.11.2.2(A). Combining of the primary and secondary roof drains are prohibited where the roof drain(s) discharge to a pump.
GAS **Protection of piping from corrosion**	The circuit venting provisions of Appendix C, Section C8.0 of the 2012 Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC) are acceptable for installation. Circuit venting is also found in the 2015 UPC which is set for implementation in Washington State on July 1, 2016. While plans are no longer required prior to installation of a circuit vent system, we highly encourage a plan review.
GAS **Underground penetrations into a structure prohibited**	Section 404.6 prohibits gas piping from penetrating the building foundation below grade. Rather, the piping must enter and exit a building at a point above grade.
GAS **Medical gas systems** See *"Medical Gas Permit and Review Memo"* and *"Medical Gas Piping Installer Test Form"* on our website.	(1) Level 1 and Level 2 medical gas systems require plans to be submitted for review prior to permit issuance. Level 3 systems do not require plan review. (2) Medical gas systems in veterinary clinics do require a medical gas permit as a Level 3. While *NFPA 99C* does not identify veterinary clinics as a *health care facility*, Section 3006.1 of the *International Fire Code* as adopted and amended by the State of Washington mandates that compressed gas systems for veterinary uses comply with Chapter 13 of the *Uniform Plumbing Code* (which includes *NFPA 99C*).