

BUILDING SEWER INSTALLATION

The information provided herein is intended to assist the contractor or homeowner in the installation of a side sewer and/or building sewer. Any work to be performed in existing public right-of-way must be performed by a County approved side sewer contractor in accordance with Section 13.04.060(m) of the Pierce County Sanitary Sewer Administrative Code. Work on private residential (single-family residences or duplexes) property may be performed by the owner of said property provided that all materials and methods are in accordance with the Administrative Code and the work does not include a grinder pump system or tapping an existing sewer main. For further clarification, contact the Pierce County Wastewater Utility inspectors at 253-798-4050.

Side Sewer Definition - That portion of sewer line extended from the sewer main to the property right-of-way line or easement (minimum of 10-foot horizontal separation between property line & side sewer).

Building Sewer Definition - That portion of sewer line constructed between the property right-of-way line or easement and the building outlet.

Sewer Tap - A sewer tap permit fee (\$110 deposit) and a completed Time and Materials Account Information Form are required prior to any work in the right-of-way and must be performed by a County approved side sewer contractor.

Side Sewer Locations - All available side sewer location information may be obtained from the Pierce County Development Center. (Phone: 253-798-2737.) You must provide a current parcel number or valid site address.

Class of Pipe - PVC ASTM D-3034, D-2241, or ductile iron class 52, HDPE DR17 (for pre-approved pipe bursting projects only).

Cleanouts - Located within two (2) feet of the structure, at all bends totaling 90° and must be installed at 100 foot intervals or as directed by the Inspector. Combination (double sweeping) tees are required for cleanouts. HS-20 loading design is required in driving areas. Cleanouts in driving areas must be brought to the surface with cleanout ring & cover designed for HS-20 loading.

Tees - A double sweep tee shall be located at the property or easement line and brought to within one (1) foot of finished grade.

Couplers - Rigid (e.g., Romac) couplers must be used at all transitions in pipe size or pipe material and side sewer repairs. Flexible couplers (e.g., Fernco) will not be allowed, except at the transition from the house plumbing to the building sewer.

Pipe Size - In no event shall the inside diameter be less than four (4) inches for a single family residence nor less than six (6) inches diameter for multi-family dwellings, commercial buildings, duplexes, or two single-family dwellings (if approved in writing).

Slope - Building sewers shall be on a 2% grade or greater.

Elevations - The minimum cover over the pipe shall be 36 inches in a non-driving surface. In driving areas, minimum cover over the pipe shall be 5 feet for PVC pipe and 3 feet for ductile iron pipe (or concrete encased PVC when approved by the Inspector).

Alignment - The building sewer shall be laid at uniform grade and in straight alignment. Changes in direction will only be made with proper pipe fittings. 90-degree fittings are not allowed.

Bedding Material - Pea gravel must be placed 4 inches below the invert to 6 inches above the top of pipe. No other bedding material is acceptable.

Trench Backfill - Native material can be used provided it is free of organic material and contains no rock larger than 6 inches in diameter on private property. Trench backfill in the County or City right-of-way must conform to the most current adopted County or City standards, respectively.

Trench Dams - The Contractor shall install trench dams wherever shown on the approved plans, and wherever the trench crosses wetlands, drainage ditches, percolation trenches, storm water detention ponds, etc., or as directed by the Inspector.

Sewer and Water Crossings - There must be a minimum of 3 feet vertical separation between water and sewer lines, otherwise, alternate piping and/or concrete encasement will be required if less than 3 feet but no closer than 1.5 feet. There must be a minimum 10-foot horizontal separation between sewer and water pipes. Sewer warning tape must be installed at all crossings with less than 3 feet of separation. Separation is to be measured from the outer walls of the pipes.

Sewer and Other Utility Crossings - There must be a minimum of 1.5 feet vertical separation between sewer and other utility lines, otherwise, alternate piping and/or concrete encasement will be required if less than 1.5 feet but no closer than 9 inches. Sewer warning tape must be installed at all crossings with less than 1.5 feet of separation. Separation is to be measured from the outer walls of the pipes.

Testing - Air or water exfiltration tests are required on all building sewer lines including dry lines (if previously approved).

Inspections - The Wastewater Utility Division requires a minimum of 24-hour advance notice for site inspections. If the work is not completed and/or acceptable at the scheduled inspection time, a \$100 Re-inspection Fee must be paid at the Pierce County Annex Development Center prior to any additional inspections.

Installation Guidelines - Typical diagrams are on the reverse side of this sheet. If you have any questions, call the Pierce County Public Works and Utilities, Wastewater Utility Division for clarification at 253-798-4050.