

CHAPTER XXII

PLUMBING

- Section 101. Appointment of Plumbing Inspector
- Section 102. Duties of Plumbing Inspector
- Section 103. Administrative Authority
- Section 104. Appeals From Decision of Plumbing Inspector
- Section 105. Access to Structures
- Section 106. Qualifications To Perform Work
- Section 107. Issuance Of Plumbers License
- Section 108. Certificate of Insurance
- Section 109. Condensate Lines
- Section 110. Building Sewer Lines
- Section 111. Penalties For Violation
- Section 112. Severability

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Section 101. Appointment of Plumbing Inspector. The provisions of the Amity Township Plumbing Code shall be administered and enforced by a Plumbing Inspector, who shall be appointed by the Board of Supervisors of the Township of Amity to serve at the pleasure of the Board. The compensation of the Plumbing Inspector shall be fixed by the Board of Supervisors from time to time. The Plumbing Inspector shall be either a licensed master plumber, or he shall be a person acquainted with all phases of the plumbing business and shall have had such practical experience as to satisfy the Board of Supervisors of his capabilities. The Board of Supervisors may also appoint one or more Assistant Plumbing Inspectors to serve at the pleasure of the Board; and they shall receive such compensation as may be fixed by the Board of Supervisors from time to time. (Ordinance 70, November 5, 1976, Section 2)

Section 102. Duties of Plumbing Inspector. The duties of the Plumbing Inspector and of the Assistant Plumbing Inspectors shall include without being limited to the following:

(a) To approve or reject promptly all plans presented; to issue such permits as may be required in proper cases; to collect such fees as may be provided for and to issue receipts for the same; to make such inspections and supervise such tests as may be required to insure that all provisions of this Chapter and of the Amity Township Plumbing Code have been faithfully complied with; to order the removal and correction of any work or materials not in compliance with the provisions of this Chapter and of the Amity Township Plumbing Code;

(b) To prevent any violations of this Chapter and of the Amity Township Plumbing Code and of any and all Federal, State and Township laws and regulations applicable to inhabitants of the Township of Amity for the protection of the public health;

(c) To retain and file records of all plans, inspections, tests, fees and permits, as well as of all complaints and other communications and replies to the same, so as to be readily available for inspection;

(d) To issue written orders to the owners or occupiers of properties when an investigation discloses any condition that may be unsanitary or in violation of the provisions of this Chapter or of the Amity Township Plumbing Code, and to take such action as may be necessary and sufficient to correct and completely abate and remove such condition.

Such notice shall be issued in writing, in duplicate, and a copy of the same shall be sent to or served upon the owner or occupier of the property, which notice shall state the nature of the correction to be made and the time permitted for the making of such correction. The failure of any person to comply with any such notice in strict accordance with its terms shall be a violation of this Chapter and punishable as such.

(Ordinance 70, November 5, 1976, Section 3)

Section 103. Administrative Authority. The term "administrative authority" as used in the Amity Township Plumbing Code shall be construed to mean the Plumbing Inspector and/or Assistant Plumbing Inspectors of the Township of Amity, except that said term as used in Sections P-301.1 through P-301.3.3 both inclusive of Article 3 of the BOCA Code, 1975 Edition (Amity Township Plumbing Code), as amended, and as used in Sections 104 and 106 of this Chapter shall be

construed to mean a group of three (3) or five (5) persons and shall consist of one (1) Supervisor of the Township of Amity, the Township Engineer, the Township Plumbing Inspector, and in addition may have one (1) Master Plumber and one (1) Journeyman Plumber appointed by the Board of Supervisors from time to time to serve on such authority at the pleasure of the Board of Supervisors. All decisions of the authority shall be in writing, and if not in writing shall be void and of no effect. (Ordinance 70, November 5, 1976, Section 4)

Section 104. Appeals From Decisions of Plumbing Inspector. Any and all exceptions to, or appeals from, a decision or ruling of the Plumbing Inspector of the Township of Amity shall be filed in writing, in duplicate, with the administrative authority. The exceptant or appellant shall be entitled to a hearing before the administrative authority within ten (10) days of filing the same. Promptly after such hearing the administrative authority shall render a written decision and shall mail a copy thereof to the exceptant or appellant. (Ordinance 70, November 5, 1976, Section 5)

Section 105. Access to Structures. The Plumbing Inspector and/or Assistant Plumbing Inspectors shall, upon identifying themselves, be given access to any structure or area for the purpose of making inspections and of enforcing the provisions of this Chapter and of the Amity Township Plumbing Code. Entry to any structure or area shall be made only during normal weekday business hours and/or with the permission of the property owner concerned. It shall be a violation of this Chapter and of the Amity Township Plumbing Code to deny entry for inspection purposes if proper identification and explanatory notification is given the property owner. (Ordinance 70, November 5, 1976, Section 9)

Section 106. Qualifications to Perform Work.

(a) No person, other than one holding a certificate of license as a Master Plumber issued as hereinafter provided, or firm or corporation having at least one such person in responsible charge of work, shall be allowed to carry on or engage in the business of plumbing or house drainage within the Township of Amity.

(b) Journeyman Plumbers and Apprentice Plumbers shall not be permitted to alter, repair or make any connections with any drain, soil pipe, vent pipe or fixture unless accompanied by and working under the observation and supervision of a Registered Master Plumber.

(c) Apprentice plumbers shall not be permitted to perform any plumbing or drainage work with tools unless accompanied by and working under the observation and supervision of a licensed Master Plumber or a licensed Journeyman Plumber.

(d) A permit to perform plumbing work inside a single-family dwelling may, upon application and review, be issued to the owner of the dwelling for work to be performed by said owner or an immediate family member. However, in the case of a house drainage connection to a public sanitary sewer or lateral thereof, a licensed Master Plumber shall be required to install the trap, vent and clean out the rest of the sewer line connecting such dwelling to the public sanitary sewer.

(Ordinance 70, November 5, 1976, Section b; as amended by Ordinance 126, April 15, 1991, Section 4)

Section 107. Issuance of Plumbers Licenses.

(a) Any person desiring to obtain a certificate of license as a Master Plumber or as a Journeyman Plumber from the Township of Amity shall appear before the administrative authority and pay the fee for such

license as set forth in this Section or as determined from time to time by the Board of Supervisors of the Township.

(b) The administrative authority shall issue the appropriate license when the applicant upon inquiry and examination appears qualified for the same.

(c) The issuance of a certificate of license as a Master Plumber to any one member of a firm or corporation shall be sufficient to permit such firm or corporation to perform plumbing work within the Township of Amity so long as the holder retains such certificate of license and remains in responsible charge of all work performed.

(d) The fee for a Master Plumber registration shall be Twenty Dollars (\$20.00), which registration shall be renewed on or before the annual anniversary date of the original for an annual fee of Ten Dollars (\$10.00).

(e) All plumbing work within the Township of Amity shall be performed under the general direction of a person holding a certificate of license as a Master Plumber. Whenever any pipe laying or jointing is in progress, at least one person holding a certificate of license either as a Master Plumber or as a Journeyman Plumber shall be present at all times.

(f) Certificates of license shall be issued for a period not in excess of one (1) year.

(g) Responsible persons who may feel qualified to properly install house sewers under the terms of this Chapter but are not Master Plumbers may apply, in writing, for permission to do so to the "Administrative Authority" stating their qualifications and/or experience in the performance of the various steps required in the installation of house sewers. Contractors must provide insurance amounts stated in Subsection (d) of this Section. Homeowners who are granted a license to install their house sewers must employ an individual designated by the plumbing inspector to install that portion from the final trap to the public sanitary sewer.

(Ordinance 70, November 5, 1976, Section 7; as amended by Ordinance 126, April 15, 1991, Section 5)

Section 108. Certificate of Insurance. Prior to issuance of a Master Plumbers Registration, a Certificate of Insurance with Amity Township being shown as the certificate holder must be presented and the following minimum amounts and coverage must be listed:

(a) Personal Injury. Not less than One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) per person and Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000.00) per occurrence.

(b) Claim for Property Damage. Not less than Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) for a single claim and One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) for multiple claims arising out of the same occurrence.

(Ordinance 126, April 15, 1991, Section 3)

Section 109. Condensate Lines. Condensate lines or lines collecting condensate shall not be connected to or drain into a sanitary sewer line, or any line, pipe, conduit or plumbing that is connected into the municipal sewer system. (Ordinance 126, April 14, 1991, Section 6)

Section 110. Building Sewer Lines. Building sewer lines that are completely covered by either concrete or earth shall not be less than four inches (4") in diameter. Sewer lines that connect into the municipal sewer system shall be trapped with not less than one double vented running trap and shall be placed not less than ten feet (10') back from the right-of-way. (Ordinance 126, April 15, 1991, Section 7)

Section 111. Penalties For Violation. Any person violating any of the provisions of this Chapter shall, upon conviction thereof in a summary proceeding, be subject to pay a penalty not in excess of Six Hundred Dollars (\$600.00) for each such violation, and in default of the payment of such penalty and costs, shall be subject to imprisonment in the Berks County Jail for a period not exceeding thirty (30) days. Each day during which a person continues to be in violation of any of the provisions of this Chapter shall constitute a separate offense and be punishable as such. The Certificate of License issued to any Master Plumber or Journeyman Plumber under the provisions of this Chapter may be revoked for a violation of this Chapter and no new Certificate of License granted for a period of up to two (2) years for each offense. (Ordinance 70, November 5, 1976, Section 11)

Section 112. Severability. If any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this Chapter is for any reason held to be invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portion of this Chapter. The Board of Supervisors hereby declare that it would have adopted this Chapter and each section, sentence, clause or phrase thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, sentences, clauses or phrases be declared invalid. (Ordinance 70, November 5, 1976, Section 12)