



MEMORANDUM

TO: BATH SEWER CONTRACTORS
FROM: LEE LEINER, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR
SUBJECT: UPDATE TO ORDINANCE CHAPTER 14 – SEWERS
DATE: DECEMBER 15, 2021

As a contractor who has or may potentially perform work on private sewer service lines in the City of Bath, please accept this memo and enclosed information as formal notification of recent changes to Bath City Ordinance – Chapter 14 – Sewers. The changes to the ordinance will impact your ability to perform this work in Bath, and how the work is accomplished on behalf of your clients. **These changes will take effect January 1, 2022.**

You are encouraged to read the full updated chapter, copy enclosed, as there are many significant changes. I direct your attention especially to these sections:

- Sec. 14-01 Definitions: Add definitions for Backflow Preventer, Break (or Broken) pipe, FOG (Fats, oils, and grease), Plumbing Code, Private Force Main, Sewer Inspector, Sewer Permit, Street Line, and Street Opening Permit.
- Sec. 14-03 Damaging property prohibited: New paragraph requiring excavators to contact Public Works when a sewer is found and prior to performing any repairs.
- Sec. 14-07 Penalty: Increases the fine for not following the provisions of Chapter 14 from \$100 to \$500.
- Section 14-28 Disposal of septic tank wastes at City facility: changes the hours and days during which septic wastes will be accepted at the treatment plant; and that the septic hauler will be responsible for paying fees associated with hauling and disposal of septic waste from other municipalities.
- Section 14-29 Licensed persons to work on sewer; permit required: Clarification of provisions to license contractors performing sewer repairs in Bath, including payment of permit fees, and criteria for granting such permits.
- Sec. 14-31 Separate sewers required; exception: Clarification of provisions for changes within existing buildings and details on sewer services crossing adjacent parcels.
- Sec. 14-32 Responsibility for maintenance: Clarification on the division of responsibility between private sewer service owners and the City for problems with sewer service lines.
- Sec. 14-33 Permits; classifications; application; fee: Changes the hours during which the Public Works Dept. will accept permit applications and changes the permit fee from a set \$100 to the amount shown in the sewer rates chart at the end of the chapter.

- Sec. 14-34 Permit issuance; revocation; renewal: Add paragraph E establishing a deposit fee to be paid by permit applicants to assure delivery of as-built information for sewer services to Public Works. The fee is returned when the information is delivered.
- Sec. 14-35 Drain layers license; insurance: Changes title of section to Sewer Contractor license; insurance. Deletes set \$150 fee and refers to sewer rates chart at the end of the chapter. Updates insurance limits for contractors performing sewer work.
- Sec. 14-36 Specifications of material: Updates specifications for pipes, materials, and methods used in sewer construction and repair. Prohibits connection of roof and foundation drains or other surface or groundwater to sanitary sewers.
- Sec. 14-41 Inspections: Sewer inspections will be done by the Public Works Dept. rather than the Plumbing Inspector. Delete the set fees for inspection and refer to the sewer rate chart at the end of the chapter.
- Sec. 14-42 Manner of installation: Add requirement that sewer services shall include a backflow prevention device and a street-facing cleanout and describes the manner by which the new service shall enter the City sewer main. Requires creation of an as-built sketch of the new sewer and delivery to the Public Works Dept.
- Sec. 14-43 Warranty: New section requiring contractors performing repairs to City infrastructure following sewer work to warranty their work for one year.
- Sec. 14-57 System Design: New section with specifications for private lift station design.
- Sec. 14-58 Entry to city sewer system: New section with specifications for how a sewer service utilizing a private lift station is to be connected to the City sewer system.
- Sec. 14-59 Easement required: New section requiring the owner of a private lift station to acquire an easement from the City to construct any portion of the system within the City right-of-way.

To be even more specific:

- All contractors intending to perform sewer work must acquire a sewer contractor license from the Bath City Clerk prior to starting work. This license requires payment of the appropriate fee and demonstration that an insurance policy is in place, and with the limits specified in the ordinance. This license must be renewed on January 1 each calendar year. Contractors must maintain a record of properly following the City ordinance in doing sewer work or a license may be denied.
- As before, a sewer permit must be obtained at the Public Works Dept. prior to beginning any sewer repair or installation. A new deposit fee must be paid with the permit fee. The purpose of the deposit is to make sure a record of the sewer work is returned to Public Works upon completion of the project. The record should include a sketch, with dimensions and ties so that the sewer service can be relocated in the future. Upon return of the information, the deposit will be returned to the contractor.
- All sewer services must be installed with minimum 6-inch diameter, SDR-35 PVC pipe (green color).
- All sewer work must be inspected prior to backfill. Inspections must be pre-arranged (as much as possible) with Public Works and must be planned for regular work hours. Emergency and/or after regular hours inspections can be arranged and will require payment of a separate fee.

Please contact Bath Public Works for more information on these ordinance changes.