

Chapter 13.12  
SEWER SERVICE SYSTEM

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13.12.010 Definitions. Unless the context specifically indicates otherwise, the meaning of terms used in this chapter shall be as follows:

"BOD" (denoting biochemical oxygen demand) means the quantity of oxygen utilized in the biochemical oxidation of organic matter under standard laboratory procedure in five days at twenty degrees C., expressed in parts per million or milligrams per liter by weight.

"Building Sewer" means that part of the lowest horizontal piping of a plumbing system which receives the discharge from soil, waste, and other drainage pipes from inside the walls of the building and conveys it to the sewer main via the service branch located in the abutting street, alley, or right of way. The City of Scappoose owns that portion of the Building Sewer which lies in the City right of way.

"Combined sewer" means a sewer receiving both surface runoff and sewage.

"Garbage" means solid wastes from the preparation, cooking, and dispensing of food, and from the handling, storage, and sale of produce.

"Industrial wastes" means the liquid wastes from industrial or commercial processes as distinct from domestic sanitary sewage.

"Outlet" or "outfall" means any outlet or outfall which discharges into a watercourse, pond, ditch, lake or other body of surface or ground water.

"Person" means any individual, firm, company, association, society, corporation, or group.

"pH" means the logarithm of the reciprocal of the hydrogen ion concentration and which is a measure of the acidity or alkalinity of the sewage or industrial waste.

"Properly shredded garbage" means the wastes from the preparation, cooking, and dispensing of food that have been shredded to such degree that all particles will be carried freely under the flow conditions normally prevailing in public sanitary sewers, with no particle greater than one-half inch in any direction.

"Public sewer" means a sewer in which owners within the city of abutting properties have equal rights and is owned and controlled by the city.

"City manager or designee" means the city manager will assign a director, manager, official, administrator or city employee as appropriate.

"Sanitary sewer" means a sewer which carries sanitary sewage and industrial waste and to which storm, surface and ground waters are not intentionally admitted.

"Service branch" means the City of Scappoose owned portion of the sewer pipe which is installed between the sewer main located in the abutting street, alley, or right of way and the "building sewer".

"Sewage" means a combination of the water-carried wastes from residences, business buildings, institutions, commercial enterprises, and industrial establishments.

"Sewage treatment plant" or "sewage treatment facilities" means any arrangement of devices, structures, and processes used for treating sewage.

"Sewage works" means all facilities for collecting, pumping, treating, and disposing of sewage.

"Sewer" means a pipe or conduit for carrying sewage and/or industrial waste.

"Shall" is mandatory; "may" is permissive.

"Storm sewer" or "storm drain" shall mean a sewer which carries storm, surface and ground waters and drainage, but excludes sewage and polluted industrial wastes.

"Suspended solids" means solids that either float on the surface of, or are in suspension in water, sewage, or other liquids, and which are removable by laboratory filtering and expressed in parts per million or milligrams per liter by weight.

"Wastewater treatment plant or facilities" is synonymous with sewage treatment plant or sewage treatment facilities.

"Watercourse" means a channel in which a flow of water occurs, either continuously or intermittently. (Ord. 879, 2019; Ord. 747 §§1 and 2, 2004; Ord. 724 §1, 2002; Ord. 319 Art. 1 §§101--122, 1972)

13.12.020 Use of public sewers required. A. It is unlawful for any person to place, deposit, or permit to be deposited in an unsanitary manner upon public or private property within the city or in any area under the jurisdiction of the city, any human or animal excrement, garbage, or other objectionable wastes or materials.

B. It is unlawful to discharge to any natural outlet within the city or in any area under the jurisdiction of the city, any sanitary sewage, industrial wastes, or other polluted waters or materials, except where suitable treatment has been provided in accordance with subsequent provisions of this chapter.

C. Except as provided in this chapter, it is unlawful to construct or maintain any privy, privy vault, septic tank, cesspool, or other facility intended or used for the disposal of sewage or industrial wastes.

D. The owners of all houses, buildings or properties used for human occupancy, recreation or other purposes, situated within the city and abutting on any street, alley or right-of-way in which there is now located or may in the future be located a public

sanitary sewer of the city, are required at their expense to install suitable toilet and plumbing facilities therein, in accordance with the provisions of this chapter, the State Department of Environmental Quality, the State Board of Health, Columbia County health department, the Oregon Plumbing Specialty Code, and the laws and regulations of the state and county, within ninety days after date of official notice to do so; provided the nearest connection point to the public sanitary sewer is within three hundred feet from the property to be served. The owners shall connect to the public sewer line within the ninety day notice period provided above except and unless the city council by resolution exempts all or part of the area served by a sewer line and the sewer line from mandatory hookups. (Ord. 879, 2019; Ord. 630 §1, 1995; Ord. 533 §1, 1988; Ord. 427 §1, 1981; Ord. 319 Art. II, 1972)

13.12.030 Private sewage disposal. A. Where a public sanitary sewer is not available under the provisions of Section 13.12.020(D), building sewers shall be connected to a private sewage treatment and disposal system complying with the provisions of this chapter and with requirements of the Oregon Plumbing Specialty Code, the rules and regulations of the Columbia County health department, State Division of Health and of the State Department of Environmental Quality.

B. Before construction or use of a private sewage disposal system, the owner shall first obtain a written letter from the city manager or designee stating that the city cannot provide sewer service. This letter shall be presented to the Columbia County sanitarian and a permit obtained from the county to install a private sewage disposal system. All state, federal, and local regulations shall be met before a private sewage disposal system shall be approved or put into use.

C. At such time as a public sanitary sewer becomes available to a property served by a private sewage disposal system, as provided in Section 13.12.020(D), a direct connection shall be made to the public sewer in compliance with this chapter, and any septic tanks, cesspools, and similar private sewage disposal facilities shall be removed or abandoned and filled with suitable material as required under state and county rules and as directed by the Columbia County sanitarian. When public sewer service is obtained, the connection or connections to the premises being served shall be made ahead of the private disposal system and the latter removed or filled in and abandoned. No connections shall be made to the effluent side of existing septic tanks or cesspools.

D. Owners shall operate and maintain all portions of the building sewer, service branch and private sewage disposal facilities in a safe and sanitary manner at all times, at no expense to the city.

E. The provisions of this section shall be in addition to and not in derogation of or conflict with the requirements of pertinent chapters of the Oregon Revised Statutes. (Ord. 879, 2019; Ord. 724 §1, 2002; Ord. 319 Art. III, 1972)

13.12.040 Building sewers and connections. A. No unauthorized person shall uncover, make any connections with or opening into, use, alter, or disturb any public sewer or appurtenance whereof without first obtaining a written permit from the City of Scappoose.

B. There shall be two classes of building sewer permits: (1) for residential and commercial service; and (2) for service to establishments producing industrial wastes. In either case, the owner or his agent shall make application on a special form furnished by the city. The permit application shall be supplemented by any plans, specifications, or other information considered pertinent in the judgment of the city manager or designee. Connection, permit and inspection fees for residential, commercial building, and industrial building sewer permits shall be paid to the city at the time the application is filed.

C. All costs and expenses incident to the installation and connection of building sewers shall be borne by owners. The owner shall indemnify the city from any loss or damage that may directly or indirectly be occasioned by installation of a building sewer.

D. A separate and independent building sewer shall be provided for every building; except where one building stands at the rear of another on an interior lot and no private sewer is available or can be constructed to the rear building through an adjoining alley, court, yard, or driveway, the building sewer from the front building may be extended to the rear building and the whole considered as one building sewer.

E. Old building sewer or service branches may be used in connection with new buildings only when they are found, on examination and test by the city manager or designee, to meet all requirements of this chapter.

F. Building sewers shall be PVC or other material in conformance with the requirements of the Oregon Plumbing Specialty Code, while sewer laterals shall be ductile iron, concrete, or PVC pipe conforming to ASTM D3034, SDR 35 Specifications, or equal suitable material. The service branch shall be PVC or other material in accordance with the Public Works Design Standards. Joints shall be tight and waterproof. Any part of the building sewer that is located within ten feet of a water service pipe shall be constructed of ductile iron pipe. If installed in unstable ground, the building sewer shall be of ductile iron pipe.

G. The size and slope of the building sewer shall be subject to the approval of the building official and shall conform to the requirements of the Oregon Plumbing Specialty Code.

H. Whenever possible, the building sewer serving a building having a basement shall be brought to the building at an elevation below the basement floor. The depth of all building sewers shall be sufficient to afford protection from frost. Building sewers shall be laid at uniform grade and in straight alignment insofar as possible. Changes in direction shall be made only with properly curved pipe and fittings. Cleanouts shall be provided to permit access for rodding and flushing in conformance with the Oregon Plumbing Specialty Code.

I. In all buildings which are too low to permit gravity flow to the public sewer, sanitary sewage carried shall be lifted by approved pumping or ejector equipment and discharged to a building sewer which will flow by gravity to the city sewer.

J. All excavations required for the installation of building sewers shall be open trench work unless otherwise approved by the city manager or designee. Pipe laying and backfill shall be performed in accordance with regulations of the Oregon Plumbing Specialty Code and State Division of Health and State Department of Environmental Quality.

1. All joints and connections shall be made watertight and gastight, preferably with "O" ring rubber gaskets. Both "O" ring joints and mechanical joints with rubber gaskets may be used with ductile iron pipe;

2. All joints in concrete pipe shall be made with rubber gaskets;

3. Other jointing materials and methods may be used only by approval of the city manager or designee.

K. Building sewers shall be connected to city-owned sewer mains adjacent to the property to be served. Plugs shall be carefully removed from building sewers (where present) at the property line and the building sewer connected to the service branch shall be watertight after testing prior to acceptance by the city's representative. Maintenance, cleaning, and repair of building sewer and service branch to the sewer main, shall be the responsibility of the owner of the property served by the building sewer.

L. The applicant for the building sewer permit shall notify the City of Scappoose when the building sewer is ready for inspection and connection to the public sewer. The connection shall be made only under the supervision of the city manager or designee or his representative.

M. All excavations for building sewer installations shall be adequately guarded with barricades and lights so as to protect the public from hazard. Streets, sidewalks, parkways and other public property disturbed in the course of the work shall be restored in a manner satisfactory to the city. Trench excavation work and shoring shall conform to the safety requirements of the State Compensation Department. (Ord. 879, 2019; Ord. 747 §3, 2004; Ord. 724 §1, 2002; Ord. 319 Art. III, 1972)

13.12.050 Use of public sewers. A. No person shall discharge or cause to be discharged any stormwater, surface water, ground water, roof runoff, subsurface discharge, cooling water, or unpolluted industrial process waters to any sanitary sewer.

B. Stormwater and all other unpolluted drainage shall be discharged to such sewers as are specifically designated as storm sewers, to a natural drainage way, or into a drywell or soakage trench, approved by the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality or city manager or designee as appropriate. Industrial cooling water or unpolluted process waters may be discharged, upon approval of the city manager or designee, into one of the foregoing places suitable for storm water provided there is no violation of county, state, or federal requirements or standards pertaining to thermal pollution, and further that no damage to property or water supplies result therefrom.

C. Except as provided in this chapter, no person shall discharge or cause to be discharged any of the following described waters, wastes, or material, to any public sewer:

1. Any liquid or vapor having a temperature higher than one hundred fifty degrees F;

2. Any water or waste which may contain more than one hundred parts per million, by weight, of fat, oil or grease;

3. Any gasoline, benzene, naphtha, fuel oil, or other flammable or explosive liquid, solid, or gas;

4. Any household garbage that has not been properly shredded;

5. Any ashes, cinders, sand, mud, straw, shavings, metal, glass, rags, feathers, tar, plastics, wood, paunch manure, or any other solid or viscous substance capable of causing obstruction to the flow in sewers or other interference with the proper operation of the sewage collection facilities, pumping stations, pipelines and treatment works;

6. Any waters or wastes having a pH lower than 6.0 or higher than 8.5 or having any other corrosive property capable of causing damage or hazard to the sewerage system, pumping stations, treatment plant and facilities, structures, equipment, and personnel operating the system;

7. Any waters or wastes containing toxic or poisonous substances or metals in sufficient quantity to injure or interfere with any sewage treatment process, constitute a hazard to humans, animals, fish and aquatic life, and birds, whether by direct exposure or by way of food or drink, or create any hazard in waters receiving the effluent from the treatment works;

8. Any waters or wastes containing suspended solids of such character and quantity that unusual attention or expense is required to handle such material at the sewage treatment plant;

9. Any wastes having unusual concentrations of dissolved solids such as sodium chloride, calcium chloride or sodium sulphate;

10. Any wastes having unusual biochemical and/or chemical oxygen demand;

11. Any noxious or malodorous gases or substances capable of creating a public nuisance.

D. Grease, oil and sand interceptors shall be provided when, in the opinion of the city manager or designee, they are necessary for the proper handling of liquid wastes containing grease in excessive amounts, or any flammable wastes, sand, and other harmful ingredients. Such interceptors and/or treatment devices shall be of the type and capacity which efficiently remove the objectionable materials, and they shall be so operated that they consistently operate efficiently. All such installations shall be so located and constructed that they may be readily and easily accessible for cleaning, checking and inspection. Grease and oil interceptors shall be constructed of impervious materials capable of withstanding abrupt and extreme changes in temperature. They shall be of substantial construction, watertight, and equipped with easily removable covers which, when bolted in place, shall be gastight and watertight.

E. Where installed, all grease, oil and sand interceptors shall be maintained by the owner, at his expense, in continuously efficient operation at all times.

F. The admission into the public sewers of any waters or wastes having: (1) a five-day biochemical oxygen demand greater than three hundred parts per million or milligrams per liter by weight; or

(2) containing any quantity of substances having the characteristics described in subsection C of this section; or (3) containing more than three hundred fifty parts per million or milligrams per liter by weight of suspended solids; or (4) having an average daily flow greater than two percent of the average daily sewage flow of the city, shall be subject to the review and approval of the city manager or designee. Where necessary in the opinion of the city manager or designee, the owner shall provide, at his expense, such preliminary treatment as may be necessary to: (1) reduce the biochemical oxygen demand to three hundred parts per million and the suspended solids to three hundred fifty parts per million by weight; or (2) reduce objectionable characteristics or constituents to within the maximum limits provided for in subsection C of this section; or (3) control the quantities and rates of discharge of such waters or wastes. Plans, specifications, and any other pertinent information relating to proposed preliminary treatment facilities shall be submitted for the approval of the city manager or designee and of the Oregon State Department of Environmental Quality, and no construction of such facilities shall be commenced until said approvals are obtained in writing.

G. Where preliminary treatment facilities are provided for any waters or wastes, they shall be maintained continuously in satisfactory and effective operation by the owner and at his expense.

H. 1. When required by the city manager or designee, the owner of any property served by a building sewer carrying industrial wastes shall install a suitable control manhole or flow measurement and/or treatment structures in the building sewer to facilitate observation, sampling and measurement of flow of the wastes. Flow measurement and recording equipment shall be required wherever water other than city water is used within the premises for any purpose other than sprinkling or irrigation;

2. Manholes, flow measurement devices and treatment facilities shall be accessibly and safely located. All such facilities shall be installed at the owner's expense and shall be operated efficiently, safely and be accessible at all times.

I. All flow measurements, tests, and analyses of the characteristics of waters and wastes to which reference is made in subsections C and F of this section shall be determined in accordance with Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Sewage; samples shall be collected at the control manhole or flow measurement structure.

J. No statement contained in this section shall be construed as preventing any special agreement or arrangement between the city and any industrial concern under which an industrial waste of unusual strength or character may be accepted by the city for treatment, subject to payment therefor by the industrial concern and under such conditions and circumstances as the city may specify, and further subject to compliance and requirements of the State Department of Environmental Quality and the Environmental Protection Agency. (Ord. 879, 2019; Ord. 724 §1, 2002; Ord. 319 Art. V, 1972)

13.12.060--13.12.100

13.12.060 Protection from damage. No person shall maliciously, willfully, or negligently break, damage, destroy, uncover, deface or tamper with any structure, appurtenance, or equipment which is a part of the municipal sewer system, treatment and disposal facilities. Any person violating this section shall be subject to immediate arrest. (Ord. 319 Art. VI, 1972)

13.12.070 Powers and authority of inspectors. The city manager or designee and other duly authorized employees of the city bearing proper credentials and identification shall be permitted to enter upon all properties for purposes of inspection, observation, measurement, sampling, and testing, to ensure compliance with the provisions of this chapter. (Ord. 879, 2019; Ord. 319 Art. VII, 1972)

13.12.080 Privy regulations. On all construction and/or building sites, carnivals, circuses, outdoor meetings and like recreational events where no adequate approved sanitary facility exists, the following shall apply:

A. Portable privies in a number adequate to take care of all persons on the site must be provided;

B. Privies must meet DEQ, county, and city standards;

C. The privies shall ensure the privacy of the user and be maintained in a sanitary condition and be reasonably free of noxious odors;

D. The privies shall be located in convenient places on or near the sites and shall be removed within twenty-four hours after the event or construction terminates;

E. Construction sites must be provided privies within twenty-four hours of beginning of construction. Other events must be provided privies and in place prior to commencement of the event;

F. Penalties. The event shall not be permitted to commence, and a stop order will be issued on construction sites if proper facilities are not on site;

G. Violations. A fine of one hundred dollars shall be levied for each twenty-four hours after a privy is required. Each twenty-four-hour period shall constitute a separate violation. (Ord. 724 §1, 2002; Ord. 404, 1980)

13.12.090 Revision and modification of rules, regulations and charges. The city council may from time to time as the occasion may demand or require, and in the council's sole discretion within the requirements of state statutes, and the city charter, make such modifications, revisions and additions to the rules and regulations as may be deemed necessary and in the interest of the city. Rates and charges for sewer service, connection charges, cost of side sewers, and extensions of sewers shall be revised as necessary and required in the general public interest and to meet financial obligations relating to the construction, maintenance, repair and efficient operation of the entire system. (Ord. 319 Art. X, 1972)

13.12.100 Limits of hookup--City limits. It is declared to be the policy of the city that there will be no sewerage hookups to property outside the city limits of the city. (Ord. 319 Art. XII, 1972)



13.12.110 Expiration of sewer hookups. A. All existing prepaid sewer hookups shall be utilized not later than June 30, 1990. Those sewer hookups shall expire on July 1, 1990 and the city shall repay the holders of such hookups the amount that was originally paid for the hook-ups.

B. All future acquired sewer hookups shall expire three years after the date purchased if not used and city shall refund the purchase price. (Ord. 530 §2, 1987)

13.12.120 Violation--Penalty. A. Any person found to be violating any provisions of this chapter, except Section 13.12.060, shall be served by the city with written notice stating the nature of the violation and providing a reasonable time limit for satisfactory correction thereof. The offender shall, within the period of time stated in such notice, permanently cease any and all violations.

B. Any person who shall continue any violation beyond the time limit provided for in subsection A of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall be fined in an amount not exceeding two hundred dollars for each violation. Each day in which any such violation shall continue shall be deemed a separate offense.

C. Any person violating any of the provisions of this chapter shall become liable to the city for any expense, loss, or damage occasioned the city by reason of such violation. (Ord. 319 Art. VIII, 1972)