

## SEWER CONNECTION BYLAW

### DEFINITIONS

1. In this By-Law:

1. "Building Drain" means the horizontal piping, including any vertical offset, that conducts sewage, clear-water waste or storm water to a building sewer.
2. "Building Sewer" means a pipe servicing a building commencing 1 metre outside the building and which leads to a *service connection* or to an on-site disposal system ;
3. "Certified Plumber" means a plumber certified as a qualified journeyman plumber by the Apprenticeship and Trades Qualifications Board of Nova Scotia.
4. "Combined Sewer" means a sewer intended to function simultaneously as a storm sewer and a sanitary sewer:
5. "Council" means the Town Council of the town of Antigonish;
6. "Engineer" means the engineer of the municipality and includes a person acting under the supervision and direction of the Engineer;
7. "Inspector" means a person authorized by the Town to carry out observations and inspections as prescribed in this by-law;
8. "Leader" means a pipe that is installed to carry storm water from a roof to a storm building drain or sewer or other place of disposal.
9. "Person" means any individual, firm, company, association, society, corporation or group;
10. "Professional Engineer", for the purpose of this by-law, means an engineer who is demonstrably competent in municipal service engineering and who is licensed and in "good standing" to practice in Nova Scotia.
11. "Sanitary Sewer" means a sewer receiving and carrying liquid and water carried wastes and to which storm, surface or groundwater are not intentionally admitted;
12. "Service Connection" means the point at which a building sewer connects to a sewer lateral; typically located at a property line.
13. "Sewer" means a pipe or conduit for carrying sewage, groundwater, stormwater or surface runoff, and includes all sewer drains, storm sewers, clear-water sewers, storm drains, and combined sewers.
14. "Sewer Lateral" means a piping system that conveys sewage, liquid waste, stormwater or surface runoff from a *service connection* to a *sewer main*. (*In the MGA, this is referred to as a Building Service Connection.*)
15. "Sewer Main" means a *sewer*, which is vested in a municipality, and which services a street or area.
16. "Storm Sewer" means a sewer that carries storm, surface and groundwaters;
17. "Town" means the Town of Antigonish, or the area contained within its municipal boundaries as the context requires.
18. "Qualified Contractor" means a general contractor demonstrating experience in the installation of municipal service water and sewer services.

## CONNECTION TO SEWERS

2. No person shall carry out excavations for the purposes of making or repairing a connection to a *sewer main* or *lateral*, or to repair an existing *building sewer* without a valid Municipal Services Permit. Permits shall be valid for a period of one year.
3. All applications under this by-law shall:
  1. Be accompanied by a scaled, dimensioned site plan indicating the lot, adjacent streets, building(s) footprint and proposed service locations and sizes;
  2. Be signed by either a *certified plumber, professional engineer or qualified contractor*.
4. Every person connecting to a *sewer* shall construct the connection according to the requirements of the National Building and Plumbing Codes as well as all other applicable standards as established by the Town and/or Province. Further, where deemed necessary, work carried out under section 2 herein shall be performed under the supervision of the *Engineer* and / or *Inspector*.
5. Work performed under this by-law shall not be covered until inspected and approved by the *Engineer* and / or *Inspector*.
6. On project completion, the *certified plumber, professional engineer or qualified contractor* responsible for the work shall certify, to the Town, that said connections were made according to applicable codes and by-laws.

## STORM, SURFACE AND GROUNDWATERS

7. Regarding storm, surface and groundwaters:
  1. No person shall make a connection causing storm, surface or groundwaters to enter a *sanitary sewer*.
  2. Where *leaders* do not terminate above ground, it must be demonstrated that they are not connected to the *sanitary sewer* system.
  3. Where *leaders* are connected to the *sanitary sewer* on a street with no storm sewer, they must be redirected over ground where, in the opinion of the *Engineer*, topography allows.
  4. When a *storm sewer* is installed in an area, all non-sanitary connections to *sanitary sewers* shall be redirected as per written notice given by the *Engineer*. Such work shall be carried out within one year of the *storm sewer* installation.
8. Regarding foundation drainage sewers:
  1. For the purposes of this by-law, where the *Engineer* deems it unfeasible for foundation drainage sewers to connect to a *storm sewer*, the *sanitary sewer* shall be considered a *combined sewer*.
  2. Connections to a *combined sewer* shall only be permitted where:
    1. There is no connection to a *storm sewer* within 125 feet of the building;
    2. In the opinion of the *Engineer*, lot topography or soil conditions do not permit on-site disposal;
    3. Backflow prevention is installed upstream of the connection to the *combined*

sewer with appropriate consideration given to maintenance requirements;

4. *Leaders* are directed a minimum of 2 feet away from the foundation but shall not be directed onto either sidewalks or adjoining properties;
3. Under no circumstances shall *leaders* or sump pumps be connected to a *combined sewer*;
4. This section only applies to existing buildings and new buildings of 2000 square feet or less.

## ONSITE SYSTEMS

9. Regarding existing buildings served by on-site systems:
  1. The owner of an existing building, the nearest part of which is not more than 125 feet from a sanitary *sewer lateral*, shall be required, at the owners expense, to construct a building sewer and make connection at the service connection, provided, however, Council may allow exemptions from this requirement where the building:
    1. Is deemed to be adequately served with existing storm drainage and on-site sewage disposal systems; or
    2. Would not be adequately served by connection to the municipal sewerage system.
  2. The Council shall not require an owner to connect to a municipal sewer until service from said sewer has been available to the property for one year.
  3. Where a building has been connected to the sewer, or the Council has ordered a building to be so connected, the Council may, by resolution, order the owners of outhouses and septic tanks to remove such outhouses and to destroy or fill such septic tanks, said work to be carried out according to Provincial Guidelines.
10. Where, in the opinion of the *Engineer*, the complexity of a *sewer* system installation warrants it, professional design and documentation shall be required. *Sewer* connections made pursuant to this part shall be documented with scaled, as-built drawings and shall be signed by either a professional engineer or certified plumber.

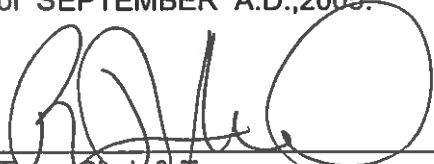
## BACKFLOW PREVENTION

11. In order to reduce likelihood of sanitary sewer surcharge within buildings, backflow prevention valves shall be fitted on building drains in the following instances:
  1. all new construction;
  2. Building renovations where the area being renovated is located below the level of the adjacent street; and
  3. Re-connections of existing sewers where the building or foundation drain is located below the level of the adjacent street.
12. Notwithstanding the requirements of section 11(2) herein, where the owner of a property does not wish to install a backflow prevention valve as required, they may instead offer a waiver, indemnifying the Town from any liability related to sanitary surcharge. Said waiver is to be registered at the Registry of Deeds and a copy of the registered document shall be provided to the Town.

## ADMINISTRATION

13. All costs associated with the installation, connection, maintenance or repair of a *building sewer*, including the costs of any necessary permits, are the sole responsibility of the owner.
  
14. Regarding Inspection of connections made under this by-law:
  1. Requests for inspection shall be made a minimum of 48 hours in advance;
  2. Inspections shall only be carried out during regular office hours; and
  3. Where a connection is not ready for inspection at the indicated hour thus necessitating a second inspection, a re-inspection fee of \$25 shall be charged.
  
15. Regarding Violation of this by-law:
  1. Any person who violates any section of this by-law is guilty of an offence and, on summary conviction, is liable to a fine of not less than five hundred dollars and not more than five thousand dollars and, in default of payment, to imprisonment for a period of not more than ninety days.
  2. Every day during which an offence pursuant to this by-law continues is a separate offence.
  3. Any Police Officer or By-Law Enforcement Officer of the Town may issue a "Stop Work" order in respect to the work which is deemed to be in violation of this bylaw.
  4. Any Police Officer or By-Law Enforcement Officer of the Town may issue a summary offence ticket to enforce this by-law. In such cases a fine equal to \$250.00 may be paid if this amount is received within fourteen (14) days of issuance of the Summary Offence Ticket.

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that the foregoing Bylaw was duly passed at a duly called meeting of Council of the Town of Antigonish held the 20<sup>th</sup> day of SEPTEMBER A.D.,2005.

  
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Town Clerk & Treasurer