

# Plumbing Permit Information Sheet

- **Permit Required**

- No person, firm or corporation shall commence any plumbing work, regardless of whether a license is required for such work, within the Town of Grand Island, or cause the same to be done, prior to obtaining a separate building permit for each such occurrence.
- No owner or occupant of property with a plumbing system or systems shall be prohibited from making emergency repairs to such system. Such repairs shall not result in alteration of the system but shall consist only of restoration of the facilities to substantially their condition prior to the emergency. A permit shall be obtained as soon as possible after such repair work has been done, and all such repairs shall be subject to tests and/or inspection.
- A building permit is not required for the replacement of plumbing fixtures such as faucets, toilets, hot water heater, etc.

- **Applying for a Permit**

- No person, firm or corporation shall engage in the trade of plumbing within the Town of Grand Island prior to being licensed by the Town of Grand Island. A licensed master or licensed journeyman plumber shall be present at all times when plumbing work is being performed on any premises within the Town of Grand Island and during all inspections and testing in connection with such plumbing work.
  - Exceptions to the license requirement:
    - A homeowner doing plumbing in a single-family residence that shall be occupied by him, provided that he has obtained a building permit, submits to ordinary rough and final inspections, paid regular fees, and obtained a Homeowner's Plumbing Certificate. A Homeowner's Plumbing Certificate shall be issued by the Code Enforcement Officer upon passing the Town's Homeowner's Plumbing examination.

- The installation of a fire-protection system, from the supply side of the point of backflow protection or fire pump into and/or throughout a structure. The portion of the fire protection system leading up to the initial backflow-prevention devices must be done by a licensed plumber. All work performed by fire-protection contractors shall be in compliance with all applicable laws, codes, and regulations and with current National Fire Protection Association and insurance industry standards. A contractor must have five years' experience in the field of fire-protection system installations to be deemed qualified to perform such work in the Town of Grand Island.
  - The installation of lawn sprinkler systems that do not utilize the Town's water system as a source of water.
  - The installation of private sewage disposal (septic) systems which are regulated by the Erie County Health Department.
  - A homeowner installing a storm drainage system (conductor lines) on the homeowner's private residence.
- The building permit shall be issued to the master plumber licensed in Grand Island or a qualified homeowner only.
    - Insurance Requirements:
      - The licensed plumber performing the construction shall provide proof of liability insurance, workers compensation, and disability insurance by providing the following:
        - Liability Insurance:
          - Provide a Certificate of Insurance.
        - Workers Compensation:
          - Provide either Form C-105.2, Certificate of Workers' Compensation Insurance, or
          - Form SI-12, Certificate of Workers' Compensation Self-Insurance, or
          - Form CE-200, Certificate of Attestation for New York Entities with No Employees and Certain Out of State Entities, That New

York State Workers' Compensation Insurance Coverage is Not Required.

- Disability Benefits:
  - Provide either Form DB-120.1, Certificate of Disability Benefits Insurance, or
  - Form DB-155, Certificate of Disability Benefits Self-Insurance, or
  - Form CE-200, Certificate of Attestation for New York Entities with No Employees and Certain Out of State Entities, That New York State Disability Benefits Insurance Coverage is Not Required.
- Homeowners performing the construction shall fill out an Affidavit of Exemption to Show Proof of Exemption of Workers Compensation Insurance.

- Allow up to ten (10) working days for the permit application to be reviewed. A staff member will contact you when the permit is ready or if additional information is required.

● **Fees**

Fixture units (up to 19 units)	\$95.00
Fixture units (over 19 units)	\$5.00 per unit
Building drain	\$100.00
Non-residential building sewer lateral	\$150.00
New home construction:	
1 bath	\$150.00
1 ½ baths	\$160.00
2 baths	\$170.00
2 ½ baths	\$180.00
3 baths	\$190.00
3 ½ baths	\$200.00
Residential water & sewer lateral (up to 200 l.f.)	\$150.00
Residential water & sewer lateral (over 200 l.f.)	\$30.00 per 100 l.f.
Conductor line installation/repair	\$100.00
Lawn sprinkler	\$90.00
Backflow devices	\$90.00
Misc. inspections	\$90.00
Re-inspection fee (inspection failed twice)	\$75.00
Site drainage (up to 200 l.f.)	\$125.00

Site drainage (over 200 l.f.)	\$30.00 per 100 l.f.
Fire protection line (up to 200 l.f.)	\$125.00
Fire protection line (over 200 l.f.)	\$30.00 per 100 l.f.
Backflow Prevention Test Report Filing Fee	\$14.95

- **Definitions**

- Backflow devices:
  - A backflow prevention device is installed on a residential home or commercial building water pipes that allows water to flow in one direction but never in the opposite direction. Its purpose is to prevent drinking water from being contaminated due to backflow.
- Building drain:
  - Part of the lowest piping of a drainage system that receives the discharge from soil, waste, or other drainage pipes and conveys it to the building sewer three feet outside the building wall.
- Water and sewer lateral:
  - The sewer service lateral is a pipe that takes an individual building's wastewater to the public sewer main in the street.
  - The water service lateral is the pipe that provides water from the water main in the street to a home or business. For residences, this pipe is usually 1 inch in size and runs from the water main into the home where the water meter is installed.
  - These laterals are owned by the building or property owner.
- Conductor line:
  - A buried pipe conveying water from a building's roof drains, gutters, yard drains, and sump pump away from the building to an approved location.
- Fire protection line:
  - A water service lateral that provides water from the public water main to a building's fire protection system, such as a fire sprinkler system.
- Fixture Unit:
  - In plumbing, a Fixture Unit (FU) is a unit of measure, based on the rate of discharge, time of operation and frequency of use of a fixture, that expresses the hydraulic load imposed by that fixture on the sanitary plumbing installation. A Fixture Unit is not a flow rate unit but a design factor. A

fixture unit is equal to one cubic foot of water drained in a 1 1/4 pipe over one minute. One cubic foot of water is roughly 7.48 gallons. A Fixture Unit is used in plumbing design for both water supply and wastewater.

- Lawn sprinkler:
  - Permanent underground system of pipes used for irrigation of residential or commercial lawns and landscaping elements.
- Site drainage:
  - The removal of excess surface water or groundwater from a site. The water is collected by drain intake structures (such as yard drains, catch basins, and buried perforated drainpipe) and carried away by underground pipe. The system may include a detention or retention structure or discharge directly from the site in an approved location.

- **General Requirements**

- All exterior and interior plumbing shall be installed in accordance with the 2020 Plumbing Code of New York State.
- Call 811 for utility service identification seven (7) days prior to starting underground work.

- **Requirements for Water Service**

- All pipes, meters and fixtures shall, at reasonable hours, be subject to inspection by the Town Engineer or his or her designee.
- Whenever a new service connection to a Town main is required, the owner must apply for a permit with the Town, pay the required fee in and have the service installed by a licensed Town of Grand Island plumber.
- Whenever a new tap is required to the Town main, it will be the responsibility of the licensed plumber to excavate to the main in a manner that will allow Town crews to have safe access to the main for tapping. The Town will provide the corporation valve, tap the main and install such corporation for sizes 3/4 inch through and including two inches. All remaining work will be the responsibility of the owner. For service connections greater than

two inches, the owner or his representative will be required to furnish all labor and materials and properly tap the main in a manner acceptable to the Town Engineer or his or her designee and/or the Code Enforcement Officer.

- When application for a new tap is made and disconnecting the previous water service connection is required by the Town Engineer or his or her designee, the applicant shall be responsible for such disconnection and for the fee for inspection of such disconnection.
- All water meters shall be owned by the property owner and purchased from and installed and maintained by the Town of Grand Island at prices set by Town Board resolution. The Town shall inspect and test meters from time to time as deemed necessary, or upon reasonable request from customers. Except pursuant to a contract whereby the property owner pays for the meters and is financially liable for use by sub-users, a master meter only will be used for apartment houses or related groups of buildings, and the Town will not furnish nor read auxiliary or submeters.
- The Grand Island licensed plumber shall install a Ford KV43-332W-NL Angle Key Meter Valve, 1 inch Pack Joint CTS Inlet x 3/4 inch Meter Swivel Outlet, Padlock Wink, No Lead or equivalent to be approved by the Town Engineer prior to the installation of the meter by the Town of Grand Island.
- Plastic underground water piping shall have a continuous eighteen-gauge (or larger) copper tracer wire installed with and attached to the plastic water piping material at eight feet zero inches O.C. This wire shall extend from the service connection at the meter box to the curb stop valve that supplies the building served. This tracer wire shall terminate (in a visible location) 12 inches above ground at the water service curb stop valve.

- **Requirements for Building or Sanitary Sewers**

- Plastic underground sewer piping shall have a continuous eighteen-gauge (or larger) copper tracer wire installed with and attached to the plastic sewer piping material at eight feet zero

inches O.C. This wire shall extend from the sewer pipe connection at the property or right-of-way line to the connection at the building drain. This tracer wire shall terminate (in a visible location) 12 inches above ground at the sewer/building drain connection.

- The slope of the sewers described in this section shall be 1/4 inch per foot unless special permission is obtained from the Code Enforcement Officer, but in no case is a slope less than 1/8 inch per foot acceptable.
- The building sewer shall be brought to the building at a depth sufficient to afford protection from frost. It shall be laid at a uniform grade and in straight alignment insofar as possible. Changes in direction shall be made only with properly curved pipe and fittings. A plan shall be submitted to the Town Engineer's office when a road crossing is installed. A minimum four-inch pipe shall be used in all road crossings. Road crossings shall have a minimum cover of five feet and be carefully tamped and backfilled with select material. If such cover cannot be obtained, pipe shall be encased with six inches of concrete. Backfill above pipe shall be in accordance with the requirements of the appropriate highway authorities. A six-inch cleanout with a riser and cap shall be installed in the vicinity of the right-of-way line when a road crossing is installed. All approved building sewer pipe shall be bedded with a four-inch minimum compacted cushion of No. 1 or 1A broken stone under the pipe and up to the spring line and covered at least six inches over top with fine dirt and gravel by hand. Pipe shall be bedded carefully on the compacted materials so that it does not ride on bells or joints. Backfill shall be free from large stones. No slag material is to be allowed for house connections.
- No footing drains, roof drains, basement floor drains, or other drains carrying surface water or groundwater shall be connected to the building or sanitary sewer. A sump pump shall be provided wherever required to carry groundwater and surface water to a natural outlet or storm sewer. Where any work is performed in a street or highway right-of-way, the owner or his agent shall first obtain a permit from the proper state, county, or Town highway authorities. Notice of request for inspection or final approval by

highway authorities shall be the responsibility of the owner or his agent. Utility companies are to be notified if work may affect their facilities. The Town shall not be responsible for damage caused by drains connected to the building or sanitary sewer.

- The applicant for the building sewer permit shall notify the Code Enforcement Officer when the building sewer is ready for inspection and connection to the public sewer. The connection shall be made under the supervision of said Code Enforcement Officer or his representatives. A sanitary drain from any new building shall not be connected to the public sewer until the roof construction of the building is completed and until the interior rough plumbing is completed to the stage that stormwater will be prevented from entering into the sanitary sewer.
- Each building sewer must be provided with a clean out at house wall end, at sharp changes in direction and at least for every 90 feet of length.
- All excavations for building or sanitary 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 Town Engineer. Ditches and culvert pipes for storm and surface water or other utilities disturbed during installation of sewers shall be replaced to their original condition. All driveways and parking areas shall be backfilled with noncompressible fill and restored to original condition.
- Vertical pipe fresh-air vents and cleanouts will not be permitted on any building sewer less than 90 feet in length which is connected to a public sewer.
- Traps will not be permitted on any building sewer which is connected to a public sewer.
- Before backfilling, all building sewers shall be tested under the supervision of the Town Engineer and/or Code Enforcement Officer. This test shall include all piping from the cleanout Y-branch fitting up to and including the connection to the public sewer. The applicant for the building sewer permit shall be



responsible for furnishing all labor, material, and equipment for conducting the test and for notifying the Code Enforcement Officer.

- Variations in these requirements may be made in special circumstances if approved by the Town Board in writing.
- No person shall discharge or cause to be discharged any stormwater, surface water, groundwater, roof runoff, subsurface drainage, cooling water or unpolluted industrial process waters to any sanitary sewer.
- Grease, oil and sand interceptors shall be provided when, in the opinion of said Town Engineer, they are necessary for the proper handling of liquid wastes containing grease in excessive amounts, or any flammable wastes, fecal matter, sand and other harmful ingredients; except that such interceptors shall not be required for private living quarters or dwelling units. All interceptors shall be of a type and capacity approved by the Town Engineer and shall be located so as to be readily and easily accessible for cleaning and inspection.
  - Where installed, grease, oil and sand interceptors shall be maintained by the owner, at his expense, in continuously efficient operation at all times.

- **Requirements for Storm Sewers**

- Prohibition of illegal discharges. No person shall discharge or cause to be discharged into any storm sewer any materials other than stormwater except as provided below. The commencement, conduct or continuance of any illegal discharge is prohibited except as described as follows:
  - The following discharges are exempt from discharge prohibitions, unless the Department or the Town has determined them to be substantial contributors of pollutants: water line flushing or other potable water sources, landscape irrigation or lawn watering, existing diverted stream flows, rising groundwater, uncontaminated groundwater infiltration to storm drains, uncontaminated pumped groundwater, foundation or footing drains, crawl space or basement sump pumps, air-conditioning

condensate, irrigation water, springs, water from individual residential car washing, natural riparian habitat or wetland flows, dechlorinated swimming pool discharges, residential street wash water, water from fire-fighting activities, and any other water source not containing pollutants. Such exempt discharges shall be made in accordance with an appropriate plan for reducing pollutants.

- Discharges approved in writing by the SMO to protect life or property from imminent harm or damage; provided that, such approval shall not be construed to constitute compliance with other applicable laws and requirements, and further provided that such discharges may be permitted for a specified time period and under such conditions as the SMO may deem appropriate to protect such life and property while reasonably maintaining the purpose and intent of this article.
- Dye testing in compliance with applicable state and local laws is an allowable discharge but requires a verbal notification to the SMO prior to the time of the test.
- The prohibition of illegal discharges shall not apply to any discharge permitted under a SPDES stormwater discharge permit, waiver, or waste discharge order issued to the discharger and administered under the authority of the Department, provided that the discharger is in full compliance with all requirements of the permit, waiver, or order and other applicable laws and regulations, and provided that written approval has been granted for any discharge.

- Requirements for Interior Plumbing

- Tests and Inspections

- A rough plumbing inspection and a final plumbing inspection shall be performed by a Code Enforcement Officer.
      - The rough plumbing inspection shall be performed after all the plumbing work that will be concealed is installed but prior to the installation of any insulation or building finishes. Testing as described below shall be performed during the rough plumbing inspection. The Grand Island licensed plumber shall coordinate

with the Code Enforcement Officer to schedule the rough plumbing inspection.

- The final plumbing inspection shall be performed by a Code Enforcement Officer after the project is substantially completed and all the plumbing fixtures are installed and functional. The Grand Island licensed plumber shall coordinate with the Code Enforcement Officer to schedule the final inspection.
- Drainage and Vent Water Test: Water test shall be applied to the drainage system either in its entirety or in sections. If applied to the entire system, all openings in the piping shall be tightly closed, except the highest opening, and the system shall be filled with water to the point of overflow. If the system is tested in sections, each opening shall be tightly plugged except the highest openings in the section under test, and each section shall be filled with water, but sections shall not be tested with less than a 10-foot head of water. In testing successive sections, not less than the upper 10 feet of the next preceding section shall be tested so that no joint or pipe in the building, except the uppermost 10 feet of the system, shall have been submitted to a test of less than a 10-foot head of water. This pressure shall be held for not less than 15 minutes. The system shall then be tight at all points.
  - Note: A 5-foot head of water shall be provided for testing of single-family dwellings and townhouses.
- Drainage and Vent Smoke Test: For under slab plumbing a smoke test is an acceptable alternative to a water test. Where a smoke test is utilized, it shall be made by tightly closing all openings in the piping except for two vertical pipes that are the furthest apart in the system to be tested. At one opening a pungent, thick smoke produced by one or more smoke machines shall be introduced into the system. When the smoke appears at the other opening the opening shall be closed and a pressure equivalent to a 1-inch water column shall be held for a test period of not less than 15 minutes.
- Water Supply System Test: Upon completion of a section of or the entire water supply system, the system, or portion completed, shall be tested and proved tight under a water pressure of not less than the working pressure of the

system; or, for piping systems other than plastic, by an air test of not less than 50 psi. This pressure shall be held for not less than 15 minutes. The water utilized for tests shall be obtained from a potable water source of supply.

- Storm Drainage System Test: Storm drain systems located within a building shall be tested by water in accordance with the Drainage and Vent Water Test.