



Chapter 21 - Sewers and Sewage Disposal

ARTICLE I - PURPOSE

The purpose of this Ordinance is to preserve public health, prevent pollution and secure the sanitary protection of waters. This ordinance is intended to ensure that sewerage is discharged into an approved sewerage treatment system and to accomplish the following:

- A. Prevent the creation of health hazards which include, but are not limited to surfacing sewerage; contaminated drinking water, ground water and surface water;
- B. Ensure adequate drainage related to the proper function of sewerage disposal; and
- C. Ensure that facilities are designed, constructed, operated and maintained in a manner which will promote sanitary healthful conditions.

Pursuant to the authority conferred by the act incorporating the City of Winooski, Vermont, and such other State laws as are applicable (including Title 24 V.S.A. Chapters 97 and 101), the undersigned, as the City Council of the City of Winooski of the Incorporated City of Winooski do ordain that the rules and regulations herein set forth are established as necessary and desirable for regulating the use of public sewers and drains, the installation and connection of building sewers, and the discharge of waters and wastes into the Sewer System and providing penalties, etc. for violations thereof in the City of Winooski, County of Chittenden, State of Vermont, and do hereby make and enact this Ordinance:

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Statutory Cross References: 24 V.S.A. s 3501 et seq; 24 V.S.A. s 3601 et seq.

SECTION 21.01 - DEFINITIONS

Unless the context specifically indicates otherwise, the meanings of terms used in this chapter shall be as follows:

BOD (denoting biochemical oxygen demand) shall mean the quantity of oxygen utilized in the biochemical oxidation of organic matter under standard laboratory procedure in five (5) days at twenty (20) degrees centigrade, expressed in milligrams per liter.

BUILDING DRAIN shall mean that part of the lowest horizontal piping of a drainage system which receives the discharge from soil, waste and other drainage pipes inside the walls of the building and conveys it to the building sewer, beginning five (5) feet outside the inner face of the building wall.

BUILDING SEWER shall mean the sewer extension from the building drain to the public sewer or other place of disposal, from five (5) feet outside the inner face of the building wall.

CITY shall mean the City of Winooski acting by and through its City Council; or in appropriate cases, acting by and through its authorized representative (whether the City Manager, Director of Public Works, Utility Manager or other employees, or agents, deputies, Operators, or other).



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COMBINED SEWER shall mean a conduit receiving both surface runoff and sewage. Combined sewers shall not be permitted in this system.

DILUTION shall mean the addition of clean water to a water bearing waste matter for the purpose of reducing the waste concentration, for the purposes of this Ordinance.

DIRECTOR shall mean the Director of Public Works.

EASEMENT shall mean an acquired legal right for the specific use of land owned by others.

ELIGIBLE NON-STORMWATER DISCHARGES shall mean those specifically listed as such in National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permits issued by the State of Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation for discharges from municipal separate storm sewer systems.

EQUIVALENT RESIDENTIAL UNIT (ERU) shall mean a unit of measure used to equate commercial, non- residential or multi-family residential water usage to a single-family residence. For the purposes of this Ordinance, one ERU shall be equivalent to the domestic wastewater flow from one single- family residence, having one kitchen. For commercial establishments, ERU's shall be assigned by the Utility Manager based upon historical water use.

FLOATABLE OIL is oil, fat, or grease in a physical state such that it will separate by gravity from sewage or wastewater by treatment in an approved pre-treatment facility. Sewage or wastewater shall be considered free of floatable oil if it is properly pre-treated and the sewage or wastewater bearing said oil does not interfere with the sewage works.

GARBAGE shall mean solid wastes from the domestic and commercial preparation, cooking and dispensing of food, and from the handling, storage and sale of produce.

GREASE shall mean a material either liquid or solid, composed primarily of fat, oil, and grease from animal or vegetable sources. The terms "fats, oils, and grease (FOG)", "oil and grease", or "oil and grease substances" shall all be included within this definition.



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GREASE HAULER shall mean a licensed septage hauler who collects the contents of a grease interceptor or trap and transports it to an approved recycling or disposal facility. A grease hauler may also provide other services to a facility related to grease trap or interceptor maintenance.

GREASE TRAP shall mean a device used to serve individual fixtures located adjacent to or in close proximity to a kitchen fixture designed to collect, contain, or remove wastes and grease from sewage while allowing the balance of the liquid waste to discharge to the sanitary sewer by gravity. Traps shall have a removable lid on the top surface to facilitate inspection, cleaning, and maintenance.

HABITABLE STRUCTURE shall mean any building, house, residence, or other structure or facility, use for human occupancy, habitation, business, recreation, or other purposes resulting in the production or emanation or discharge of sewage as defined herein.

INDUSTRY shall mean any room, group of rooms, building or other enclosure used or intended for use in the operation of a business enterprise or manufacturing, processing, cleaning, laundering, or assembling any produce, commodity or article or from which any process waste, as distinct from sanitary sewage, shall be discharged.

INDUSTRIAL USER A discharger to the City wastewater treatment plant who discharges non-domestic sewage.

INDUSTRIAL WASTES shall mean the liquid wastes from industrial processes as distinct from sanitary sewage. Industrial wastes shall include any liquid waste produced from an industry that is not sanitary sewage as heretofore defined.

INFILTRATION shall mean water other than wastewater that enters any sanitary sewer (including building sewers) from the ground through means which include, but are not limited to, defective pipes, pipe joints, service connections, or manholes. Infiltration does not include, and is distinguished from, inflow.

INFLOW shall mean water other than wastewater that enters a sewer (including building sewers) from sources which include, but are not limited to, roof leaders, cellar drains, yard drains, area drains, sump pumps, drains from springs and swampy areas, manhole covers, cross connections between storm sewers and sanitary sewers, catch basins, cooling towers, storm waters, surface runoff, street wash waters, or drainage. Inflow does not include, and is distinguished from, infiltration.



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INFILTRATION AND INFLOW (I/I) shall mean the quantity of water from both infiltration and inflow.

MUNICIPAL SYSTEM shall mean a sewerage disposal collection system operated by the municipality.

NATURAL OUTLET shall mean any outlet into a watercourse, pond, ditch, lake or other body of surface or ground water.

NON-DISPERSIBLES shall mean anything other than human waste and toilet paper that is flushed down the toilet; or materials that do not break apart to become indistinguishable in sewage when the toilet is flushed. Examples include fats, oils, grease, rags, sanitary products, ear swabs, dental floss, and other materials that will not disperse within five (5) minutes of discharge to the public sewer.

OWNER shall be any person vested with Ownership, legal or equitable, sole or partial of any property.

OPERATOR shall be the person responsible for the proper function and maintenance of a facility.

PERSON shall mean any individual, firm, company, association, society, corporation, or other legal entity.

pH shall mean the logarithm of the reciprocal of the weight of hydrogen ions in grams per liter of solution.

PRETREATMENT shall mean the reduction of the amount of pollutants, the elimination of pollutants, or the alteration of the nature of pollutant properties in sewage to a less harmful state prior to or in lieu of discharging or otherwise introducing such pollutants into the public sewage works. Pretreatment shall include the reduction or alteration of pollutants by physical, chemical or biological processes, process changes, or other means, except as prohibited by 40 CFR Part 403. Dilution is not pretreatment.



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PRIVATE SEWER shall mean the building drain and the building sewer, which shall be owned, operated, and maintained by the Owner of the property on which the private sewer is located.

PROPERLY SHREDDED GARBAGE shall mean the wastes from the preparation, cooking and dispensing of food that has been shredded to such a degree that all particles will be carried freely under the flow conditions normally prevailing in public sewers, with no particle greater than one-half (1/2) inch in any dimension.

PUBLIC SEWER shall mean wastewater collection and pumping infrastructure owned, maintained, and operated by the City of Winooski that is located: (A) upon property owned by the City, (B) within the limits of the so-called right-of-way of a public highway, and/or (C) within the limits of a permanent easement therefore held by the City for such use for a sewer.

SANITARY SEWAGE shall mean normal water-carried toilet and household type wastes (such as shower and wash water) or waste from sanitary conveniences such as properly shredded garbage, and whether produced from residences or from commercial places of business such as stores, restaurants, or offices or from other institutions or establishments but shall exclude: (A) any industrial wastes, (B) any wastewater from a commercial laundromat or dry cleaning business, and (C) any ground, surface or stormwater.

SANITARY SEWER shall mean a sewer that carries only sanitary sewage.

SEWAGE shall mean wastes carried by water, excluding ground, surface, and stormwater from all habitable structures, including, but not limited to residences, business buildings, institutions, and industrial establishments.

SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT shall mean arrangement of devices and structures used for treating sanitary sewage such as treatment facilities or other similar facilities; necessary to bring the City's wastewater into compliance with their NPDES Permit and the Vermont Environmental Protection Rules.

SEWER shall mean a pipe or conduit for carrying sewage.



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SEWERAGE WORKS shall mean all facilities for collecting, pumping, transporting, treating and disposing of sanitary sewage that are owned, maintained, and operated by the City of Winooski.

SHALL is mandatory; May is permissive.

SLUG shall mean any discharge of water, wastewater or sewage which in concentration of any given constituent or in quantity of flow exceeds for any period of duration longer than fifteen (15) minutes more than five (5) times the average twenty-four (24) hour concentration or flows during normal operation and shall adversely affect the sewage works including the collection system and/or performance of the wastewater treatment works..

STORM DRAIN or STORM SEWER shall mean a drain or sewer for conveying surface waters, ground water, stormwater or unpolluted water from any source; but excludes sanitary sewage and industrial wastes.

SUSPENDED SOLIDS shall mean 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.

UNPOLLUTED WATER is water of quality equal to or better than the effluent criteria in effect or water that would not cause violation of receiving water quality standards and would not be benefited by discharge to the sanitary sewers and sewage works provided.

USER is each connection to the public sewer (each such connection shall constitute one user)

WATERCOURSE shall mean a channel in which a flow of water occurs either continuously or intermittently.



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For the purpose of this Ordinance, the following shall have the meaning ascribed to them under this Article. References to standards of the following organizations shall refer to the latest edition of same.

“ANSI” shall mean American National Standards Institute

“ASME” shall mean American Society of Mechanical Engineers

“ASTM” shall mean American Society of Testing and Materials

“AWWA” shall mean American Water Works Association

“cm” shall mean centimeter

“CS” shall mean Commercial Standards

“degrees C” shall mean degrees Celsius

“degrees F” shall mean degrees Fahrenheit

“EPA” shall mean Environmental Protection Agency

“GPD” shall mean Gallons per Day

“kg” shall mean kilograms

“l” shall mean liters

“m” shall mean meter

“mg/l” shall mean milligrams per liter

“NPC” shall mean National Plumbing Code

“PDI” shall mean Plumbing and Drainage Institute

“ppm” shall mean parts per million

“sq. m.” shall mean square meters

“VT ANR” shall mean Vermont Agency of Natural Resources

“WEF” shall mean Water Environment Federation



ARTICLE III - GENERAL PROVISIONS

SECTION 21.02 - GENERAL PROVISIONS

- A. All costs and expenses incident to the design, installation, connection, maintenance, and repair of the building sewer shall be borne by the Owner of the property served or to be served with the following exception;
1. All or a portion of the costs to design, install, connect and maintain new building sewers and/or building drains constructed as part of a City capital reconstruction project may be borne by the City. Building sewers and/or building drains replaced or installed as part of a City capital reconstruction project may be owned and maintained by the City per City Council approval.
- B. For building sewers owned and maintained by the User, the Owner shall indemnify and hold harmless the City, including but not limited to its officers and agents, from any and all loss or damage that may directly or indirectly be occasioned by any installation, connection, maintenance, repair of the building sewer or its connection by the Owner to the sewage works (whether or not any such work was done by the City or in accordance with its requirements). However, as a part of the initial construction of its sewage works for the City, the City may, at its expense, initially construct a portion or the whole of any building sewer to the extent and manner determined by the City Council.
- C. A separate and independent building sewer shall be provided for each building. Grouping of more than one building on one building sewer shall not be permitted, except where one building stands behind another 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. This requirement may be waived by the City Council, based on special needs or considerations. Under no circumstances will one building sewer be allowed to connect and serve more than one house or dwelling unit under separate Ownership except in the case of condominiums.



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- D. Old building sewers may be used in connection with new building only when they are found, on examination and test by the Owner and approved by the Utility Manager, to meet all requirements of this Ordinance.
- E. The size, slope, alignment, materials of construction of a building sewer, and the methods to be used in excavating, placing of the pipe, jointing, testing, and backfilling the trench, shall all conform to the requirements of the building and plumbing code or other applicable rules and regulations of the City and State of Vermont. In the absence of code provision or in amplification thereof, the materials and procedures set forth in appropriate specifications of the ASTM and WEF Manual of Practice No. 9 shall apply.
- F. Whenever possible, the building sewer shall be brought to the building at an elevation below the basement floor. In all buildings in which any building drain is too low to permit gravity flow to the public sewer, sanitary sewage carried by such building drain shall be lifted by an approved means and discharged to the building sewer. All costs and expenses incident to the installation, connection, maintenance, and repair of the lift system shall be borne by the Owner of the property served or to be served.
- G. No person(s) shall make connections of, or otherwise cause or allow to be discharged, any roof downspouts, foundation drains, areaway drains, cellar drains, basement sumps, Eligible Non-Stormwater Discharges, or other sources of surface runoff or groundwater to a building sewer or building drain which, in tum, is connected directly or indirectly to the sewage works. These waters shall be discharged to such sewers that are specifically designated as storm sewers or to a natural outlet approved by the Utility Manager and/or Federal or State regulatory agency.



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- H. The connection of the building sewer into the public sewer shall conform to the requirements of the building and plumbing code or other applicable rules and regulations of the City and State of Vermont, or the procedures set forth in appropriate specifications of the ASTM and the WEF Manual of Practice No. 9. All such connections shall be made gastight and watertight and verified by proper testing. Any deviation from the prescribed procedures and materials must be approved by the Utility Manager before installation.
- I. No underground piping, connection to the municipal sewer system, septic tank, or leaching facilities shall be covered until they have been inspected and approved for covering by the Utility Manager.
- J. Prior to any connection of a building sewer to the public sewer, the Utility Manager shall be given a minimum of two working days' written notice in order that such work may be supervised or inspected. All connections will be made during normal work day hours and no connections may be allowed Saturday, Sunday or legal holidays. If the Utility Manager has not been properly notified, he/she may require the completed work to be uncovered for examination, at the Owner's expense.
- K. Exterior clean-outs shall be installed where the distance from the building to the public sewer is greater than one hundred (100) feet or where bends greater than forty-five (45) degrees are used in the building sewer. Clean-outs shall be made by installing a wye and one eighth (1/8) bends of the same diameter as the building sewer. The clean-outs shall ordinarily be installed at the point of connection between the building sewer and the building drain, at curves on the building sewer and on the straight part of the building sewer. The clean-out shall be brought up from the building sewer to four (4) inches (10.2 cm) below ground level and be properly capped. Locations of all clean-outs shall be recorded and turned over to the Utility Manager.



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- L. For any new construction, and substantial renovations;
1. Separate and independent building sewers and building storm drains shall be provided.
 2. New plumbing in any existing or new building shall be so constructed as to keep all stormwater, surface water, groundwater, roof and surface runoff, subsurface drainage, and Eligible Non-Stormwater Discharges separate from sanitary sewage and industrial wastes, and from the building sewer.
 3. The building drain conveying sewage from plumbing fixtures within the building shall discharge to a building sewer, while the building drain conveying stormwater and other drainage shall discharge to a building storm drain.
 4. Where separate storm drains and sanitary sewers are provided, and an Owner has demonstrated that on-site retainage of stormwater is not possible, building storm drains shall be connected to a public storm drain. Connection of a building storm drain to any public or private sanitary sewer is prohibited.
 5. Where separate storm drains and sanitary sewers are provided, building sewers shall be connected to a sanitary sewer. Connection of a building sewer to any public or private storm drain is prohibited.
 6. Prior to activating water service, every new building sewer and storm drain shall be dye tested by the Owner or their designee in the presence of the Utility Manager or their designee, to establish that the building sewer and drain are properly connected to the City sewer and drain, respectively.



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7. The City reserves the right to inspect or conduct testing of an existing building sewer or drain to establish that it is properly connected to the public sewer or drain. Any connection from a building sewer to a storm drain (also referred to as an “illegal” or “illicit” connection) shall be disconnected immediately at the Owner’s expense. The City may require an existing connection from a building storm drain to a sewer to be disconnected at the Owner’s expense if it is determined to be discharging infiltration or inflow directly or indirectly to the sanitary sewer system.
- M. Before any portion of the existing plumbing system outside of the building is connected to the building sewer, the Owner shall prove, to the satisfaction of the Utility Manager, that it is clean and conforms in every respect to this Ordinance and that all joints are watertight. Outside (buried) building sewer lines shall be constructed in conformance with the Vermont Environmental Protection Rules, in effect at the time of sewer line construction.
- N. The Utility Manager shall apply appropriate tests to the pipes and the plumber and Contractor, at their own expense, shall furnish all necessary tools, labor, materials, and assistance for such tests and shall remove or repair any defective materials when so ordered by the Utility Manager.
- O. All excavations for building sewer installation 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.
- P. Neither the Owner nor the Contractor shall block any driveway, street, road, or railroad at any time without permission of the Utility Manager and other controlling agencies. Every effort shall be made to permit the movement of vehicular traffic at all times. Whenever it becomes necessary to cross or interfere with roads, walks, or drives, whether public or private, the Owner and Contractor shall maintain, at their own expense, and subject to the approval of the Utility Manager, safe bridges or other means of egress.



- Q. Maintaining the building sewer – including inspection, cleaning, structural repair, and other actions as may be required to ensure the full function and purpose of the building sewer in accordance with this Ordinance – shall be the sole responsibility of the Owner of the property, with the following exceptions;
1. Responsibility is otherwise transferred by legal document such as lease or trust.
 2. City Council authorizes the City to construct, own and/or maintain constructed building sewer(s) as part of a City Capital reconstruction project.

SECTION 21.03 - INSPECTION AND RIGHT OF ENTRY

- A. The Utility Manager and other duly authorized employees of the City bearing proper credentials and identification shall be permitted to enter upon any premises during a scheduled appointment agreed to by the Owner and/or User to inspect for compliance with this Ordinance. This includes all public and private properties, and may consist of inspection, sampling, metering, and testing of internal plumbing, building drains, building sewers, pumps and grinder pumps, grease traps and interceptors, and all other structures and conduits designed or used for the purpose of collecting, treating or disposing of sewage and stormwater. The Utility Manager, or duly authorized representative, shall have the right to set up on the Owner's property, or require installation of, such devices as are necessary to conduct study of the user's operations. The Owner shall allow said Agent ready access to all parts of the premises for the purposes of inspection, sampling, records examination and copying, and the performance of any addition duties.



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- B. The Utility Manager and other duly authorized representatives of the City bearing proper credentials and identification shall be permitted to enter all private properties through which the City holds a duly negotiated easement for the purposes of, but not limited to, inspection, observation, measurement, sampling, repair, and maintenance of any portion of the sewage works lying within said easement. All entry and subsequent work, if any, on said easement, shall be done in full accordance with the terms of the duly negotiated easement pertaining to the private property involved.
- C. No Owner, occupant, or other person shall refuse, impede, inhibit, interfere with, restrict or obstruct entry and access to properties, including within buildings, by the Utility Manager or duly authorized representative, bearing proper credentials and identification, where inspection is sought at reasonable times, with prior notice and a scheduled appointment time by both parties, in order to assure compliance with applicable Ordinances, statutes, codes and/or regulations.
- D. Where an Owner/Operator has security measures in force that require proper identification and clearance prior to entry upon its premises, the Owner/Operator shall make necessary arrangements with its security guards so that, upon presentation of suitable identification, the Utility Manager or duly authorized representative, shall be permitted to enter without delay for the purposes of performing specific responsibility.
- E. Any temporary or permanent obstruction to safe and easy access to the establishment shall be promptly removed by the Owner/Operator upon written or verbal request and shall not be replaced. The costs of clearing such access shall be borne by the Owner/Operator.



- F. While performing the necessary work of this Article, the Utility Manager or their representatives shall have no authority to inquire into any processes including metallurgical chemical, oil, refining, ceramic, paper or other industries beyond that point having a direct bearing on the kind and source of discharge to the sewers, waterways or facilities for waste treatment.

- G. While performing the necessary work on private properties the City shall observe all safety rules applicable to the premises established by the company and the company shall be held harmless for injury or death to the city employees and the city shall indemnify the company against loss or damage to its property by city employees and against liability claims and demands for personal injury or property damage asserted against the company and growing out of the gauging and sampling operation, except as such may be caused by negligence or failure of the company to maintain safe conditions as required.

- H. The City shall be permitted to enter all private properties through which the city holds a duly negotiated easement for the purposes of, but not limited to, inspection, observation, measurement, sampling, repair and maintenance of any portion of the sewerage works lying within said easement. All entry and subsequent work, if any, on said easement, shall be done in full accordance with the terms of the duly negotiated easement pertaining to the private property involved.

SECTION 21.04 - MANDATORY SEWER CONNECTIONS

- A. No person shall place or deposit or permit to be placed or deposited upon public or private property within the City of Winooski any sanitary sewage without approval from the City of Winooski and/or the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources.



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- B. Within the City, no privy, privy vault, septic tank, cesspool, sinkhole, or similar receptacle shall be used and maintained for disposal of sanitary sewage at any time for or upon any improved property which has been connected to a public sewer or which has been required to be connected to a public sewer.
- C. Within the City, no privy, privy vault, septic tank, cesspool sinkhole, or similar receptacle shall be connected with a sewer at any time without approval of the City of Winooski in so far as disposal of sanitary sewage is concerned.
- D. A sewer shall be considered “available” to a habitable structure, for the purposes of this Ordinance, if a portion of said sewer is within one hundred (100) feet of the nearest point of the property line of the property upon which said habitable structure is situated.
- E. The owner of all houses, buildings or properties used for human occupancy, employment, 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, is hereby required at the owner’s expense to install suitable toilet facilities therein, and to connect such facilities directly with the proper public sewer in accordance with the provisions of this chapter,
- F. Maintenance of all private sewerage facilities including but not limited to:
 - 1. building plumbing systems,
 - 2. building sewers to the main,
 - 3. sewer connection to the main,
 - 4. sewer appurtenances, shall be the responsibility of the property owner, at his/her expense.
- G. The property owner shall be solely responsible for continually maintaining such facilities in satisfactory operating condition. Maintenance shall include, but not be limited to:
 - 1. maintaining flow,
 - 2. clearing obstructions in the building sewer to the main,
 - 3. maintaining all joints gas and water tight,
 - 4. repair or replace collapsed, deteriorated or defective materials, and



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5. all other work which is necessary and essential to maintaining proper operation and preserving the structural integrity and water tightness of the system. Building sewers that discharge into a City owned sewer manhole are responsible for the sewer connection up to discharge side of the sewer main within said manhole.

SECTION 21.05 - DISCHARGE TO NATURAL OUTLETS GENERALLY

- A. No person shall discharge or cause to be discharged to any natural outlet within the city, or in any area under the jurisdiction of the city, any sewage or other polluted waters

ARTICLE IV - PERMITS, ALLOCATIONS AND BILLING

SECTION 21.06 - PERMIT REQUIRED

- A. No unauthorized person shall uncover, make any connection(s)with or make any opening into, use, alter or disturb in any manner any public sewer or appurtenance thereof without first obtaining a permit in writing from the department of public works and paying to the City any fee required and imposed by the City against the Owner.

SECTION 21.07 - CLASSES OF PERMITS; FORM AND CONTENTS OF APPLICATION

- A. There shall be two (2) classes of building sewer permits:
 1. Permits for residential, commercial and other uses conveying sanitary sewage
 2. Industrial user permits for conveyance of industrial wastes

In either case, the Owner shall make application on forms furnished by the City. The permit application shall be supplemented by any plans, specifications or other information considered pertinent in the judgment of the Utility Manager or authorized representative. A permit and inspection fee, as set by the City Council shall be paid to the City at the time the application is filed.



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- B. The Utility Manager may require an evaluation of a proposed sewer connection, performed by a Vermont Registered Professional Engineer, to assess the impact the additional flow would have on the public sewer. The cost of said evaluation shall be borne by the applicant. A permit application may be denied if the additional flow is determined to have an adverse effect on the public sewer.

SECTION 21.08 - OWNERSHIP OF CAPACITY

- A. The City of Winooski owns the wastewater collection system and wastewater treatment facility. The City is obligated to comply with conditions put forth by the Department of Environmental Conservation Water Supply Division as it relates to wastewater collection and capacity requirements.

SECTION 21.09 - RESERVE CAPACITY ALLOCATION REQUESTS

- A. All allocations to projects shall be based on the project's wastewater demands. Any differential between actual demands and requested demands is not available for reallocation by the allocatee for another project or for project expansion.
- B. Persons seeking an allocation of uncommitted wastewater reserve capacity of less than 1,000 gpd shall apply to the City for an allocation on an authorized form. Persons seeking an allocation of uncommitted wastewater reserve capacity of more than 1,000 gpd shall apply to the City for a preliminary allocation on an authorized form prepared and certified by a Vermont registered engineer. Such applications shall:
1. Be accompanied by a calculation of the project's water demand to be generated by the project/development following VT Water Supply Rule requirements;
 2. Any other information requested by staff or the City;
 3. The City reserves the right to require a Vermont registered engineer prepare the authorized form for any allocation request, at the applicant's expense.



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- C. All such applications may be denied when they are deemed to be incomplete. All staff decisions may be appealed by the applicant to the City Council. The City Council reserves the right to deny any application in its sole discretion, and consistent with law.

SECTION 21.10 - PRELIMINARY ALLOCATION DETERMINATION

- A. Upon receipt of the application for wastewater allocation with supportive documents, the City shall make a preliminary determination regarding allocation of uncommitted reserve capacity. The City shall issue a preliminary allocation upon making affirmative findings that there is sufficient wastewater reserve capacity, as of the date of the application to accommodate the development wastewater supply demand for the proposed development. Supporting documents for this section shall include a description of the land development for which allocation is sought, together with written confirmation from the Director of Planning and Zoning or his/her designee indicating that 1) the applicant has submitted to the Department of Planning and Zoning a land development project proposal in sufficient detail for the Department of Planning and Zoning to determine whether the proposal is viable under the current zoning regulations and 2) the land development project as proposed generally appears to be viable under said regulations, subject to certain approvals.
- B. A preliminary determination by the City for wastewater allocation capacity shall not constitute a binding commitment of capacity to the applicant and may be revoked by the City Council at its sole discretion. A preliminary determination may be used by the applicant that a proposed development has sufficient wastewater capacity available to proceed through the development review process.



SECTION 21.11 - FINAL CAPACITY ALLOCATION

- A. An applicant who holds a preliminary wastewater allocation of capacity may apply for a final application upon occurrence of the following:
1. Obtained site plan, conditional use and/or variance approval(s), if such approvals are the only approvals except a zoning permit, required for the proposed development under City zoning and subdivisions regulations then in effect; or
 2. Obtained final approval for a subdivision, Planned Unit Development or planned Residential Development if such approvals are the only approvals, except a zoning permit, required for the proposed development under City zoning and subdivision regulations then in effect; or
 3. Obtained all approvals required under subsection 1 and 2 above, if such approvals are required for the proposed development under City zoning and subdivision regulations then in effect; or
 4. Does not require any approvals under City zoning and subdivision regulations then in effect.
 5. The request shall be accompanied with payment for the full amount of the allocation requested.
- B. Upon receipt of an application for a final wastewater allocation, the City shall grant a final allocation upon determination that the applicant has a preliminary allocation, which has not been revoked, and that sufficient uncommitted reserve capacity is available for the development and that all fees have been received.



- C. A grant of final allocation shall constitute a binding commitment of wastewater capacity to the applicant subject to the applicant's compliance imposed on such allocation. The final allocation shall specify the allowed volume and any other characteristics determined appropriate by the City. Upon the issuance of final allocation, the allocation shall continue for a period of three years from the date of issuance of allocation or complete build out of the project, whichever comes first. The City may allow a period longer than three years if a developer so requests in writing and the City determines that the three-year initial time period is not a realistic time within which to expect connection to the municipal wastewater system. At any point during the initial three-year time period an applicant may also request an extension of up to three additional years. Unused allocations are not eligible for refunds. Any pre-existing wastewater allocation granted prior to the date of this Ordinance shall have three years from the date of this Ordinance to utilize said allocations or the allocations shall expire.
- D. A wastewater capacity allocation is not transferable to any other person or development, except a successor in interest of the development for which the allocation has been granted.

SECTION 21.12 - EXPIRATION OF ALLOCATION

- A. A final wastewater capacity allocation shall expire: 1) on the date that any approval required for grant of the final allocation expires unless the applicant has obtained an extension for the development and demonstrated significant progress toward the completion of the project for which the zoning permit has been granted; or 2) when the meter serving the project has been installed, whether or not the project is fully occupied, and any metered usage is obtained.



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- B. The section above notwithstanding, for developments which an applicant has obtained a portion of the water allocation, the remaining portion of the final allocation shall expire three (3) years from the date of issuance of the final allocation, unless extended as provided below.
1. The applicant may, depending on the volume of the approved allocation, apply to the City to extend the capacity allocation for one period of three (3) years from the date of expiration of the original final allocation provided that the application extension is filed prior to the expiration date of the original final allocation, and the applicant requesting the extension has been working diligently to complete the project.
 2. Upon expiration of the final allocation, approved extension, or any portion thereof, the remaining capacity shall revert to the City. There shall be no refund on fees paid for the unused or reverted allocation.
 3. In all cases, design allocations shall be considered expired when the project is complete and a history of metered usage can be utilized to establish usual demands of the project.
 4. In the event the project is not built within the approved time period, and all allocation fees have been paid, the customer may be refunded the paid allocation fees less a 1.27% administrative fee.
- C. The City shall strive to review and approve projects on a first come, first served basis. The City retains the right to review applications on other than a first come, first served basis if the City deems such action is in the City's best interest. The City may attach conditions related to the wastewater infrastructure (e.g. line improvements, future tie-in provisions, etc.) to allocation approvals to achieve the goals and policies of the City, the cost of which shall be borne by the applicant. The City also reserves the right to deny applications for any reason at their sole discretion.



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- D. All customers shall request a change in use whenever there will be a permanent “substantial change increase” in water volume use from an existing connection. A substantial change increase is defined as:
1. Equivalent to one (1) gallon less than the flow quantities established in the current edition of the Vermont Water Supply Rule, Standard Flow Quantities, required for a single dwelling, or
 2. Greater than fifty percent (50%) of the historical use registered on the meter for normal billing over a three-year period or a. above, whichever is less, or
 3. The conversion of an existing single-family home to multiple occupancy residential, mixed use, commercial, retail, or industrial structure, or the conversion of a commercial or industrial unit to one that differs from the original approval.
- D. A user fee shall be paid by all users of the City’s water/wastewater system based upon the multiplied product of their metered usage, and a water rate/1000 cubic foot as set by the City, except as set forth in subsection below:
1. All wastewater charges are based on actual usage for each individual account per billing cycle.
 2. Charges are payable whether or not water is physically turned on or off to the facility at the meter during part or all of the billing period, provided the service connection is physically connected to the mainline. Water service termination at the curb stop needs to be arranged with the City or a quarterly bill will be assessed. No abatement of water/wastewater bills or minimum fees will be allowed by reason of disuse, diminished use, or vacancy of premises without proper notice to the Department, and water service termination at the curb stop.



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3. Any account that has been finalized between regular billing cycle readings shall be billed for the larger of: the actual metered usage, the estimated usage, or the minimum charge for the billing period, when 45 days or more have occurred since the last reading. For readings less than 45 days apart, no sewer usage charge shall be applied unless actual usage is 100 cubic feet or more. The City may adjust final water bills on a case-by-case basis.

SECTION 21.13 - BILLING AND PAYMENTS

- A. Wastewater charges will be invoiced quarterly to all residential, commercial, and other accounts that convey sanitary sewage. Wastewater charges shall be payable on or before the 30th day following the date of the invoice or a later date as shown on the invoice. In the event that such charge is not paid when due, a one-time penalty of eight percent (8%) shall be applied and interest of One (1.0%) percent monthly shall be imposed by the City per month after the first thirty (30) days of delinquency and monthly thereafter until the invoice is paid. If any account shall remain delinquent, the City may also take action that is consistent with the provisions of Title 24, V.S.A. Chapter 129, Uniform Water and Sewer Disconnect, as presently constituted and as amended from time to time, to obtain payment of delinquent charges or to discontinue water service. Such charges shall be a lien upon the real estate as provided in 24 V.S.A. 3306 and 32 V.S.A. 5061.
- B. New residential and commercial water connections made during a billing period shall be billed on the following basis:
 1. The billing shall be the larger of the actual metered billing, the estimated usage, or the minimum charge for the billing period.
 2. Notwithstanding above, the City may adjust new water connection water bills on a case-by-case basis.

Should any meter become inoperative between readings, upon investigation and discretion of the City the customer shall be billed at the average amount of the preceding two quarters that the meter recorded correctly, or the previous year's same quarter, or an average as determined by the City.



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- D. Industrial User wastewater charges will be invoiced in accordance with their approved permit.

- E. Refer to Chapter 28 for sewer rate charges for sewage and Industrial waste.

SECTION 21.14 - RESPONSIBILITY FOR PAYMENT

- A. In consideration of sewer service supplied by the City all property owners are responsible for payment of bills rendered for water used by the owner, their tenants, successors in tenancy or in ownership, and all other operations at the specified location, unless and until proper notice is given to the City of termination of service on a specific date. The property owner shall abide by all rules and regulations established by the City consistent with enforcement of the provisions of this ordinance.

- B. All sewer charges will be billed to the owner of record of the facility(s) served, unless waived by the City. Although another person may pay the service rate, the owner of the premises shall ultimately be held responsible for such fees. In the event that all charges are not paid on a timely basis, the owner of record will be solely responsible for all penalties, fees, interest and delinquent charges. Each time a bad check is received for payment of a water bill the account shall be charged a returned check fee as established by and as may be modified from time to time by the Council in addition to any other penalties. Failure to receive a bill does not relieve the owner of the obligation for payment or for the payment of penalties.



SECTION 21.15 - WATER/WASTEWATER DISCONNECTION FOR DELINQUENT PAYMENT OF FEES

The City of Winooski may disconnect water/sewer services to ratepayers as a collection procedure for delinquent water and/or sewer bills or charges (24 VSA § 5151) in accordance with the conditions and provisions as set out in Title 24, Chapter 129, "Uniform Water and Sewer Disconnect", of the Vermont Statutes Annotated (VSA), as the same may be amended from time to time. This statute delineates the operative definitions, conditions and procedures the City shall observe for both disconnections and reconnections based on the then-current edition of 24 VSA.

SECTION 21.16 - OWNER TO BEAR COSTS OF INSTALLATION OF BUILDING SEWER

All costs and expenses incident to the installation and connection of the building sewer shall be borne by the owner, with the exception that; the City Council may authorize the City to bear a portion or all costs for the installation and connection of the building sewer associated with a City Capital reconstruction project.

The owner shall indemnify the city from any loss or damage that may directly or indirectly be occasioned by the installation of a privately owned building sewer.

SECTION 21.17 - ROOF DOWNSPOUTS, EXTERIOR DRAINS, ETC., NOT TO BE CONNECTED TO BUILDING SEWERS

No person shall make connections of roof downspouts, exterior foundation drains, areaway drains or other sources of surface runoff or groundwater to a building sewer or building drain which in turn is connected directly or indirectly to a public sanitary sewer.



SECTION 21.18 - INSPECTION OF SEWER REQUIRED PRIOR TO CONNECTION TO PUBLIC SEWER

The applicant for the building sewer permit required by this article shall notify the Utility Manager when the building sewer is ready for inspection and connection to the public sewer. The connection shall be made under the supervision of the Utility Manager or designated representative.

ARTICLE V - USE OF PUBLIC SEWERS

SECTION 21.19 - DISCHARGE OF STORM WATER, SURFACE WATER, ETC.,

- A. No person shall discharge or cause to be discharged any storm water, surface water, groundwater, roof runoff, subsurface drainage, uncontaminated cooling waters or unpolluted industrial process waters to any sanitary sewer.
- B. Storm water and all other unpolluted drainage shall be discharged to such sewers as are specifically designated as storm sewers, or to natural outlet approved by the City.

SECTION 21.20 - PROHIBITED DISCHARGES TO PUBLIC SEWERS

- 1. No person shall discharge or cause to be discharged in amounts that will interfere with the sewage treatment works, non-dispersables such as fats, oils, grease, rags, sanitary products, ear swabs, dental floss, and other materials that will not break apart to become indistinguishable in sewage within five (5) minutes of discharge to the building sewer. Any gasoline, benzene, naphtha, fuel oil or other flammable or explosive liquid, solid or gas.



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2. Any waters or wastes containing toxic or poisonous solids, liquids or gases in sufficient quantity, either singly or by interaction with other wastes, to injure or interfere with any sewage treatment process, constitute a hazard to humans or animals, create a public nuisance, or create any hazard in the receiving waters of the sewage treatment plant.
3. Any waters or wastes having a pH lower than 5.5 or higher than 9.0, or having any other corrosive property capable of causing damage or hazard to structures, equipment and personnel of the sewerage works.
4. Solid or viscous substances in quantities or of such size capable of causing obstruction to the flow in sewers, or other interference with the proper operation of the sewerage works such as, but not limited to, ashes, cinders, sand, mud, straw, shavings, metal, glass, rags, feathers, tar, plastics, wood, un-ground garbage, whole blood, paunch manure, hair and fleshings, entrails and paper dishes, cups, milk containers, etc., either whole or ground by garbage grinders.
5. Any wastewater containing toxic pollutants in sufficient quantity, either single or by interaction with other pollutants by the same user, to injure, pass through, or cause interference with any sewage treatment process, constitute a hazard to humans or animals, or create a toxic effect in the receiving waters of the sewage treatment plant.
6. Any noxious or malodorous liquids, gases, or solids which either singly or by interaction with other wastes are sufficient to create a public nuisance or hazard to life or sufficient to prevent entry into the sewers for maintenance and repair. For the purpose of this paragraph, an odor shall be considered as creating a public nuisance when it exists at a sufficient intensity or duration to cause a neighboring resident to register a complaint with the City.
7. Any substance which will cause the sewage treatment plant to violate its NPDES Permit or the receiving water quality standards.



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8. Water sufficiently hot to cause the influent at the sewage treatment facilities to exceed 104°F (40°C) or cause inhibition of biological activity in the sewage treatment plant.
9. Quantities of flow, concentrations or both which constitute a "slug" as defined.
10. Any wastewater containing any radioactive wastes or isotopes of such half-life or concentration as may exceed limits established by the Utility Manager in compliance with applicable State or Federal regulations.
11. Any wastewater which causes a hazard to human life as defined by the Environmental Protection Agency or creates a public nuisance.

SECTION 21.21 - PROHIBITED DISCHARGES TO PUBLIC SEWERS WITHOUT APPROVAL

- A. No person shall discharge or cause to be discharged the following described substances, materials, waters or wastes, if it appears likely in the opinion of the City that such wastes can harm either the sewers, sewage treatment process or equipment, have an adverse effect on the receiving stream, or can otherwise endanger life, limb, public property or constitute a nuisance. In forming its opinion as to the acceptability of these wastes, the City will give consideration to such factors as the quantities of subject wastes in relation to flows and velocities in the sewers, materials of construction of the sewers, nature of the sewage treatment process, capacity of the sewage treatment plant, degree of treatability of wastes in the sewage treatment plant and other pertinent factors. The substances prohibited are:
 1. Any liquid or vapor having a temperature higher than one hundred fifty (150) degrees Fahrenheit.
 2. Any waters or wastes containing fats, wax, grease or oils, whether emulsified or not, in excess of twenty-five (25) mg/l or containing substances which may solidify or become viscous at temperatures between thirty-two (32) degrees Fahrenheit and one hundred fifty (150) degrees Fahrenheit.



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3. Any garbage that has not been properly shredded. The installation and operation of any garbage grinder equipped with a motor of three-fourths (3/4) horsepower or greater shall be subject to the review and approval of the Utility Manager.
4. Any waters or wastes containing strong acid iron pickling wastes or concentrated plating solutions whether neutralized or not.
5. Any waters or wastes containing iron, chromium, copper, zinc and similar objectionable or toxic substances; or wastes exerting an excessive chlorine requirement, to such degree that such material received in the composite sewage at the sewage treatment works exceeds the limits established by the City for such materials.
6. Any waters or wastes containing phenols or other taste- or odor-producing substances, in such concentrations exceeding limits which may be established by the superintendent as necessary, after treatment of the composite sewage to meet the requirements of the state, federal or other public agencies having jurisdiction for such discharge to the receiving waters.
7. Any radioactive wastes or isotopes of such half-life or concentration as may exceed limits established by the Utility Manager in compliance with applicable State and/or Federal regulations.
8. Any waters or wastes having a pH in excess of 9.5.
9. Materials which exert or cause:
 - a. Unusual concentrations of inert suspended solids, such as but not limited to, fuller's earth, lime slurries and lime residues or of dissolved solids, such as but not limited to, sodium chloride and sodium sulfate.
 - b. Excessive discoloration, such as but not limited to, dye wastes and vegetable tanning solutions.



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- c. Unusual BOD, chemical oxygen demand or chlorine requirements in such quantities as to constitute a significant load on the sewage treatment works or which may cause the effluent limitation of the discharge permit to be exceeded.
 - d. Unusual volume of flow or concentration of wastes constituting "slugs" as defined herein.
 - e. Waters or wastes containing substances which are not amenable to treatment processes employed, or are amenable to treatment only to such degree that the sewage treatment plant effluent cannot meet the requirements of other agencies having jurisdiction over discharge to the receiving waters.
- B. The Utility Manager may set limitations lower than the limitation established in these regulations if in their opinion such more severe limitations are necessary to meet the above objectives.
- C. No user shall achieve, or attempt to achieve, compliance with this Ordinance by diluting a discharge instead of using proper pretreatment. The increased use of process water in place of proper treatment shall be considered dilution and is prohibited by this Ordinance.
- D. When required by the Utility Manager, the Owner of any property serviced by a building sewer carrying industrial or other process wastes shall install a suitable structure together with such necessary meters and other appurtenances in the building sewer to facilitate observation, sampling, and measurement of the wastes. Such structure, when required, shall be accessibly and safely located and shall be constructed in compliance with applicable construction standards and in accordance with plans approved by the Utility Manager. The structure and appurtenances shall be properly maintained by the Owner, including calibration of all meters and measuring devices so as to ensure accurate measurement. All records from meters, measuring devices and samplers shall be kept for at least five years and furnished to the Utility Manager or their designee upon request. During construction and after installation, the Utility Manager or their designee shall have the right to inspect the facilities.



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- E. Oil traps shall be required on sewers directly or indirectly tributary to the public sewage works from existing or new garages, service stations, enclosed parking areas, and other establishments capable of discharging petroleum-based oil or grease, flammable wastes, sand, or other harmful substances. Such devices shall not normally be required for garages associated with private dwelling units. The determination as to whether an oil trap is required rests with the Utility Manager. Where required, oil traps shall be in accordance with the following provisions, as well as State plumbing statute, and all other applicable Federal, State, and local rules and regulations:
1. Discharges from oil traps shall be directed to a sanitary sewer and not to a storm drain.
 2. Oil traps shall be of a type, capacity, location, and construction approved by the Utility Manager and located so as to be readily accessible for maintenance and inspection. The Utility Manager, or duly authorized representative, shall have the right to inspect such facilities in accordance with the provisions of this Ordinance.
 3. Oil traps shall be installed and maintained continuously in satisfactory and effective operation by and at the expense of the Owner or user. Both the Owner of the premises where an oil trap is required and the Owner or Operator of the establishment or business conducted on the premises shall be jointly and severally responsible for installing an oil trap acceptable to the Utility Manager and for properly servicing and maintaining the oil trap. The schedule for service and maintenance of an oil trap shall be subject to approval by the Utility Manager.
 4. The Owner or Operator of the establishment or business conducted on the premises where the oil trap is located shall maintain a log describing the date and type of all service and maintenance performed in connection with the oil trap, the identity of the person who performed the service or maintenance, the amount of residue removed from the oil trap on each date, and the method of disposal of the residue. The log entries shall be maintained for six years and shall be made available for inspection and copying by the Utility Manager.



SECTION 21.22 – PRETREATMENT

- A. When required by the Utility Manager, a user shall design, construct, install, operate and maintain special pre-treatment facilities which will provide for the regulation and control of the rate, volume and characteristics of sewage discharged City's sanitary sewer. Pre-treatment facilities shall be designed, constructed, installed, operated and maintained in compliance with Vermont Agency of Natural Resources requirements.
- B. The design and installation of the pre-treatment facilities shall be subject to the review and approval of the City, and the requirements of all applicable Federal, State, and local codes, Ordinances and laws. Pre-treatment facilities shall be located as to be readily and easily accessible for inspection, maintenance, and/or cleaning and shall be provided and maintained by the Owner, at the expense of the Owner, in a continuous, efficient operating condition at all times.
- C. In the maintaining of pre-treatment systems, the Owner shall be responsible for monitoring the proper removal and disposal, by appropriate means, of the captured material. Any removal and hauling of the collected materials must be performed by currently licensed waste disposal firms. Materials collected shall not be reintroduced into the public sewage works. The Owner(s) shall annually file reports with the City reporting on such maintenance, removal and disposal; including dates performed and who did the removal and disposal.
- D. The Utility Manager shall have the right to inspect such special facilities in accordance with provisions of this Ordinance to ascertain compliance with such.



SECTION 21.23 CONTROL OF FATS, OILS AND GREASE

A. A grease trap/interceptor shall be installed in the waste line leading from sinks, drains or other fixtures in all new establishments where significant amounts of animal or vegetable fat, oil, or grease can be introduced into the sewer system in concentrations that can cause line stoppage or hinder the sewage works, or when, in the opinion of the Utility Manager, they are necessary for the proper handling of liquid wastes containing floatable oil in excessive amounts. This includes, but is not limited to any restaurant; cafeteria; hotel; hospital; institutional, factory, club, or other commercial kitchen; food and meat packing and processing facilities; supermarkets; and bakeries. Private residences shall be exempt from this rule, except for housing developments with more than three (3) units discharging to a public sewer. Grease traps/interceptors shall be installed and permitted prior to operation. The Utility Manager shall require existing facilities to install, operate, and maintain a new grease trap/interceptor that complies with the requirements of this section or to modify or repair any noncompliant plumbing or existing trap/interceptor within ninety (90) days of written notification from the City when any one or more of the following conditions exist:

1. The facility is found to be contributing oils and grease in quantities sufficient to cause line stoppages or necessitate increased maintenance of the wastewater collection system.
2. The facility does not have a grease trap/interceptor.
3. The facility has an undersized, irreparable or defective grease trap/interceptor.
4. Remodeling of food preparation, kitchen waste, or other waste plumbing system is performed which requires a plumbing permit to be issued by the City.
5. The existing facility is sold or undergoes a change of Ownership.
6. The existing facility does not have plumbing connections to a trap/grease interceptor in compliance with the requirements of this section.



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7. The facility has not operated as a food service facility for 12 consecutive months.
- B. The discharge of the following to grease traps/interceptors is strictly prohibited:
1. Sink water temperatures in excess of 140 degrees Fahrenheit.
 2. Wastewater from sanitary facilities and other similar fixtures.
 3. Waste from food and waste grinders, except where a pre-filter is provided.
- C. Grease traps (internal) shall be based on Plumbing and Drainage Institute (PDI) sizing and installation data, in accordance with PDI Standard G101, and shall utilize only those units approved by PDI. Installation of a dedicated building drain and an in-line grease trap shall be required to serve all fixtures from which fat, oil or grease may be discharged whenever there is sufficient space and adequate plumbing to incorporate the appropriate facilities as determined by the Owner and approved by the Utility Manager. Point of use grease traps may be required instead of or in addition to, an in-line grease trap for discharges from dish washer rinse sinks, pot sinks, floor sinks and drains, automatic hood washes, soup and tilt kettles, wok drains, and any other fixture which may introduce fat, oil or grease to the sewer as determined by the Utility Manager. These units shall also include a sample port on the effluent Tee. Grease traps shall meet the following criteria:
1. Trap design and location: Grease traps shall conform to the standards in the PDI Standards G101. Grease traps shall be installed in strict accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. Grease traps shall be equipped with a cover that can be opened for inspection and sampling and a mechanism for a secure closing.
 2. Trap capacity: The capacity of the grease trap shall be related to the flow rate as indicated in Table 1 of the PDI Standard G101 document.
 3. Flow-through rate: Flow-through rates shall be calculated in accordance with the procedures in the PDI Standard G101.
 4. Flow control device: Grease traps shall be equipped with a device to control the rate of flow through the unit. The rate of flow shall not exceed the manufacturer's rated capacity recommended in gallons per minute for the unit.



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5. Particle Separator: Grease traps shall be equipped with a device, prior to the grease trap, to control the amount of solids through the unit.
 6. Venting: The flow-control device and the grease trap shall be vented in accordance with the State plumbing code.
- D. Grease interceptors (external) shall be designed and installed in accordance with PDI Standard G-101 and the accepted State Plumbing Code, unless otherwise stated herein. All new and existing grease interceptors shall meet the following criteria:
1. Interceptor design and location: Grease interceptors shall have a minimum of two compartments and shall be capable of separation and retention of grease and storage of settled solids. Interceptor design shall conform to the requirements of the Vermont Environmental Protection Rules, and the interceptors shall be PDI certified. The use of water-cooled grease interceptors is prohibited. A control manhole over each compartment for monitoring purposes shall be required and installed at the Owner/Operator's sole expense. Covers shall have a gas tight fit. The grease interceptor shall be designed, constructed and installed for adequate load-bearing capacity. Flow control devices shall be required where the water flow through the interceptor may exceed its rated flow. Interceptors shall be installed in a location outside of the building, which provides easy access at all times for inspections, cleaning, and proper maintenance, including pumping. A manhole or other access point shall be installed on the discharge line of the grease interceptor for sampling of the grease trap effluent. Effluent sampling shall be performed to ensure compliance with the regulations.



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2. Interceptor capacity: Grease interceptor capacity calculations shall be performed by each facility based on size and type of operation in accordance with State environmental statutes. Grease interceptors shall have a minimum depth of four feet and a minimum capacity of 1,000 gallons per unit, have a grease retention capacity of not less than two (2) pounds for each gallon per minute of flow, and shall have sufficient capacity to provide at least a 24-hour detention period for all flow to be discharged to the interceptor. Where sufficient capacity cannot be achieved with a single unit, installation of grease interceptors in series is required. Interceptor capacity calculations shall be approved by the Utility Manager prior to the installation of the interceptor(s). Grease interceptors shall not be installed unless tested, rated and bear the seal of acceptance of State Plumbers Examination Board or approved by the Utility Manager.
- E. Other alternative and innovative approved methods of grease removal and disposal may be used if approved by the Utility Manager. If the Owner determines there is insufficient space available to install a grease trap/interceptor, or the facility's plumbing cannot accommodate a grease trap, or if it is determined that an existing or proposed grease installation, despite being designed according with industry standards, cannot meet the discharge limits, the City may require the Owner to implement other measures to ensure compliance with the discharge limitation. Required measures may include but are not limited to, modifying the type, capacity, location and construction of the grease trap/interceptor, adding chemical or biological agent approved by the Utility Manager to convert the fats, wax, oil, and grease to a substance not prohibited by this Ordinance, more frequent cleaning of the grease trap/interceptor, and physical containment and removal of fats, wax, oil and grease for disposal offsite.



F. Waivers:

1. An establishment which generates very little or no fat, oil or grease, may request a waiver of the requirements of this Ordinance. The request must be clear and specific, and include the quantity generated, how it is generated, method of disposal, and any other pertinent information supporting the request. All such requests will be reviewed and a determination made within 30 days of receiving the request. Written and signed documentation of all proposed prevention measures shall be maintained on-site and available for inspection.
2. An establishment may apply for a waiver from this regulation if the establishment can demonstrate that it is impossible or impracticable to operate or maintain an interceptor at that location. Any request must include alternative pre-treatment for managing fat, oil, and grease from the establishment. Consideration will be given but not limited to the following scenarios: (1) inadequate space for the installation or maintenance of a unit, and (2) inadequate slope for gravity flow between fixtures and unit or unit and public sewer. A waiver may contain additional requirements specific to the location including but not limited to alternative equipment, sampling and analytical requirements, reimbursement of costs associated with sewer monitoring and maintenance, and implementation of additional Best Management Practices.
3. Every waiver request shall be made in writing and it shall reference the specific provision of this Ordinance for which the waiver is sought. The applicant shall provide technical documentation that demonstrates that an equal amount of environmental protection can be attained without full compliance with this Ordinance. A copy of said request shall be sent to the Utility Manager. Any waiver allowed by the City shall be issued in writing. Any denial of a waiver request shall also be issued in writing and shall contain a Statement of the reasons for a denial. Written notification to the applicant shall be completed by the City within 30 days of receipt of a complete application. All documents relating to the request, approval or denial of a variance shall be kept on file with the Water & Sewer Department and shall be available to the public during the regular hours of operation.



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G. Maintenance:

1. Where grease traps/interceptors are required, they shall be installed and maintained continuously in satisfactory and effective operation and in accordance with this Ordinance and the requirements of the accepted State Plumbing Code, all by and at the expense of the Owner and user. Unless otherwise required by the equipment manufacture or Utility Manager, Owners or Operators shall have traps/interceptors inspected a minimum of once per month and pumped at least every three (3) months. In addition to required quarterly pumping, each establishment is required to pump its grease trap/interceptor whenever one of the following conditions occurs:
 - a. When the total volume of captured grease and solid material displaces more than 25% of the capacity of the interceptor as calculated using an approved dipping method.
 - b. When the interceptor is not retaining/capturing oils and greases, or the removal efficiency of the device, as determined through sampling and analysis, is less than eighty percent (80%).
 - c. Chemical, biological, or physical means (including flushing with water) shall not be used to release fats, wax, oil or grease into the sewer, bypass the trap, or otherwise make the trap operate less effectively. Subject to the Utility Manager's prior written approval, a chemical or biological agent may be added to convert the fats, wax, oil, and grease in a trap to a substance not prohibited by this Ordinance, if the resulting discharge from the trap will not cause or contribute to an obstruction or blockage in the sewer or otherwise violate this Ordinance. Unless so converted, the fats, wax, oil, and grease contents of a grease trap shall not be discharged to public sewers.



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- H. All waste fats, oil and grease must be collected in an appropriate container provided by an approved vendor, and stored in an approved location on the premises. The container must be stored on an impervious surface such as concrete or pavement. Containers must be capable of being sealed to prevent entry of precipitation or stored in a sheltered area. During storage, all grease containers and surrounding areas shall be maintained in a clean and sanitary condition at all times. For containers and a grease interceptor, the waste material shall be removed by a professional hauler and shall include the complete removal of all contents. Wastes removed shall be disposed of at a facility permitted to receive such wastes or at a location designated by the City for such purposes. The name and location of the disposal facility shall be verified by the establishment, which shall be responsible for obtaining such information from the grease hauler.
- I. The Owner or Operator of the establishment or business conducted on the premises where the grease trap/interceptor is located shall maintain a record which describes the date and type of all inspections and cleaning of the grease trap, service and maintenance performed in connection with the grease trap, the identity of the person who performed the service or maintenance, the amount of residue removed from the grease trap on each date, the method of disposal of the residue, and any other data pertaining to operation, inspection, or maintenance. The log shall be submitted to the Utility Manager annually. Each facility shall also maintain a file on site, available at all times for inspection and review by the Utility Manager, which contains at least the following information:
- a. As-built drawings of the plumbing system for new or renovated buildings and (if available) for existing buildings
 - b. Records of inspections
 - c. Copies of annual reports (submitted with Food Service Permit)
 - d. Receipts (pumping, maintenance, repairs, etc.)
 - e. Log of pumping activities
 - f. Log of maintenance activities vii Grease hauler information
 - g. Disposal information (including site name and location of disposal facility obtained from grease hauler)
 - h. Monitoring data (including amount of grease present during inspection)



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- J. Failure to maintain an adequately sized grease trap/interceptor in proper working order where required by this Ordinance, will result in a fine. Re-inspection of any establishment due to non-compliance or a violation shall result in a charge to the Owner of the establishment. Establishment Owners will have 30 days to rectify any violations or non-compliance issues.
- K. Enforcement Specific to Food Service Facilities:
After completing inspection of grease traps/interceptors at all food service facilities, the Utility Manager or duly authorized representative of the City shall initiate the following action:
1. No Further Action Required: If all information is verified and the grease trap/interceptor is of proper type/size and in proper working condition in accordance with the provisions of this section, no further action will be required.
 2. Written Notice: If the grease trap/interceptor requires any maintenance, repairs, replacement, or corrections, the Utility Manager shall provide a written notice of violation within five (5) days of inspection. The Owner/occupant shall have ninety (90) calendar days to correct all deficiencies identified by the City. Failure to do so may result in the suspension of the establishment's Permit to Operate a Food Establishment.
 3. Notice of Violation: A Notice of Violation (NOV) shall be issued to an establishment for any one or more of the following reasons:
 - a. Failure to properly maintain the grease trap/interceptor in accordance with the provisions of this section.
 - b. Failure to report significant changes in operations, or wastewater constituents and characteristics.
 - c. Failure to maintain a file of records on site at all times.
 - d. Failure to provide logs, files, records, or access for inspection or monitoring activities.



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- e. Any other failure to comply with the requirements of this section.
4. Notice of Violation Response: Any establishment issued a notice of violation shall respond to the Utility Manager in writing within fourteen (14) calendar days of receipt of the notice of violation and submit information describing how the noncompliance occurred and what steps shall be taken to correct the deficiencies and/or prevent the re-occurrence of the noncompliance. Requirements for submittal shall include maintenance records, plans for installation or upgrade of grease interceptors, including time frames for preparation of plans, acquisition of necessary equipment, initiation of construction (including time for permit approval, where required), completion of construction, and a date for achievement of final compliance with this section. The establishment shall have ninety (90) days from the Notice of Violation to perform corrective work. Once corrective actions have been made, the food service establishment shall contact (within 90 days of notice of violation) the Utility Manager in writing, who shall perform a re-inspection within five (5) business days to confirm that all deficiencies have been corrected.
5. Time-Extension: If the establishment cannot complete the required repairs or maintenance within ninety (90) days from the Notice of Violation to perform corrective work, the establishment may apply for a one-time extension. The establishment shall submit a written request to the Utility Manager for a time extension, including proof that a “good faith effort” was made to contact/schedule a Contractor to perform work and a definitive schedule for when the establishment intends to have the corrective work completed.
6. Re-inspections: The Utility Manager, or duly authorized representative, shall re-inspect facilities that received deficiency notices after the original inspection. Any repairs or other deficiencies shall be inspected and written notice provided of compliance or non-compliance as the case may be. In the event that the establishment has returned to compliance with all of the deficiencies, there shall be no further action required. If the establishment is not in compliance at the second inspection, the City may issue civil penalties and enforcement as provided for in Chapter 1, Section 1.11 of Winooski City Code.



SECTION 21.24 MONITORING OF INDUSTRIAL WASTE DISCHARGES

- A. The Utility Manager shall be permitted to enter into, upon, or through the premises of any property discharging into the sewage works to have access to and copy any record; to inspect any discharge, monitoring equipment or method; and to sample any discharge into the sewage works, including but not limited to access to water meters.

- B. All measurements, tests, and analyses of the characteristics of waters and wastes to which reference is made in this Ordinance shall be determined in accordance with the latest edition of "Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater", published by the American Public Health Association. Sampling methods, locations, times, durations and frequencies are to be determined per this Article or on an individual basis subject to the approval by the Utility Manager.

- C. All measurements and tests shall be determined at the control manhole provided, or upon suitable samples taken at said control manhole. In the event that no special manhole has been required, the control manhole shall be considered to be the nearest downstream manhole in the public sewer to the point at which the building sewer is connected.

- D. Sampling shall be carried out by customarily accepted methods to reflect the effect of constituents upon the sewage works and to determine the existence of hazards to life, limb, and property. The particular analyses involved will determine whether a twenty-four (24) hour composite of all outfalls of a premise is appropriate or whether a grab sample or samples should be taken.



SECTION 21.21 - ALTERNATIVES WHEN PROHIBITED SUBSTANCES ARE TO BE DISCHARGED

- A. If any waters or wastes are discharged, or are proposed to be discharged to the public sewers, which waters contain the substances or possess the characteristics enumerated in section 21.20, and which in the judgment of the City may have a deleterious effect upon the sewerage works, processes, equipment or receiving waters, or which otherwise create a hazard to life or constitute a public nuisance, the City may:
 - 1. Reject the wastes;
 - 2. Require pretreatment to an acceptable condition for discharge to the public sewers;
 - 3. Require control over the quantities and rates of discharge; and/or
- B. If the City permits the pretreatment or equalization of waste flows, the design and installation of the plants and equipment shall be subject to the review and approval of the City, and subject to the requirements of all applicable codes, ordinances and laws.

SECTION 21.22 - PROCEDURES AND POLICIES FOR MANAGING SEWER BACKUPS

- A. It is the policy of the City of Winooski that the City, will respond to requests for assistance by municipal sewer customers, in the event of a sewer backup, in the following manner:
 - 1. An investigation shall be made to determine if the sewer blockage is in the City sewer main (i.e. between municipal manholes or at municipal manholes).



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2. If the sewerage flow in the municipal manholes is flowing freely, the indication is that the blockage is occurring in the service connection at or between the building and the sewer main. The affected sewer customer(s) shall be notified and informed that the problem appears to be in the service lateral. It is the responsibility of the sewer customer to correct the problem and the City will take no further action to repair. The City, however, reserves the right granted under this ordinance to inspect and approve all repairs that are made.
3. If the blockage is determined to be in the municipal system, the City shall be responsible for removing the blockage and reestablishing flow. If the sewer backup appears to have been caused by a blockage in the sewer main, the City shall assist the sewer customer in making arrangements and paying for a one-time cleaning of the affected area to include walls, floors, carpets and affected upholstered furniture, to a ceiling amount of one-thousand dollars (\$1,000) per dwelling or business.
4. The purpose of providing the initial cleanup services identified in this section is to provide for a minimum level of public health protection to the affected sewer customer. The risk of exposure to pathogenic bacteria and other health related contaminants is assumed to be greater with a sewer main blockage, potentially involving many sewerage customers, than blockages involving a single service.
5. The City shall not be responsible for replacement or repairs to the structure or its contents, including but not limited to walls, floors and floor coverings, heating and other mechanical systems, and furniture and furnishings.



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6. If, upon inspection of the facility by a City representative, it is found that the service connection or interior house plumbing does not meet the requirements of the public works standards, the City Sewer Ordinance, the state plumbing code or other similar accepted standards, the City can, as a condition of continued service, require that the appropriate plumbing changes be made. The City may also seek any penalties allowable under law for violation of the referenced standards.
7. The City accepts no legal responsibility for sewer backups or restitution as a result of such backup in that such backup is considered to be an act of God. Actions taken by the City are solely for the purpose of protecting the public health.

SECTION 21.27 – PROTECTION FROM DAMAGE

- A. No person shall maliciously, willfully, or negligently break, damage, destroy, uncover, deface, or tamper with any structure, appurtenance or equipment which is part of the sewage works.
- B. Any person violating this provision shall be subject to immediate arrest under the charge of unlawful mischief as set forth in Title 13, Section 3701 of the Vermont Statutes Annotated. Any person violating this article on conviction thereof shall be fined and/or shall owe a penalty in an amount not less than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) for each occurrence.

ARTICLE VI - VIOLATION OF CHAPTER; PENALTIES

SECTION 21.28 - VIOLATION OF CHAPTER

- A. Any person found violating any provision of this chapter shall be served by the city with a written notice stating the nature of the violation and providing a reasonable time limit for the satisfactory correction thereof. The offender shall, within the period of time stated in such notice, permanently cease all violations. Failure to do so will result in criminal or civil penalties as provided for in this chapter.



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- B. 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.

SECTION 21.29 - CIVIL ACTION

In additional to the enforcement authority set forth in this chapter, the City shall have the right to institute civil action which it deems appropriate to obtain injunctive or monetary relief.

SECTION 21.30 - DUTY TO NOTIFY

- A. Users shall notify the Department of Public Works by telephone immediately upon discharge or receiving knowledge of a discharge of water or wastes in violation of this Ordinance and of any spill or other non-permitted pollutant release that may reasonably be expected to discharge whether directly or indirectly to any public or private sewer, combined sewer, or storm drain, or to a natural outlet. When directed by the Department of Public Works, or if the user fails to reach the Department of Public Works by telephone, the user shall also notify the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation immediately by telephone.
- B. Each notification shall be followed within fifteen (15) days of the date of occurrence by a detailed written Statement addressed to the Utility Manager and, as appropriate, State and Federal agencies, describing the causes of the discharge and the measures being taken to prevent a recurrence. Such notification will not relieve users of liability for any expense, loss or damage to the public sewer or for any fines imposed on the City, or the Owner as a result of such discharge.



SECTION 21.31 - ENFORCEMENT

A. Administrative Enforcement:

1. Any condition caused or permitted to exist in violation of any of the provisions of this Ordinance is a threat to public health, safety, and welfare, and is declared and deemed a nuisance, and may be summarily abated or restored at the violator's expense, and/or a civil action to abate, enjoin, or otherwise compel the cessation of such nuisance maybe taken.
2. Any person found to be violating any provision of this Ordinance shall be served by the City with written notice stating the nature of the violation and providing a reasonable time limit for the satisfactory correction thereof. Such notice may require without limitation:
 - a. The performance of monitoring, analyses, and reporting.
The elimination of illicit discharges.
 - b. The cessation of improper practices and operations and implementation of proper practices and operations.
 - c. The abatement or remediation of any contamination of the public sewage works or and waters of the State of Vermont or the United States and restoration of any property impacted by such contamination.
 - d. Establishment of time limits for the completion of all required work.
 - f. Payment of a fine



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- g. The Utility Manager may, without prior notice, suspend discharge access to a person when such suspension is necessary to stop and actual or threatened discharge which presents or may present imminent and substantial danger to the environment, or the health or welfare of persons, or to the sewage works or waters of the State of Vermont or United States. If the violator fails to comply with a suspension order issued in an emergency, the Utility Manager may take such steps as deemed necessary to prevent or minimize damage to the sewage works or waters of the State of Vermont or the United States.
 - h. Any person discharging to the sewage works in violation of this Ordinance may have their sewage works access terminated if such termination would abate or reduce an illicit discharge. The Utility Manager will notify a violator of the proposed termination of its sewage works access.
 - i. A person commits an offense if the person reinstates sewage works access to premises terminated pursuant to aforesaid without the prior approval of the Utility Manager.
- B. Any person found to be violating any provision of this Ordinance, shall be served by the City with written notice stating the nature of the violation and provided a reasonable time limit for the satisfactory correction thereof. The offender shall, within the period of time stated in such notice, permanently cease all violations.
- C. On the basis of information available to it, the City may take any or all of the following actions upon determination that any person is violating any provision of this Ordinance:
- 1. Issue an order to cease and desist any such violation.
 - 2. Assess fines.



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3. Issue an implementation schedule ordering specific actions to be taken together with time and schedule requirements.
 4. Terminate public water service until such time as the violation has been eliminated.
 5. Bring a civil or criminal action as provided by law.
 6. Take any action available to it under Federal, State, or local laws or regulations.
- D. Any person violating the provisions of these regulations shall become liable to the City for any expense, loss, or damage occasioned by the City by reason of such violation, including but not limited to legal costs or fees; administrative fees; disposal, cleanup or maintenance fees; and any fines, charges, or assessments made or imposed on the City by any Federal, State, or local agency.
- E. Notwithstanding any of the foregoing provisions, the City may institute any appropriate action including, but not limited to, injunction or other proceeding to prevent, restrain, or abate violations of any provision of this Ordinance.

SECTION 21.32 - REVOCATION

- A. wastewater permit may be revoked by the Director for any of the following reasons:
1. False, fraudulent, or misleading information contained in the permit application. Installation of an onsite system or connection to the municipal sewer system which does not comply with the conditions of the permit.
 2. Alteration of the onsite system or connection to the municipal sewer system so that it does not comply with this article.
 3. Information which shows that the proposed onsite system or connection to the municipal sewer system will not comply with this article.
 4. Failure to comply with this article or any terms or conditions of permits issued under this article.



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- B. The Director shall give the permit holder written notice of revocation of the permit within seventy-two (72) hours of revocation. All sewage disposal system work must cease immediately upon notification of revocation of permit. The revocation will be held as a contested case per 3 V.S.A. Chapter 25.

SECTION 21.33 - PENALTIES

- A. Any first (1st) or second (2nd) violation of this Chapter shall be a civil violation and subject to civil penalties and enforcement as provided for in Chapter 1, Section 1.11 of Winooski City Code.
- B. All third (3rd) and subsequent violations of this Chapter will be a criminal violation and subject to criminal penalties and enforcement as provided for in Chapter 1, Section 1.11 of the Winooski City Code.

SECTION 21.34 - APPEALS

- A. The City Council shall receive appeals for arbitration of differences between the Director and sewer users, or other parties, on matters concerning interpretation and execution of the provisions of this Ordinance by the Utility Manager and Director. The City Council shall review such appeal at a subsequent meeting. Following the meeting, the City Council shall issue its decision on the appeal in writing. The decision of the City Council on said matter shall be considered final.