

Sewer Use Ordinance Executive Summary of Changes

A comprehensive review of the ordinance provisions revealed the need to update the ordinance to support the development of a federally approved Industrial Pretreatment Program and to comply with USEPA General Pretreatment Regulations (40 CFR 403). These updates enhance local regulatory authority, improve protection of public health and the environment, and align ordinance language, definitions and references with current practices. Changes to the Ordinance are as follows:

Section 53.05 – Use of Public Sewers: This section was enhanced with the following changes:

- Prohibited discharge standards were previously located in both Chapters 53 and 54. To eliminate duplication and potential conflicts, they were removed from Chapter 53 and consolidated within Chapter 54 of the Pretreatment Ordinance.
- A provision allowing rear buildings or buildings on a parcel of land comprised of one or more recorded lots to share a sewer lateral is included.

Section 53.06 – Connections to Public Sewer:

- Building sewer requirements (Section 53.06(C)) were modified to clarify connection to public sewer:
 - a) Allows, at the Director's discretion, the use of low-pressure systems where gravity sewers are impractical.
 - b) Private sewers may be permitted if build and maintained to public standards, with joint responsibility among users and restrictions on further extension or interference with the ultimate service area. (Section 53.06(I)).

Section 53.09 – Oil and Grease (O&G): This section was expanded to define the sizing, installation, maintenance, best management practices, permitting, and enforcement requirements for grease removal systems at food service establishments (Section 53.09). These updates reflect current enforcement practices and clarify expectations for design and compliance. Changes are as follows:

- Interior GRS units may only be used when approved by the County and accompanied by a variance from the Illinois Plumbing Code, typically due to grade or utility constraints (section 53.09(C)).
- All FSEs and NFDs are now required to implement a Best Management Practices (BMP) Plan that includes employee training, grease handling procedure, drain protection, signage, spill response, and follow-up reporting within ten business days of a spill or slug discharge (section 53.09(H)).

Section 53.11 – Automobile Service, Repair and Fuel Dispensing Properties: – this section was added to address discharges from automobile service, repair, and fuel dispensing properties. It also requires the installation of triple basins to capture oil and grease before discharging to the sanitary sewer, along with a sampling manhole to allow the County to verify compliance with discharge restrictions.

Section 53.12 – Amalgam Management at Dental Offices: This section was added to address amalgam discharges from dental offices. This section also reflects USEPA’s dental effluent guidelines and requires the installation and maintenance of amalgam separators to eliminate mercury-containing discharges to the sewer.