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**SUBJECT: DRAINAGE SYSTEMS WITH MUNICIPAL REQUIREMENTS**

This bulletin has been jointly developed by Safety Services and the Plumbing Technical Council. This informs the plumbing industry of requirements associated with installations where sewage from a plumbing system that is discharged into a municipal sewage collection system. Municipalities may require the treatment of raw sewage to a better quality, deliver sewage under pressure, retain sewage to manage maximum flow rates from being exceeded or require other criteria to be met so the discharge of sewage from a plumbing system is compatible with municipal infrastructure.

Any device/pipe/tank, whether inside or outside the building, that is used to house a pump for flow management or act as any form of wastewater treatment in a plumbing system that connects to a municipal sewer;

1. Is part of a plumbing system and so it requires a plumbing permit.
2. Is not a building sewer and so it is not subject to the exemption of building sewers from permitting requirements provided in section 14(2) of the Permit Regulation AR 204/2007.
3. Requires inspection by a safety codes officer in the plumbing discipline.
4. Does not require a private sewage disposal system permit.

**Notes:**

- The utility purveyor may apply conditions to the quality, flow rate and pressure of the wastewater discharged to the municipal sewage collection system as it is not regulated by the plumbing code. These conditions are required to ensure the successful operation of the communal sewer collection system (materials, pressure, backflow protection, effluent quality, elevation, etc.).
- A plumbing permit required for the systems described in this information bulletin cannot be obtained by a holder of a water/sewer installer certificate.
- The holder of a PSDS installer certificate may apply for a Variance/alternate solution to obtain a plumbing permit for the exterior treatment requirements of the local municipality.
- The Alberta Private Sewage Systems Standard of Practice regarding tanks and related equipment as listed in the following shall be applied as required:
  - Article 2.1.1.9 (Access)
  - Article 2.1.3.1 (Suitability of material and equipment)
  - Section 2.3 (Controls and alarms)
  - Article 2.5.2.7 and 2.5.2.8 (Piping connections to tanks)
  - Article 4.1.1.2 (Sludge capacity in primary treatment tanks - does not apply when grinder pumps are used)
  - Section 4.2 (Septic tanks, location, capacity, certification of tanks)
  - Section 5.2 (Sewage treatment plants)



Issue of this STANDATA is authorized by  
the Chief Plumbing Administrator

*[Original Signed]*  
Sidney Manning



SAFETY CODES COUNCIL

- Part 6 (Effluent and pretreatment tanks)
- Other legislation considered in the development of this information bulletin;

**Safety Codes Act:**

**Interpretation 1(1)(z).** "Private sewage disposal system" means a plant for the treatment and disposal of sewage, including a septic tank and absorption field that is not connected to municipal sewage disposal system;

**Permit regulation AR 204/2007:**

**14(2)** - A permit is not required to install a building sewer or storm sewer outside of a building.

**Examples:**

