

FRIDLEY CITY CODE
CHAPTER 403. SANITARY SEWER CONNECTIONS
(Ref. 1044)

403.01. PURPOSE

In adopting this ordinance, the City Council finds that the discharge of water from any roof, surface, ground, sump pump, footing tile or other natural precipitation into the City sewage system will and has on numerous occasions in the past, flooded and overloaded the sewage system to such an extent as to cause significant and grave damage to the property of large numbers of city residents. Such damage is caused by the backup of sewage into the living quarters of residents, an increase in sewage treatment costs, and in addition to other damage creates a hazard to health. The City Council, therefore, finds it essential to the maintenance of health and to minimize sewage treatment costs and damage to property that the provisions of this ordinance be strictly enforced to avoid emergencies in the future.

403.02. DEFINITION AND METHOD

No water from any roof, surface, ground, sump pump, footing tile, or other natural precipitation shall be discharged into the sanitary sewage system. Dwellings and other buildings and structures which require, because of the infiltration of water into basements, crawl spaces and the like, a sump pump system to discharge excess water, shall have a permanently installed discharge line which shall not at any time discharge water into the sanitary sewage system. A permanent installation shall be one which provides for year-around discharge capability to either the outside of the dwelling, building or structure, or is connected to the City storm sewer or discharges to the street or drainage easement. It shall consist of a rigid discharge line, without valving or quick connections for altering the path of discharge.

403.03. DISCONNECTION

Before July 1, 1995, any person, firm or corporation having a roof, surface, ground, sump pump, or footing tile now connected and/or discharging into the sanitary sewer system shall disconnect and/or remove same. Any disconnects or openings in the sanitary sewer shall be closed or repaired in an effective, workmanlike manner, as approved by the City Building Inspector.

403.04. INSPECTION

Every person owning improved real estate that discharges into the City's sanitary sewer system shall allow an employee of the City of Fridley or their designated representative to inspect the buildings to confirm that there is no sump pump or other prohibited discharge into the sanitary sewer system. In lieu of having the City inspect their property, any person may furnish a certificate certifying that their property is in and will remain in compliance with this Ordinance. Any person refusing to allow their property to be inspected or refusing to furnish a certificate within (14) days of the date City employees or their designated representatives are denied admittance to the property, shall become subject to the surcharge hereinafter provided for. Any property found to violate this Ordinance shall make the necessary changes to comply with the Ordinance and furnish proof of the changes to the City.

403.05. FUTURE INSPECTIONS

At any future time, if the City has reason to suspect that an illegal connection may exist in a premises, the owner, by written notice shall comply with the provisions of Paragraph 4 above.

403.06. INCENTIVE

There are a number of methods to dispose of sump pump effluent. The City's recommended solution is to pump the water into a cistern. Any property which has an existing illegal connection may apply for City financial assistance by requesting a City inspector to verify the illegal connection, have the repair completion verified and submit a receipt for labor and/or materials (self-help labor rate valued at \$40). Upon verification of the corrective action and costs, the City will remit to the property owner one-half of the cost to correct the illegal connection to a maximum of \$450 per installation. The property owner may petition the City to abate the problem and assess the property owners cost for the corrective work over a 3-year period. This incentive program is in effect until December 31, 1996.

403.07. SURCHARGE

A surcharge of \$300 per quarter is hereby imposed and added to every sewer billing mailed on and after July 1, 1995 to property owners that are not in compliance with this ordinance. The surcharge shall be added for the entire quarter until the property is in compliance.

403.08. PENALTIES

Any violation of this Chapter is a misdemeanor and is subject to penalties provided for such violations under provision of Chapter 901 of this Code.

403.09. EFFECTIVE DATE

This ordinance shall be effective from, and after its adoption and publication as provided by City Charter.