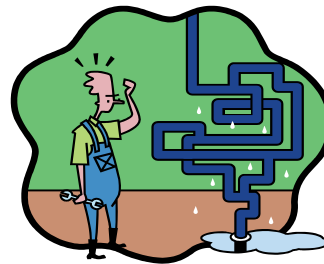


Code to take effect February 1, 2011:

On February 1, 2011, the 2011 WSSC Plumbing and Fuel Gas Code will take effect. By adoption WSSC will be using the 2009 versions of the International Plumbing Code (IPC) and the International Fuel Gas Code (IFGC). In addition, WSSC has adopted 65 code changes to update the former WSSC code and augment the newer IPC and IFGC. Most noteworthy are the discontinued adoption of the International Residential Code and a reimplemention of a former code that requires a short form permit for the replacement of an electric water heater. The entire code will be available for a free download on the Regulatory Services web page at: <http://www.wsscwater.com/home/jsp/content/code-index.faces> or in print for \$25 at the Permit's counter. A limited number of hand-outs containing just the changes will be available for pick-up at the Permit's or Plans Review counters.



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Emergency Inspections:

Requests for an emergency gas or plumbing inspection (after-hours, weekends, holidays), will be considered only after prior request and approval by Regulatory Services supervisory staff. Examples of emergencies include: gas repairs in multi-family complexes where occupants are without heat, hot water, or cooking facilities; water service repairs in freezing weather; and repairs to deep water/sewer piping in areas where jobsite conditions pose an imminent threat to public safety.

The most common emergency occurs after an apartment fire. In this situation, the gas utility removes the gas meter to ensure safety. Prior to restoring service, all gas piping must be pressure tested in accordance with Code requirements. In addition, any major health/safety items must be brought up to Code at this time. Typical items include appliance gas cocks, deteriorated vents, and flex-connectors. Each building address requires one short form permit at time of inspection

The procedure for requesting an emergency inspection is as follows:

The first call must be made as soon as your company has been contracted to perform the work. You must provide: the job name and location; permit number; contact person and phone numbers; and the estimated time/date that the emergency inspection will be required. The permit must be on the jobsite at the time of inspection.

The second call is placed when the work is ready for inspection. The Plumbing Inspector will be dispatched with this call. As a general rule, the Plumbing Inspector will not be dispatched between the hours of 9 p.m. and 7 a.m.

Emergency Inspection Phone Numbers:

During business hours: 301-206-8526 or 301-206-8525 (Regulatory Services Group)

After business hours: 301-206-8222 (WSSC Emergency Services)



CORRECTION:

**To schedule a short form permit inspection, call 301- 206-4004
between
8:00 am - 3:00 pm
Monday - Friday**

Master Plumber & Master Gasfitter Newsletter

Plans Review Counter:

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Plumbing Applications - The listing of fixtures on a plumbing application is the responsibility of the applicant. After Plans Review has stamped the application and before the application is presented to the Permit Counter for payment, the applicant should check it for accuracy before writing the check. The Plan Reviewers make every effort to make the application correct but it is the applicant's duty to check it before making payment. If you find a discrepancy, you should ask the reviewer to revise the application. We will no longer waive the administrative fee for adding fixtures to the permit that were on the plan.

Expansion Tanks - We do not require an expansion tank on every new or replacement water heater installation. To find when one is required, see IPC 2006 Code Section 607.3.

Cross Connection Test Reports:

All Cross Connection test reports should be submitted on line. In order to do this, the Principal Master must have a WSSC on-line account. All test reports also require a tracking number. These tracking numbers cost \$10 each and can be purchased either from your on line account or at the Permit Counter by the Principal Master or one of their designated proxies. If you do not have an on line account, you will need to obtain a "unique code" prior to setting up an account. These unique codes can be obtained from the Permits Counter or the Licensing Counter. You must appear in person and have proper identification in order to get a unique code.

In order to submit test reports on line, the Principal Master and the Tester's license information MUST be up to date and current in the WSSC licensing database. The Certificate of Liability Insurance MUST also be up to date in the WSSC licensing database. If this information is not current, you will receive an error message and you will NOT be able to submit the test report.

NOTE: Copies of Test Reports are required for Final Plumbing Inspections

ATTENTION Cross Connection Techs:

If you have completed a CC / Backflow re-certification class, you will need to contact Beverly Houser, WSSC's Licensing Specialist to have your information updated on your WSSC license. WSSC charges \$25 for these updates. Beverly can be reached on 301-206-8588 or at bhouser@wsscwater.com.

Per the WSSC Cross Connection Control Manual, sec. 801.6, Lapse of registration shall render a WSSC Cross Connection License invalid after a 6-month grace period. No Work regulated by this Manual shall proceed unless registration and the Cross Connection License is current. Individuals who allow their certification to lapse more than the 6-month grace period shall be required to complete a Maryland State-approved 32-hours Cross-Connection/Backflow Prevention training program.

The Enforcer: Violations & Citations



As reported in the previous newsletter, the matter of the installation of 200 gas water heaters without permits or inspections has been turned over to the State level for further action.

Special Note

The Gaithersburg Plumbing Inspection Unit has moved from the WSSC Customer Care North Group Depot in Gaithersburg to the Seneca Wastewater Treatment Facility off of Great Seneca Highway near Germantown. The contact phone numbers have not changed.

Each issue, we will feature one or more of WSSC's Regulatory Staff. This issue meet Ed Iames, Inspection Services Unit Coordinator.

Meet our staff:



Ed Iames

Ed Iames started working in the plumbing trade in 1975. He began his career at WSSC in 1988 as a WSSC Plumbing Inspector. Ed has climbed the ladder of success at WSSC from Plumbing Inspector to Senior Inspector, FOG Investigator, Plans Review & Licensing Supervisor, to his current position, Inspection Services Unit Coordinator. This position was created by splitting the Chief Plumbing Inspector responsibilities between Ed and Tom Buckley, Code Planning & Cross Connection Unit Coordinator.

Ed's duties include but are not limited to overseeing the Plumbing Inspectors and Senior Plumbing Inspectors at WSSC's field depots; Gaithersburg/Seneca, Lyttonsville and Temple Hills. He is also in charge of the enforcement of all of the plumbing and gasfitting violations and citations issued. He also handles all the consumer complaints.

In his spare time, Ed is an avid outdoorsman.

Contact Us:

Plan Review.....	301-206-8886
CC / Bkflw.....	301-206-8601
Licensing.....	301-206-8588
Short Form Inspection.....	301-206-4004
Long Form Inspection.....	301-206-8383
Gaithersburg/Seneca Depot.....	301-206-7365
Lyttonsville Depot.....	301-206-7340
Temple Hills Depot.....	301-206-7302
FOG.....	301-206-8575

Trade Trivia

In Japan, some urinals are fitted with voice activated flush devices. These urinals recognize as many as 30 different languages and several terms, including "fire".

We would like to hear from you:

Tell us what you think about this newsletter.
Email your comments to:
bhouser@wsscwater.com



WSSC HOLIDAYS

WSSC will be closed the following dates:

Friday December 24, 2010
Friday December 31, 2010
Monday January 17, 2011
Monday February 21, 2011

We wish you a happy & safe holiday season!