

**Background:**

The Plumbing Code enforced by the City of Philadelphia was amended in 2019 and 2023 to incorporate the 2018 International Plumbing Code with certain modifications, known as the Philadelphia Plumbing Code.

Pursuant to the Pa Construction Code Act, Philadelphia will adopt the 2021 International Plumbing Code in July 2025. Philadelphia will retain prior amendments and proposes new changes, primarily relating to the changed sections of the 2021 International Plumbing Code.

This proposal amends the 2021 International Plumbing Code, while recognizing those previous local amendments made in 2019 & 2023.

KEY

Strikethrough = proposed deletion of new 2021 IPC provision

Underlined = proposed addition

**CHAPTER 2  
DEFINITIONS**

**Revise the following definitions:**

**PRIVATE.** In the classification of plumbing fixtures, “private” applies to fixtures in residences and apartments, and to fixtures in nonpublic toilet rooms of hotels and motels and similar installations in buildings where the plumbing fixtures are intended for utilization by a family or an individual ~~that are not public~~.

**PUBLIC OR PUBLIC UTILIZATION.** In the classification of plumbing fixtures, “public” applies to fixtures in general toilet rooms of schools, gymnasiums, hotels, airports, bus and railroad stations, public buildings, bars, public comfort stations, office buildings, stadiums, stores, restaurants and other installations where a number of fixtures are installed so that their utilization is similarly unrestricted with unrestricted exposure ~~to walk-in traffic~~.

## CHAPTER 4 FIXTURES, FAUCETS AND FIXTURE FITTINGS

**Section 403.3.1. Access.** The route to the public toilet facilities required by Section 403.3 shall not pass through kitchens, storage rooms or closets. Access to the required facilities shall be from within the building or from the exterior of the building. Routes shall comply with the accessibility requirements of the International Building Code. The public shall have access to the required toilet facilities at all times that the building is occupied.

**Section 403.5 Drinking fountain location.** Drinking fountains shall not be required to be located in individual tenant spaces provided that public drinking fountains are located within a distance of travel of 500 feet (152 m) of the most remote location in the tenant space and not more than one story above or below the tenant space. Where the tenant space is in a covered or open mall, such distance shall not exceed 300 feet (91 m). Drinking fountains shall be located on an accessible route.

**404.3 Exposed pipes and surfaces.** Water supply and drain pipes under accessible lavatories and sinks shall be covered or otherwise configured to protect against contact. Pipe coverings shall comply with ASME A112.18.9 or ~~ASTM C1822~~.

**412.3 Individual shower valves.** Individual shower and tub-shower combination valves shall be balanced-pressure, thermostatic or combination balanced-pressure/thermostatic valves that conform to the requirements of ASSE 1016/ASME A112.1016/CSA B125.16 or ASME A112.18.1/CSA B125.1. Such valves shall be installed at the point of use. Shower control valves shall be rated for the minimum flow rate of the installed shower head. Shower and tub-shower combination valves required by this section shall be equipped with a means to limit the maximum setting of the valve to 120°F (49°C), which shall be field adjusted in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions to provide water at a temperature not to exceed 120°F (49°C). In-line thermostatic valves shall not be utilized for compliance with this section.

**412.4 Multiple (gang) showers.** Multiple (gang) showers supplied with a single, tempered water supply pipe shall have the water supply for such showers controlled by an approved automatic temperature control mixing valve that conforms to ASSE 1069 or CSA B125.3, or each shower head shall be individually controlled by a balanced-pressure, thermostatic or combination balanced pressure/thermostatic valve that conforms to ASSE 1016/ASME A112.1016/CSA B125.16 or ASME A112.18.1/CSA B125.1 and that is installed at the point of use. Where a shower head is individually controlled, shower control valves shall be rated

for the minimum flow rate of the installed shower head. Such valves shall be equipped with a means to limit the maximum setting of the valve to 120°F (49°C), which shall be field adjusted in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions to provide water at a temperature not to exceed 120°F (49°C). Access shall be provided to an ASSE 1069 or CSA B125.3 valve.

## **CHAPTER 6 WATER SUPPLY AND DISTRIBUTION**

**606.7 Labeling of water distribution pipes in bundles.** Where water distribution piping is bundled at installation, each pipe in the bundle shall be identified using stenciling or commercially available pipe labels. The identification shall indicate the pipe contents and the direction of flow in the pipe. The interval of the identification markings on the pipe shall not exceed 25 feet (7620 mm). There shall be not less than one identification label on each pipe in each room, space or story.

**P-609.2 Water service and distribution** for Group I-2, Condition 2 facilities. Group I-2, Condition 2 facilities shall have not fewer than two water service pipes and water distribution pipes sized such that with the loss of the largest service pipe, the remaining service pipes will meet the water demand for the entire facility. Each water service shall have a shutoff valve in the building and a shutoff valve at the utility-provided point of connection to the water main or other source of potable water.

**610.1 General.** New potable water systems shall be purged of deleterious matter and disinfected prior to utilization. The method to be followed shall be that prescribed by the health authority or water purveyor having jurisdiction or, in the absence of a prescribed method, the procedure described in either AWWA C651 or AWWA C652, or as described in this section. This requirement shall apply to “on-site” or “in-plant” fabrication of a system or to a modular portion of a system.

**Exception:** Analysis and disinfection shall not be required for interior piping of a building regulated under the Residential Code or water distribution piping servicing a building regulated under the Residential Code.

## **CHAPTER 7 SANITARY DRAINAGE**

~~705.2.4 — **Push-fit joints.** Push-fit DWV fittings shall be listed and labeled to ASME A112.4.4 and shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.~~

~~705.10.4 — **Push-fit joints.** Push-fit joints shall conform to ASME A112.4.4 and shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.~~

### **Section 717 Relining Building Sewers**

**[Section relocated in Philadelphia Plumbing Code as SECTION P-718]**

**Section 718.4 Permitting.** A plumbing permit shall be issued by the Department of Licenses and Inspections for this work and the work shall be properly inspected. Proof satisfactorily to the Department shall be provided that the PA One Call and any other applicable agency has been properly notified prior to issuing a permit for this work. Prior to permit issuance, the code official shall review and evaluate the preinstallation recorded video camera survey to determine if the piping system is capable to be relined in accordance with the proposed lining system manufacturer's installation requirements and applicable referenced standards.

### **Section 718 Rehabilitation Of Building Sewers And Building Drains.**

**[Relocated to Philadelphia Plumbing Code, Section P-719]**

**Section 718.1 [Philadelphia Code, Section P-719.1] Cure-in-place.** Sectional cure-in-place rehabilitation of *building sewer* piping and sewer service lateral piping shall be in accordance with ASTM F2599 and shall be limited to one- and two-family dwellings. Hydrophilic rings or gaskets in cure-in-place rehabilitation of *building sewer* piping and sewer service lateral piping shall be in accordance with ASTM F3240 to ensure water tightness and elimination of ground water penetration.

**[Philadelphia Code, Section P-719.2] Applicability.** The cure-in-place rehabilitation of existing *building sewers* piping shall be limited to gravity drainage piping 4-inches (102 mm) in diameter and larger. The cure-in-place rehabilitation piping shall be of the same nominal size as the existing piping.

**[Philadelphia Code, Section P-719.3] Preinstallation requirements.** Prior to commencement of the cure-in-place rehabilitation installation, the existing piping sections to be rehabilitated shall be descaled and cleaned. After the cleaning process has occurred and water has been flushed through the system, the piping shall be inspected internally by a recorded video camera survey.

**[Philadelphia Code, Section P-719.3.1] Preinstallation recorded video camera survey.** The video survey shall include verification of the project address location.

The video shall include notations of the cleanout and fitting locations, and the approximate depth of the existing piping. The video shall also include notations of the length of piping at intervals not greater than 25 feet (7620 mm).

**[Philadelphia Code, Section P-719.4] Permitting.** A plumbing permit shall be issued by the Department of Licenses and Inspections for this work and the work shall be properly inspected. Proof satisfactorily to the Department shall be provided that the PA One Call and any other applicable agency has been properly notified prior to issuing a permit for this work. Prior to permit issuance, the code official shall review and evaluate the preinstallation recorded video camera survey to determine if the piping system is capable to be relined in accordance with the proposed rehabilitation lining system manufacturer's installation requirements and applicable referenced standards.

**[Philadelphia Code, Section P-719.5] Prohibited applications.** Where review of the preinstallation recorded video camera survey reveals that piping systems are not installed correctly or defects exist, rehabilitation shall not be permitted. The defective portions of piping shall be exposed and repaired with pipe and fittings in accordance with this code. Defects shall include, but are not limited to, backgrade or insufficient slope, complete pipe wall deterioration or complete separations such as from tree root invasion or improper support.

**[Philadelphia Code, Section P-719.6] Cure in place rehabilitation materials.** The rehabilitation relining materials shall be manufactured in compliance with applicable standards and certified as required in Section 303.

**[Philadelphia Code, Section P-719.7] Installation.** The installation of cure in place rehabilitation materials shall be performed in accordance with the manufacturer's installation instructions, applicable referenced standards and this code.

**[Philadelphia Code, Section P-719.7.1] Material data report.** The installer shall record the data as required by the cure in place rehabilitation material manufacturer and applicable standards. The recorded data shall include but is not limited to the location of the project, rehabilitation material type, amount of product installed and conditions of the installation. A copy of the data report shall be provided to the code official prior to final approval.

**[Philadelphia Code, Section P-719.8] Post-installation recorded video camera survey.** The completed, rehabilitated piping system shall be inspected internally by a recorded video camera survey after the system has been flushed and flow-tested with water. The video survey shall be submitted to the code official prior to finalization of the permit. The

video survey shall be reviewed and evaluated to provide verification that no defects exist. Any defects identified shall be repaired and replaced in accordance with this code.

**[Philadelphia Code, Section 719.9] Certification.** A certification shall be provided in writing to the code official, from the permit holder, that the cure in place rehabilitation relining materials have been installed in accordance with the manufacturer's installation instructions, the applicable standards and this code.

**[Philadelphia Code, Section 719.10] Approval.** Upon verification of compliance with the requirements of Sections 718.1 through 718.9, the code official shall approve the installation.

## CHAPTER 9 VENTS

**915.1 Type of fixtures.** A combination waste and vent system shall not serve fixtures other than floor drains, sinks, lavatories and drinking fountains. Combination waste and vent systems shall not receive the discharge from a food waste disposer or clinical sink.

## CHAPTER 10 TRAPS, INTERCEPTORS AND SEPARATORS

~~**1002.4.1.5 Fixture drain connection for trap priming.** A fixture drain from a lavatory or hand sink shall serve as a method of providing trap seal protection for an emergency floor drain, a trench drain, or a floor sink where such fixtures are located in the same room. A fixture drain from a drinking fountain shall serve as a method of providing trap seal protection for an emergency floor drain, a trench drain, or a floor sink where such fixtures are in the same room or in a room adjacent to the room having the drinking fountain. The fixture drain shall not be routed on or above the surface of the floor and shall connect to the floor drain, trench drain, or floor sink at a point that is below the flood level rim and above the inlet to the trap of the receiving fixture.~~

## CHAPTER 11 STORM DRAINAGE

~~**1102.6 Roof drains.** Roof drains shall conform to ASME 112.3.1 or ASME A112.6.4. Roof drains, other than siphonic roof drains, shall be tested and rated in accordance with ASME ASME A112.6.4 or ASPE/IAPMO Z1034.~~

**CHAPTER 13**  
**NONPOTABLE WATER SYSTEMS**

**1301.1 General.** The provisions of Chapter 13 shall govern the materials, design, construction and installation of systems for the collection, storage, treatment and distribution of nonpotable water. For nonpotable rainwater systems, the provisions of CSA B805/ICC 805 shall be an alternative for regulating the ~~materials~~, design, construction and installation of systems for rainwater collection, storage, treatment and distribution of nonpotable water. The use and application of nonpotable water shall comply with laws, rules and ordinances applicable in the jurisdiction.