

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
BUILDING CODE SUPPLEMENT OF 2003
DCMR 12F PLUMBING CODE**

CHAPTER 2F DEFINITIONS

SECTION P-202 GENERAL DEFINITIONS

Add revised definition to Section P-202 to read as follows:

Cistern. A small covered tank for storing water. Generally, this tank stores rainwater to be utilized for purposes other than in the potable water supply, and such tank is placed underground in most cases.

CHAPTER 3F GENERAL REGULATIONS

SECTION P-301 GENERAL

Add new Section P-301.3.1 to read to as follows:

P-301.3.1 Wastewater. Every improved lot in which plumbing fixtures are installed, shall have its own independent sanitary or combined sewer connection to discharge liquid wastes and sewage to the available public system, installed from the public way at a right angle to the street lot line or as approved by the administrative authority.

Add new Section P-301.4.1 to read to as follows:

P-301.4.1 Domestic Water. Every improved lot in which plumbing fixtures are installed shall have its own independent water connection to the available public system, installed from the public way at a right angle to the street lot line or as approved by the administrative authority.

Add new Section P-301.7 to read to as follows:

P-301.7 Public Systems Available. A public water main or public sewer shall be considered available to a building system when the premises are located within the distances specified below:

One and two-family dwellings: The lot is within 100 feet (30 480 mm) of the public water main or sewer, measured along the center line of a street or public way abutting the lot.

Other occupancies: The lot is within 250 feet (76 200 mm) of the public water main or sewer, measured along the center lone of a street or public way abutting the lot.

SECTION P-305 PROTECTION OF PIPES AND PLUMBING SYSTEM COMPONENTS

Add new Section P-305.10 to read to as follows:

P-305.10 Grounding electrical systems in existing structures: Where water service is replaced in existing structures with approved plastic pipe, provision shall be made to replace any existing electrical grounding system, as needed, so as to conform to the *DC Electrical Code*.

SECTION P-306 TRENCHING, EXCAVATION AND BACKFILL

Add new Sections P-306.2.4 and P-306.2.5 to read to as follows:

P-306.2.4 Trench locations: Trenches shall be of sufficient width to permit proper installation of the pipe. Where shoring is required, ample allowance shall be made in trench width for proper working conditions. No house sewer or water service shall be laid within 4 feet (1219 mm) parallel to any bearing wall nor within 3 feet (914mm) parallel to any lot line or lot line extended. Where permitted in the same trench with the house sewer, the water service pipe shall be placed on a shelf cut into solid ground at one side of the common trench at least 8 inches (203 mm) from the edge of the ditch.

P-306.2.5 Trench safeguards: These requirements apply to any trench 4 feet (1219 mm) or more in depth which serves as a workplace. The sides of all such trenches shall be securely supported by substantial and adequate sheeting, sheet piling, bracing, shoring or other approved method of support, or the sides of the excavation sloped to the angle of repose of the material being excavated, where there is apparent danger of slides, slips, cave-ins, or falling of earth and where the undercutting of banks or walls of the excavation is pertinent to the excavation system. Shoring will not be required where the trench is cut in solid rock or hard shale. All trenches shall be supplied with at least one ladder for each 50 feet (15240 mm) of length or fraction. The ladder shall extend from the bottom of the trench to at least 3 feet (914 mm) above the surface of the ground. Minimum requirements for the size and spacing of trench shoring members shall be in accordance with current OSHA requirements.

CHAPTER 6F WATER SUPPLY AND DISTRIBUTION

SECTION P-605 MATERIALS, JOINTS AND CONNECTIONS

Revise Table P-605.4 to read as follows:

**TABLE P-605.4
WATER SERVICE PIPE**

MATERIAL	STANDARD
Acrylonitrile butadiene styrene (ABS) plastic pipe	ASTM D 1527; ASTM D 2282
Brass pipe	ASTM B 43
Copper or copper-alloy pipe	ASTM B 42; ASTM B 302
Copper or copper-alloy tubing (Type K, WK, L, WL, M or WM)	ASTM B 75; ASTM B 88; ASTM B 251; ASTM B 447
Chlorinated polyvinyl chloride (CPVC) plastic pipe	ASTM D 2846; ASTM F 441; ASTM F 442; CAS B137.6
Ductile iron water pipe	AWWA C151; AWWA C115
Galvanized steel pipe	ASTM A 53
Polyethylene (PE) plastic pipe	ASTM D 2239; CSA CAN/CSA-B137.1
Polyethylene (PE) plastic tubing	ASTM D 2737; CSA B137.1
Cross-linked polyethylene (PEX) plastic tubing	ASTM F 876; ASTM F 877; CSA CAN/CSA-B137.5
Cross-linked polyethylene/aluminum/cross-linked polyethylene (PEX-AL-PEX) pipe	ASTM F 1281; CSA CAN/CSA B137.10
Polyethylene/aluminum/polyethylene (PE-AL-PE) pipe	ASTM F 1282; CSA CAN/CSA-B137.9
Polyvinyl chloride (PVC) plastic pipe	ASTM D 1785; ASTM D 2241; ASTM D 2672; CSA CAN/CSA-B137.3

Revise Table P-605.5 to read as follows:

**TABLE 605.5
WATER DISTRIBUTION PIPE**

MATERIAL	STANDARD
Brass pipe	ASTM B 43
Chlorinated polyvinyl chloride (CPVC) plastic pipe and tubing	ASTM D 2846; ASTM F 441; ASTM F 442; CSA B 137.6
Copper or copper-alloy pipe	ASTM B 42; ASTM B 302
Copper or copper-alloy tubing (Type K, WK, L, WL, M or WM)	ASTM B 75; ASTM B 88; ASTM B 251; ASTM B 447

Cross-linked polyethylene (PEX) plastic tubing	ASTM F 877; CSA CAN/CSA-B137.5
Cross-linked polyethylene/aluminum/cross-linked polyethylene (PEX-AL-PEX) pipe	ASTM F 1281; CSA CAN/CSA-B137.10
Galvanized steel pipe	ASTM A53

CHAPTER 7F SANITARY DRAINAGE**SECTION P-708 CLEANOUTS**

Revise subsection P-708.3.2 to read as follows:

P-708.3.2 Building Sewers: Building sewers shall be provided with cleanouts or manholes located not more than 100 feet (30 480 mm) apart measured from the upstream entrance of the cleanout. For building sewers 8 inches (203 mm) and larger, manholes shall be provided and located as close as practical to the property line on the public space side, at each change in direction and at intervals of not more than 400 feet (122 m). A cleanout must be placed at the property line, or as close as possible if the building wall is constructed on the property line. Manholes and manhole covers shall be of a type approved by WASA.

CHAPTER 11F STORM DRAINAGE

SECTION P-1101 GENERAL

Delete Section P-1101.2 in its entirety and substitute the following:

P-1101.2 Where required: Stormwater drainage shall comply with Sections P-1101.2.1 and P-1101.2.2.

P-1101.2.1 Unless a construction project is otherwise exempt from the D.C. Storm Water Management Regulations, a permit shall not be issued for a building or structure associated with grading operations or construction, or both, that disturb more than 5,000 square feet (464.65m²) of land area, or that are part of an approved subdivision plan which contains provisions for storm water management, until the submitted plans reflect the pertinent storm water management features approved by the official charged with the administration and enforcement of the D.C. Storm Water Management Regulations, 21 DCMR §§ 526-535, and the requirements of D.C. Law 5-188, Water Pollution Control Act of 1984, as amended.

P-1101.2.2 When approved, storm water may be discharged from roofs, paved areas, yards, courts, courtyards, downspouts, rain barrels, cisterns or rooftop storage facilities to vegetated areas, such as lawns, gardens, grassy swales, or bioretention cells on the same single record lot. In such instances the storm water shall flow away from the building, and shall not flow over property lines onto adjacent lots unless it runs into existing natural water courses. Otherwise, stormwater shall discharge to an approved place of disposal or into a storm sewer or combined sewer.