

## Chapter 19

### **WATER, SEWERS AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL\***

- Art. I.**            **In General, §§ 19-1—19-15**  
**Art. II.**           **Sewers and Sewage Disposal, §§ 19-16—19-27**

#### **ARTICLE I. IN GENERAL**

**Secs. 19-1—19-15. Reserved.**

#### **ARTICLE II. SEWERS AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL**

**Sec. 19-16. Connection to public sewer required.**

All residences, store buildings or any buildings used for sleeping quarters or any building where any person is employed located within two hundred fifty (250) feet of any sewer collection line shall be connected thereto and use the sewer for the disposal of all sewage or waste originating on the premises.

(Comp. of Ords. 1989, § 10-1)

**Sec. 19-17. Application for connection; nonrefundable sewer deposit.**

(a) Before any portion of the drainage system of any building shall be laid or constructed, there shall be filed by the owner or agent of the property, a written application for connection with the sewage system of the city on a form approved by the major. The application shall contain an agreement to obey and abide all

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**\*Cross references**—Buildings and building regulations, Ch. 5; fire prevention and protection, Ch. 7; planning, Ch. 14; streets and sidewalks, Ch. 17; zoning, App. A; sewage systems in mobile home parks, App. A, § 4C.(e)1.; water supply in mobile home parks, App. A, § 4C.(e)2.

**State law references**—Municipal authority to provide sewerage charge, S.C. Code 1976, § 5-31-670; municipal authority to establish, maintain, etc., sewerage system, S.C. Code 1976, § 5-31-810; municipal authority to enact rules and regulations for the use of its sewerage system, S.C. Code 1976, § 5-31-900; municipal authority to regulate the use of privies, septic tanks, etc., S.C. Code 1976, § 5-31-2010; municipal authority to require a sewer connection charge, S.C. Code 1976, § 5-31-2030.

of the ordinances, rules and regulations that are now or may hereafter be passed by city council for the protection of the sewage system. The application shall also give permission to the authorized agents of the city to enter the premises of the applicant at any reasonable time to look after or attend to anything connected with the sewage system.

(b) *Nonrefundable sewer deposit.* Sewer service cannot be furnished by the city to any customer until an application for service has been made by the customer; all applicable fees and charges have been paid, and an agreement for service properly executed by the customer and the city.

- (1) Application for service shall be made at the city hall clerk's office during normal working hours as established by the city.
- (2) Application for service shall be made by the person to be responsible for payment of all fees and charges for the service.
- (3) The nonrefundable sewer deposit shall be twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) as unanimously agreed upon by the city council, and will remain in effect until further notice.

(Comp. of Ords. 1989, § 10-2; Ord. No. 90, 4-10-06)

**Editor's note**—Ord. No. 90, adopted Apr. 10, 2006, amended § 19-17 by adding subsection (b). For purposes of classification, and at the discretion of the editor, the title of § 19-17 has been changed from application for connection to application for connection; nonrefundable sewer deposit.

### **Sec. 19-18. Responsibility for installation of sewer connection lines.**

The property owner shall be responsible for the installation and maintenance of sewer connection lines up to a point where the sewer connection lines are connected with the sewer collection lines.

(Comp. of Ords. 1989, § 10-3)

### **Sec. 19-19. Excavation for pipe laying.**

All ditches or trenches for the purposes of laying pipes for connection with sewer collection lines whether on private property or across streets or sidewalks, shall be carefully excavated

with proper safeguards for protection against injuries to the public and shall be no more than half the width of any street or alley opened or obstructed at any one time. All portions of the street excavated shall be put in as good condition as before the excavation was made and all paving disturbed in connection with the work shall be skillfully and carefully repaired and restored. (Comp. of Ords. 1989, § 10-4)

**Cross reference**—Streets and sidewalks, Ch. 17.

**Sec. 19-20. Discharge generally.**

No person shall discharge or cause to be discharged into the sewer system of the city any stormwater, surface water, groundwater, runoff water, water from roof drains, subsurface drains or any unpolluted cooling water or unpolluted commercial or industrial process water.

(Comp. of Ords. 1989, § 10-5)

**Sec. 19-21. Same--Prohibited.**

No user of the sewer system of the city shall contribute or cause to be contributed directly or indirectly any pollutant or wastewater which will interfere with the operation or performance of the sewer system of the city, including but not limited to the following:

- (1) Any liquids, solids or gases which by reason of their nature or quantity are or may be sufficient either alone or by interaction with other substances to cause fire or explosion or be injurious in any other way to the sewer system;
- (2) Solid or viscous substances which may cause obstruction to the flow in a sewer or other interference with the operation of the wastewater treatment facilities, including but not limited to grease, garbage with particles greater than one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) inch in dimension, animal guts or tissues, bones, hair, entrails, ashes, cinders, sand, stone or marble dust, metal, glass, straw, shavings, glass clippings, rags, waste-paper, wood, plastics, asphalt residue, oil or glass grinding or polishing wastes;
- (3) Any wastewater having a pH less than 6.0 or greater than 12.0 or wastewater having any other corrosive property capable of causing damage or hazard to structures, equipment or personnel of the city;
- (4) Any wastewater containing toxic pollutants in sufficient quantities either singly or by interaction with other pollutants to injure or interfere with any wastewater treatment process or create a toxic effect in the receiving waters of the treatment plant;
- (5) Any noxious or malodorous liquids, gases or solids which either singly or by interaction with other wastes are sufficient to create a public nuisance or are a hazard to life or are sufficient to prevent entry into the sewers for maintenance and repair;
- (6) Any substance which may cause the treatment plant's effluent or any other product of the treatment plant such as residue, sludges or sums to be unsuitable for reclamation

or reuse or otherwise interferes with the reclamation process;

- (7) Any pollutants including oxygen demanding pollutants (BOD, etc.) released at a flow rate and/or pollutant concentration which the user knows or has reason to know will cause interference with the treatment plant;
- (8) Any wastewater containing any radioactive waste or isotopes of such half-life or concentration as may exceed limits established by the city in compliance with applicable state or federal regulations;
- (9) Any wastewater which causes a hazard to human life or creates a public nuisance.

(Ord. of 10-3-88, § 1)

**Sec. 19-22. Grease traps required in restaurants and similar establishments.**

All restaurants, commercial kitchens, factory cafeterias, bars, clubs or other food preparation establishments shall install a grease interceptor or a grease trap in the waste line leading from sink drains or other fixtures where grease can be introduced into the drainage system in quantities that can result in line stoppage or otherwise hinder sewage disposal. All such grease traps or interceptors shall be installed so as to provide ready accessibility to the cover for servicing and maintaining the interceptor in working and operating condition. All such interceptors shall be maintained in an efficient operating condition by periodic removal of accumulated grease. Grease interceptors shall not be required for individual dwelling units or any private living quarters.

(Ord. of 10-3-88, § 2)

**Sec. 19-23. New septic tanks prohibited generally; exceptions.**

No further installation of septic tanks will be allowed in the city unless, in each case:

- (1) The location of the property line is more than two hundred fifty (250) feet from an existing sewer line;

- (2) The mayor shall make a determination that it be impractical to serve the property with a sanitary sewer line within a reasonable time; and
- (3) The department of health and environmental control approves the installation.

In the case of existing construction where there is already in existence a septic tank in serviceable condition, the septic tank may be continued as long as it is serviceable and sanitary; when, however, it becomes unserviceable or unsanitary and needs major repairs to bring it up to a reasonable standard of serviceability and sanitation, the owner of the property will be required to connect to the city sewer system.

(Comp of Ords. 1989, § 10-6)

**Sec. 19-24. Sewer connection charge.**

The sewer connection charge shall be two hundred dollars (\$200.00) per tap.

(Comp of Ords. 1989, § 10-6A)

**Sec. 19-25. Sewer service charges.**

Inside the city, users will pay a flat two dollars sixty cents (\$2.60) sewer charge on each one thousand (1,000) gallons of water used.

Outside the city, users will pay a five dollars (\$5.00) base charge, plus a two dollars sixty cents (\$2.60) rate per one thousand (1,000) gallons of water used.

(Comp of Ords. 1989, § 10-7; Ord. of 6-27-88, § 1)

**Sec. 19-26. Failure to obtain permit.**

In the event any property owner makes a connection to the sewer services without first having obtained a permit or in the event any property owner fails to pay any sewer services charges when due, the mayor, after proper notice to the property owner, may order the property disconnected to the sewer system. In order to provide for the enforcement and connection of this chapter, the mayor may require that water service be disconnected to any

property for which a sewer service charge has not been paid when due.

(Comp of Ords. 1989, § 10-8)

**Sec. 19-27. Termination of water service for delinquent sewer charge payment.**

Delinquent notices will be mailed if sewer charges are not paid by the due date printed on the sewer bill, and water service will be terminated if bill is not paid by fifteen (15) days from date of delinquent notice.

(Res. of 5-26-89)