

CITY OF MILFORD
BOARD OF SEWER COMMISSIONERS
REGULATIONS & POLICIES
October 1, 2023

The Board of Sewer Commissioners meets on the fourth Wednesday of every month at 6:00 p.m. in Conference Room A in the Parsons Complex. There are five (5) Board members of which they elect a Chairman and Vice-Chairman. The members of the Board are appointed by the Mayor. The monthly agenda is posted the week prior to the meeting in the City Clerk's office and on the City website as well as the meeting minutes each month. All documentation, minutes, policies and projects of the Sewer Commission are on file in the Sewer Commission office at 70 West River Street, Milford, CT.

The Sewer Commission is governed by the Code of City Ordinances Chapter 23 and Connecticut Statutes §23-1 – 23-1, § 23-12 - § 23-79, § 23 – 12 – § 23- 31. The power given to the City to layout and construct sewer systems and disposal plants is Connecticut General Statute § 7-148. The power given to the City to regulate the laying of sewer pipes in the streets and public places is Connecticut General Statute § 7-194(18) and Municipal Waterworks systems G.S. is § 7-234 ET seq, § 7-235 sewer districts. The construction, extension, maintenance and operation of the sewerage system of the city and connections therewith, as well as private systems for sewage disposal shall be subject to the provisions of Chapter 23, Article 1, Section 23-14 of the Code of City Ordinances and the State Building Code, where applicable. (Code 1962, § 13-1)

Under General Statute § 7-235 and City Ordinance Chapter 23, Section 23-13, the City of Milford is established as a Sewer District for establishing and levying sewer assessments, lateral connection charges and sewer service charges for the purpose of paying a portion of the costs of constructing, maintaining and operating a system of sewers and or systems of sewerage and sewage disposal. (Ord. of 12-3-70 § 1)

The Sewer Commission of the City of Milford, in order to conserve the natural resource and limit the impact on its sewage treatment facilities, adopted as policy, February 7, 2008, the following regulations regarding water-saving devices and sewage outflow characteristics of certain developments:

1. Commercial and industrial uses shall use water-saving devices to the limits hereinafter defined. (Hotels, motels, offices, restaurants, etc. shall be considered commercial use).
2. Water-saving devices: Faucets shall be limited to a maximum flow rate of 2.5 gallons per minute. Shower heads shall be limited to a maximum flow rate of 2.5 gallons per minute. Toilets shall be limited to a maximum flow rate of 2.5 gallons per flush.

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3. Prior to issuing a Building Permit, the applicant shall submit to the Engineering Bureau a listing of the units to be used with their accompanying flow rate for approval.

Sewer Commission application forms are available in the Sewer Commission office and on the City of Milford Web site. If an application cannot be administratively approved and is required to attend a meeting, the application must be submitted at least 10 days prior to a Sewer Commission meeting along with 2 sets of plans. The Sewer Commission is required to make a decision on the application within 65 days of the date of its first meeting following the filing of the completed application forms unless the applicant consents to an extension of the decision period of up to 65 days. Applications involving new sewage discharges or increases to existing discharges in excess of 50,000 gallons per day cannot be administratively approved and must be registered with the State of CT DEEP under its general permit for domestic sewage in excess of 50,000 gallons per day. Approvals of proposed discharges by the Sewer Commission are issued subject to the applicant obtaining all the required permits and approvals from the City Engineering Department, including sanitary sewer connection and street opening permits.

Proposed flow shall be estimated as follows: Single family house shall be 300 gallons per day. A multi family building shall be 60 gallons per day for an efficiency unit, 75 gallons per day for a one bedroom unit, and 40 gallons per day for each additional bedroom. *Rev. November 30, 2016.*

Restaurants are calculated for flow as 21 gallons per day per seat and 15 gallons per day per bar stool. Retail stores are calculated for flow at 0.09 gallons per day per square foot. Offices are calculated for flow at 0.03 gallons per day per square foot and hair salons are calculated as 75 gallons per day per haircutting station. All other flows are calculated using Table No. 4 of the CT Public Health Code, Regulations, and Technical Standards for Subsurface sewage disposal systems, latest revision.

The August 9, 1989 policy of the Sewer Commission was revised to require exterior grease traps at all restaurants and food preparation facilities connected to the sewer system, whether through the Health Department's order or through Sewer Commission approval. Restaurants and other food preparation establishments must comply with all requirements of the CT DEP General Permit for Discharge of Wastewater Associated with Food Preparation Establishments. Exterior Grease traps must be installed except where the applicant demonstrates that an exterior grease trap is not feasible for the site because the site has no exterior space available, in which case an AGRU shall be installed upon receipt of Sewer Commission approval. Said AGRU has to be properly calculated and sized by a CT Licensed Professional Engineer and submitted to the Sewer Commission for approval.

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The capacity of these exterior grease traps will continue to be a minimum of 1,000 gallons. For flows above 2,000 gallons per day, the size will be set at two-thirds the approved daily flow rounded up to the standard available size. The Zurn ZE 1172 grease trap is not an acceptable alternative and the approval of same indicated on the memo of September 29, 1989 was withdrawn.

In reviewing designs and inspection construction of sanitary sewer connections during recent years, the following standards of design and construction for sewer connections to condominium units have been established:

1. Each separate ground floor unit is to be served with a separate 6" diameter sewer connection to a main line sewer. This would be considered the building sewer or house connection for the individual ground floor condominium unit. This house connection sewer is to be connected at a wye branch in the main line sewer downstream from a main line sewer manhole.
2. Each separate ground floor unit sewer is to be provided with a residential inspection and sampling facility similar to that required for each single family residential dwelling.
3. Where possible, sewer mains are to have a minimum cover of seven feet; and house connection sewers are to be constructed at an elevation so as to result in the sewer connection's having a minimum separation distance of 18" beneath any water main, water service, and/or storm drain.
4. Where condominium buildings contain units which are stacked one unit above another unit, the upper floor units have been permitted to connect to a single building drain within the building in whatever manner is permitted under the Plumbing Section of the Building Code; and that building drain is then permitted to connect to an eight inch building sewer outside the building to serve all upper level units. Wherever this situation occurs, the eight inch building sewer is required to be connected directly into a manhole in the main line receiving sewer; and this eight inch building sewer is required to be installed on a straight line and grade, normally at a grade not less than $S=0.001$. The main line sewer manhole serves as the sampling and inspection facility for the upper level condominium units.

Where variations to the standards are necessary, these should be subject to review and approval of the Sewer Commission. It is crucial to the integrity of the sewer system that high standards of design and construction be met and maintained. The Sewer Commission assures that it will.

Sewer Extension Policy

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At the September 25, 2019 Sewer Commission meeting, the commission voted to adopt the following regarding Sewer Extensions:

The applicant is required to submit construction plans for any proposed extension, that these plans be reviewed by the Sewer Commission's consultant, that construction of the sewer extension be performed by a contractor listed on the Sewer Commission's current sanitary sewer contractor pre-qualification list, that construction inspection be performed by the Sewer Commission's consultant, and that the applicant for the sewer extension pay the cost for consultant review and inspection.