



SUMP PUMP

I. General

A. Overview

Sump pump discharges can create a public or private nuisance situation if not properly managed. Improperly managed discharge can create or result in ponding or swampy areas or flooding in the right of way or on neighboring properties. When the discharge intersects the public right of way, algae and slick spots in the summer and ice in the winter can result. Continuous discharge of water across the right of way can diminish the life of sidewalk, curb, gutter, and pavement.

B. Building Permit Requirements

- i. Any application for a building permit which includes an installation or modification of a sump pump system shall include design drawings illustrating the discharge point and anticipated frequency of flow.
- ii. Any proposed story or enclosure below grade shall clearly demonstrate the proposed method for draining groundwater. The applicant may forego such drainage infrastructure by submitting a report which demonstrates that the proposed basement is above the seasonal high water table. Such reports shall be signed by a licensed professional qualified by training and experience to evaluate the site (geologist, hydrologist, PE with relevant experience, etc.).

C. Responsibility for Discharge Impacts

The property owner shall identify the discharge technique which most effectively eliminates impacts upon adjacent properties and the public right of way. The proposed method must be approved by the Department of Public Works as part of the Building Permit submittal. The most common techniques and associated requirements are identified below.

In all instances, the property owner will be responsible to remediate the situation if the selected technique becomes a nuisance to adjacent properties or the public right of way, as described above. Such



remediation may require the extension of the discharge to the nearest public drainage system.

D. Direct Connection to Storm Sewer

- i. Any home which abuts a public storm sewer may connect a sump pump discharge to the storm sewer system after acquiring the necessary right-of-way and storm sewer direct connection permits. Such connections to the public storm sewer shall be made by a licensed plumber under the authority of a plumbing permit.
 - a. Where feasible, connections to the storm sewer shall be made at storm sewer structures. Connections at precast structures (manholes, catch basins, etc.) shall be made by core drilling through the structure with a diameter no more than one 1" greater than the pump discharge pipe outside diameter. Connections at brick or masonry structures shall be made by carefully chiseling or removing a single brick such that there is no more than 2" of clearance between the pump discharge pipe and any portion of the manhole. After crafting the necessary hole, the discharge pipe shall be inserted no more than 1" into the interior of the structure, and the connection shall be sealed using quick-setting non-shrink grout. Connections shall not inhibit normal flow in the facility, nor result in erosive velocities that could damage the structure.
 - b. If the home does not abut a storm sewer structure, then connection into an existing pipe will be allowed. Connections into existing pipes shall be made using saddles or fittings designed specifically for use on the pipe material which it is proposed to be used upon. Such fittings or saddles shall not permit encroachment of the pump discharge pipe into the flow line of the existing pipe when flowing full. Saddles shall provide flexural relief for the pump discharge line without transmitting any stress onto the storm sewer pipe.



E. Discharge onto Private Property

Water may be discharged onto the private property at least 10' away from the foundation and 15' feet from any property line if it can be demonstrated that the discharge is unlikely to flow onto adjacent property or right of way in a fashion that would be a nuisance, as defined above.

F. Discharge into a Drywell

A drywell on the property may be utilized if it is determined that the site is suitable for such a fixture and is unlikely to cause any adverse effects upon adjacent properties. Such determination shall be signed by a licensed professional qualified by training and experience to evaluate the site (geologist, hydrologist, PE with relevant experience, etc.).

G. Discharge into the Right of Way

When none of the solutions identified above is feasible, applicants may request permission to discharge into the public right of way. Any discharge shall be into an adequate drainage facility (which may include curb and gutter).

- i. Such requests must be accompanied by a sealed report from a Professional Engineer documenting the infeasibility of other solutions, as well as documenting how the proposed discharge mitigates negative impacts and will not result in ponding water or other nuisance conditions, as described above. In no instances will discharge across a sidewalk or public pathway be permitted.