

Chapter 170
SEWERS

ARTICLE I
General Regulations

§ 170-1. Legislative intent; applicability; enforcement.

§ 170-2. Definitions; word usage.

§ 170-3. Use of public sewers.

§ 170-4. Building sewers and connections.

ARTICLE II
Water Pollution Control Authority

§ 170-5. Designation of authority.

§ 170-6. Powers and duties.

§ 170-7. Sewer charges and fees.

§ 170-8. Collection of sewer charges.

ARTICLE III
Discharge Limitations

§ 170-9. Stormwater sewers.

§ 170-10. Certain discharges prohibited.

§ 170-11. Certain discharges limited.

§ 170-12. Certain discharges subject to review and approval.

§ 170-13. Permit required for certain discharges.

§ 170-14. Discharge of deleterious substances.

§ 170-15. Right of assistant director to reject or restrict discharges.

§ 170-16. Separators to be provided when necessary.

§ 170-17. Maintenance of pretreatment or flow-equalizing facilities.

- § 170-18. Installation of sampling structure.
- § 170-19. Monitoring of industrial discharges.
- § 170-20. Determination of measurements and sampling methods.
- § 170-21. Special agreements.
- § 170-22. Effect of federal standard.
- § 170-23. Increased use of process water prohibited.
- § 170-24. Protection from accidental discharge required.
- § 170-25. Report of accidental discharge required.
- § 170-26. Tampering with system prohibited.
- § 170-27. Right of entry.
- § 170-28. Liability for damages.
- § 170-29. Sewage works lying within easements.
- § 170-30. Notice of violation.
- § 170-31. Failure to comply.
- § 170-32. Violations and penalties.
- § 170-33. Liability for expenses caused by violation.
- § 170-34. Violation of statute.
- § 170-35. Appeals.
- § 170-36. Repealer; severability.

ARTICLE IV Subsurface Sewage Disposal Systems (Septic Systems)

- § 170-37. Permit required.
- § 170-38. Criteria on which issuance of permit will be based.
- § 170-39. Fees.

§ 170-40. Establishment of additional requirements.

§ 170-41. Inspections.

[HISTORY: Adopted by the City Council of the City of Meriden 1-19-1993.¹
Amendments noted where applicable.]

GENERAL REFERENCES

Building construction--See Ch. 77.

Garbage, rubbish and refuse--See Ch. 116.

Housing standards--See Ch. 125.

Health nuisances--See Ch. 144.

Streets and sidewalks--See Ch. 180.

Trailers and trailer camps--See Ch. 194.

Water--See Ch. 207.

STATUTORY REFERENCES

Municipal sewerage systems--See C.G.S. § 7-245 et seq.

ARTICLE I

General Regulations

§ 170-1. Legislative intent; applicability; enforcement.

A. (1) This chapter establishes the procedures for making connections to the public sewer in the city sanitary sewer system. It also establishes specific limits for pollutant discharges which, by their nature or by their interaction with sewage, will be detrimental to the public health, cause damage to the public sewer or the water pollution control facility, pollute the waters of the state or otherwise create a public nuisance.

(2) As part of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), the Federal (EPA) and State Department of Environmental Protection Agencies (DEP) impose discharge limitations on the Meriden Water Pollution Control Facility. The discharge

¹ Editor's Note: This ordinance also repealed former Ch. 170, Sewers, adopted 9-20-1982, which in turn had repealed former Ch. 20 of the 1963 Code, as amended.

limitations are monitored via a prescribed (usually standard methods) testing/analysis and reporting program.

(3) It is the nature of the program that the limitations imposed may be modified and/or increased by mandate of the above agencies.

(4) Therefore, any and all commercial [and] industrial (non-domestic) sanitary sewer users may be required to meet any and all discharge requirements imposed upon the Meriden Water Pollution Control Facility. This would be in addition to the customers existing Discharge Permit requirements.

(5) Analysis verifying compliance with the above will be forwarded to the assistant director WPCF.

(6) Restaurants, commercial and industrial buildings shall be required to complete a "conceptual approval" form and submit it for review and approval to the Engineering Bureau. The Engineering Bureau staff shall review the conceptual approval form and forward it to the assistant director WPCF for review and approval. The form is then sent to the Director of Public Works for final review and approval. The completed conceptual approval form is then provided to the DEP by the applicant. The DEP may or may not require a state permit for the discharge. The applicant shall supply a copy of the DEP permit, if applicable, or a written confirmation from the DEP that no permit is required to the assistant director WPCF. The assistant director WPCF may at his discretion require additional or stricter requirements of the applicant.

(7) The city shall maintain a fee structure to compensate cost incurred to the WPCF due to the industrial monitoring program. Fees will be levied for application and permit review, permit revisions, review of records and reports, and on-site compliance inspections of pre-treatment facilities. The fees may be adjusted annually as part of the WPCF budget and rate setting process.

(8) The PUC may impose fines against any discharge who violates city and/or state regulations and codes. If, in the opinion of the PUC, the violation(s) was flagrant or reoccurring act of negligence, which resulted in a substantial negative effect on the water pollution control facility, the violator may be held financially liable for the biological recovery and operation of the Meriden Water Pollution Control Facility.

B. This chapter is intended to:

(1) Inform the public as to the technical and administrative procedures to be followed in obtaining connection to the city's sanitary sewer system.

(2) Prevent the introduction of pollutants into the sanitary sewer system which will interfere with the collection and/or treatment system.

(3) Prevent the introduction of pollutants into the treatment system which will pass through the system, inadequately treated, into the waters of the state or the atmosphere or otherwise be incompatible with the system.

(4) Improve the opportunity to recycle and reclaim wastewaters and sludges from the system.

C. This chapter shall apply to the city and to persons outside the city who are users of the public sewer. Except as otherwise provided herein, the assistant director of the WPCF for the city shall otherwise implement and enforce the provisions of this chapter.

§ 170-2. Definitions; word usage.

A. As used in this chapter, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

Act or the Act: The Federal Water Pollution Control Act, also known as the "Clean Water Act," as amended, 33 U.S.C. § 1251 et seq.

Acute Toxicity Test: Involves two separate but simultaneously performed static, acute screening test. In each test (*) organisms basic to the aquatic food chain are exposed to an aliquot of effluent/discharge to determine the effect(s) of an effluent/discharge on the receiving stream and/or microbial activity within the water pollution control facility.

* Test performed on *Daphnia pulex* (larvea) and *Pimephales promelas* (fathead minnows)

The acute toxicity test will be a prime factor used in determining the extent of pretreatment required of Industrial/Commercial Users. Sample collection, handling, and analytical techniques used to determine the acute toxicity of the discharge shall be as prescribed in "Methods for Measuring the Acute Toxicity of Effluents to Freshwater and Marine Organisms" (EPA/600/4-85/013), unless otherwise specified in writing by the D.E.P. or in the regulations of Connecticut state agencies.

Assistant Director WPCF: The authorized agent or representative of the water pollution control authority who is responsible for the operation and management of the sewer collection system and/or the associated water pollution control facility.

Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD): The amount of oxygen required by microorganisms while stabilizing decomposable organic matter under aerobic conditions for five days. The determination of BOD shall be performed in accordance with the procedures prescribed in the latest edition of Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater.

Building Drain: That part of the lowest horizontal piping of building plumbing which receives the discharge from water fixtures and other sanitary pipes inside the walls of the

building and conveys it to the building sewer lateral beginning five feet (1.5 meters) outside the inner face of the building wall.

Building Sewer Lateral: The extension from the building drain to the public sewer or other place of disposal; it may also be called a house connection.

Categorical Standards: National categorical pretreatment standards or pretreatment standards.

Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD): The oxygen equivalent of the organic matter that can be oxidized as measured by using a strong chemical oxidizing agent in an acidic medium.

City: The City of Meriden.

Compatible Pollutant: Biochemical oxygen demand, suspended solids, pH and fecal coliform bacteria; plus any additional pollutants identified in the water pollution control facilities NPDES permit, where the water pollution control facility is designed to treat such pollutants and, in fact, does treat such pollutants to the degree required by the NPDES permit.

Composite Sample: A mixture of aliquot samples obtained at regular intervals over a time period. The volume of each aliquot is proportional to the discharge flow rate for the sampling interval. The minimum time period for composite sampling shall be four hours.

Cooling Water: Process water in general used for cooling purposes to which the only pollutant added is heat and which has such characteristics that it may be discharged to a natural outlet in accordance with federal and state laws and regulations.

DEP: The Department of Environmental Protection of the State of Connecticut.

Director: The Department Head responsible for the entire Department of Public Works, including the WPCF and distribution system.

Domestic Sewage: "Domestic sewage" means sewage that consists of water and human excretions or other waterborne wastes incidental to the occupancy of a residential building or a nonresidential building but not including manufacturing process water, cooling water, wastewater from water-softening equipment, commercial laundry wastewater, blowdown from heating or cooling equipment, water from cellar or floor drains, or surface water from roofs, paved surfaces or yard drains.

Floatable Oil: Oil, fat or grease in a physical state such that it will separate by gravity from sewage by treatment in an approved pretreatment facility.

Garbage: The animal or vegetable waste resulting from the handling, preparation, cooking or serving of foods.

Grab Sample: A sample which is taken from a waste stream on a one-time basis with no regard to the flow in the waste stream and without consideration of time.

Holding-Tank Waste: Any waste from holding tanks such as vessels, chemical toilets, campers, trailers and septage hauling trucks.

Incompatible Pollutant: All pollutants other than compatible pollutants as previously defined. See "compatible pollutants."

Industrial Wastewater: All wastewater from industrial processes, trade or business and is distinct from domestic sewage.

National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit: A permit issued pursuant to § 402 of the Act (33 U.S.C. 1342).

pH: The logarithm of the reciprocal of the hydrogen-ion concentrations. The concentration is the weight of hydrogen ions, in grams, per liter of solution.

Person: Any individual, partnership, copartnership, firm, company, corporation, association, joint-stock company, trust, estate, governmental entity or any other legal entity or their legal representatives, agents or assigns. The masculine gender shall include the feminine; the singular shall include the plural where indicated by the context.

Properly Shredded Garbage: The wastes from the preparation, cooking and dispensing of food that have been shredded to such a degree that all particles will be carried freely under the flow conditions normally prevailing in public sewers, with no particle greater than 1/2 inch (one and twenty-seven one-hundredths (1.27) centimeters) in any dimension.

Pretreatment or Treatment: The reduction of the amount of pollutants, the elimination of pollutants or the alteration of the nature of pollutant properties in wastewater to a less harmful state prior to or in lieu of discharging or otherwise introducing such pollutants into a water pollution control facility. The reduction or alteration can be obtained by physical, chemical or biological processes, except as prohibited by 40 CFR 403.6(d).

Public Sewer: A common sanitary sewer controlled by a governmental agency or public utility.

PUC: The Public Utilities Commission of the City of Meriden as it is constituted by its Charter, with the powers and duties granted it by the Charter and ordinances of said city.

Restaurant: A business or place which prepares foods for sale in other than its original unopened container.

Sanitary Sewer: A sewer which collects and conveys domestic sewage from residences, public buildings, commercial establishments, industries and institutions. A "sanitary

sewer" may also collect and convey permitted industrial wastewater and unintentionally admitted ground-, storm- and surface waters.

Septage: The liquids and solids which are removed from a tank used to treat domestic sewage.

Sewage: Human and animal excretions and all domestic and such manufacturing wastes as may tend to be detrimental to the public health or otherwise contravene stream standards as established by the DEP.

Sewage Collection System: The structures and equipment required to collect and convey sewage to the WPCF.

Slug: Any sudden or excessive discharge which exceeds permitted levels either in terms of pollutant concentration or instantaneous flow rate in such a manner as to adversely affect the sewage collection system and/or the water pollution control facility.

Soluble Oil: Oil which is of either mineral or vegetable origin and disperses in water or sewage at temperatures between 0° C. and 65° C. For the purposes of this chapter, emulsified oil shall be considered as "soluble oil."

Storm Sewer: A sewer which collects and conveys stormwater or groundwater.

Suspended Solids: The solid matter, measured in milligrams per liter, which may be in suspension, floatable or settleable and is removable by laboratory filtering as prescribed in the latest edition of Standard Methods of Examination of Water and Wastewater.

Toxic Pollutant: Any pollutant or combination of pollutants listed as toxic in regulations promulgated by the Administrator of the EPA under the provisions of § 307(a) of the Act or other acts.

UOD: Ultimate oxygen demand. Equivalent of 1.5 times the biochemical oxygen demand plus four and 4.6 times the ammonia (NH₃). Used as control parameter for WPCF effluent, as established in NPDES permit.

User: Any person who contributes, causes or permits the contribution of sewage into the city's sewer system.

Water Pollution Control Facility (WPCF): An arrangement of devices for the treatment of sewage and sludge.

Watercourse: A natural or artificial channel for the passage of water, either continuously or intermittently.

B. May is permissive; shall is mandatory.

§ 170-3. Use of public sewers.

A. The owner(s) of all houses, buildings or properties used for human occupancy, employment, recreation or other purposes situated within the city and abutting on any street, alley or right-of-way in which there is now located or may in the future be located a public sanitary sewer of the city may, at the option of the city and at the expense of the owner(s), be required to install a building sewer to connect their building drain to the public sewer in accordance with the provisions of this chapter within 90 days after the date of official notice to do so.

B. It shall be unlawful for any person to construct or repair any privy, privy vault, septic tank, cesspool or other facility intended for the disposal of sewage if public sewers are available.

§ 170-4. Building sewers and connections.

A. No unauthorized person(s) shall uncover, make any connections with or opening into, use, alter, repair or disturb any public sewer or appurtenance thereof.

B. Any person proposing a new discharge into the public sewer system or a substantial change in the volume or character of pollutants that are being discharged into the public sewer system shall notify the assistant director WPCF at least 45 days prior to the proposed change or connection.

C. A person intending to connect a building drain from his property to the public sewer shall first obtain a permit to connect from the Engineering Bureau. The application shall be made on forms provided by the Engineering Bureau, and it shall be accompanied by a sketch or plan showing the proposed installation in sufficient detail to enable the Engineering Bureau to determine that the proposed installation meets the requirements of this regulation and other applicable specifications, codes and laws. The application shall be signed by the qualified contractor (see Subsection P of this section) who has been chosen to perform the work of installing and connecting the building drain to the public sewer. Upon approval of the applications and plan, a permit shall be issued to have the work performed by the stated contractor. In the event that the premises changes ownership before the work is completed, or if another contractor is chosen to perform or finish the work, the original permit becomes void and a new permit must be obtained by the parties in interest. The PUC may, in its discretion, allow service pipes or sewer service to consumers other than the owners of the premises served, upon the filing by such consumers of the application required by the preceding section [this Subsection C].

D. Prior to obtaining a permit to connect, the applicant or his authorized representative shall provide adequate documentation to the Engineering Bureau to indicate how the connection is proposed. The Engineering Bureau and/or the PUC shall review the application to determine if the proposal is acceptable or if changes are

required. It shall be unlawful for any person who has received such a permit to do any acts in a manner other than that prescribed in such permit or to connect with any such sewer at any hub or slant pipe other than the one approved in such permit.

E. A connection to the public sewer will be made only after the building's plumbing has been approved by the City Building Inspector in order to ensure the minimum standards are met for the installation. A fresh air vent shall be required for the building, and all plumbing shall be in good working order. No trench containing a building drain or connection to the sanitary sewer shall be backfilled until the Engineering Bureau has completed an inspection of and approved the work. The water level in the trench shall be maintained at a level below the sewer connection before the cap is removed and while the connection is being made and until such time as it has been inspected, approved and backfilled. The contractor shall notify the Engineering Bureau 48 hours before starting any work authorized under this permit.

F. Permits to connect to the public sewer may be revoked and annulled by the assistant director WPCF for such case and at such times as he may deem sufficient and the city held harmless as a consequence of said revocation or the cause thereof. All other parties in interest shall be held to have waived the right to claim damages from the city or its agents on account of such revocation.

G. All costs and expenses incidental to the installation and connection of the building sewer from the building to the street shall be borne by the owner(s). The owner(s) shall indemnify the city from any loss or damage that may directly or indirectly be occasioned by the installation of the building sewer.

H. A separate and independent building sewer shall be provided for every building; except where one building stands at the rear of another on an interior lot and no public sewer is available or can be constructed to the rear building through an adjoining alley, court yard or driveway, the building sewer that provides service for the building which fronts on the public sewer may be extended to the rear building and the whole considered as one building sewer; but the city does not and will not assume any obligation or responsibility for damage caused by or resulting from any such aforementioned connection.

I. Existing building sewers may be used in connection with new buildings only when the proposal is approved by the Engineering Bureau.

J. The size, slope, alignment, materials of construction of a building sewer and the methods to be used in excavating, placing of the pipe, jointing, testing and backfilling and trenching and connection of the building sewer to the public sewer shall all conform to the requirements of the building and plumbing code or other applicable rules and regulations of the city. In the absence of code provisions or in amplification thereof, the materials and procedures set forth in the appropriate specification of the American Society for Testing and Materials and WPCF Manual of Practice No. 9 shall apply. No connections shall be made with any public sanitary or stormwater sewer otherwise than

by drain pipe, which shall be six inches in diameter. Every drain connecting premises with the city sanitary sewer shall be laid to a uniform grade and line, with a fall throughout its length toward the public sewer of not less than one foot per 100 feet.

K. Whenever possible, the building sewer shall be brought to the building at an elevation below the basement floor. In all buildings in which any building drain is too low to permit gravity flow to the public sewer, sanitary sewage carried by such building drain shall be lifted by an approved means and discharged to the building sewer. Duplex lift systems shall be provided for commercial and industrial buildings.

L. No person(s) shall make connection of roof downspouts, foundation drains, areaway drains or other sources of surface runoff or groundwater to a building sewer or building drain which in turn is connected directly or indirectly to a public sanitary sewer.

M. All excavations for building sewer installation shall be adequately guarded with barricades and lights so as to protect the public from hazard. Streets, sidewalks, parkways and other public property disturbed in the course of the work shall be restored in a manner satisfactory to the city.

N. No building sewer shall be constructed within 25 feet of a water supply well. If a building sewer is constructed within 25 to 75 feet of a water supply well, it shall be constructed in accordance with all applicable guidelines and regulations.

O. Any sanitary sewer lateral to be laid to connect a building to a city sanitary sewer main shall not extend beyond the projected side property lines of the parcel unless otherwise approved by the Public Utilities Commission and shall not exceed 200 feet without a cleanout.

P. All building sewers shall be installed by a drainlayer who possesses a valid license issued under Chapter 393 of the Connecticut General Statutes as amended. In addition thereto, no person shall make any connection with any public sanitary or stormwater sewer in the city unless he is licensed and obtained all necessary permits, and no person shall employ any unlicensed person to do such work.

Q. Every person so licensed shall file with the Engineering Bureau a surety bond, payable to the city, in the sum of \$4,000, conditioned that the licensee will indemnify and save harmless the city from all loss, cost or damage arising out of or in connection with any work done under such license.

R. All building sewers from the sewer main to the building shall be, in general, installed and maintained by and at the expense of the property owner(s) whose property is being serviced. Whenever the assistant director WPCF is informed or learns that a cavity, depression or other abnormality in the public street is or may be caused by disrepair in the public sewer or building sewer, the assistant director WPCF will ascertain if the public sewer or building sewer is the cause. If it is determined that such cavity or other abnormality is caused or contributed to by disrepair of the public sewer, the assistant

director WPCF shall proceed to make the necessary repairs. However, if it is determined by the assistant director WPCF that such cavity, depression or other abnormality is caused by the building sewer, the property owner(s) shall be notified of such finding and shall engage a licensed drainlayer to make the necessary repairs under the supervision of the assistant director WPCF and at no expense to the city.

S. Whenever the assistant director WPCF is informed or learns of a sewer stoppage, the assistant director WPCF shall ascertain if the public sewer is clear. Any stoppages found therein will be relieved as quickly as possible. If the public sewer is found to be clear, the property owner(s) having made a complaint of sewer stoppage shall be so notified and shall then engage a licensed plumber, reputable cleaner or licensed drainlayer to clear any stoppages in the building sewer.

T. (1) The PUC may at any time order a water meter for sewer service placed on any water service connection if it deems it in the best interest of the city to do so; and any property owner, upon notification by the PUC, shall allow a representative of the Water Bureau to enter upon his premises to install such a meter. Upon application by the consumer, a meter shall be placed on any service previously unmetered. The consumer shall provide a proper place for the installation of a meter immediately inside the building wall, which shall be of easy access at all times for reading and repair. The Director of Public Works, or his representatives, shall determine the size of the meter installed on any service and may determine when any meter shall be repaired or replaced.

(2) Water meters for sewer service shall not be supplied to a new account until a proper and adequate water meter setter has been provided by the owner immediately inside the building wall which shall be of easy access at all times for meter reading and repair, the required fee for the proper size meter has been paid to the Water Bureau by the owner, and the Water Bureau has installed and sealed the required meter. The PUC shall act as an Appeals Board to determine when and if a frostproof meter pit shall be required rather than a meter location within the building.

(3) The fee for the installation of new meters shall be determined through the Water Bureau.

ARTICLE II

Water Pollution Control Authority

§ 170-5. Designation of authority.

Pursuant to Section 7-246 of the General Statutes, the PUC is designated the water pollution control authority for the city.

§ 170-6. Powers and duties.

The water pollution control authority shall have all the powers conferred on such authority under the provisions of Sections 7-245 and 7-273 of the General Statutes and all the powers and duties granted it by the Charter and ordinances of the city. It shall exercise such powers in such manner as it shall deem for the best interest of the city.

§ 170-7. Sewer charges and fees.

A. Establishment of sewer charges:

(1) The water pollution control authority may establish and revise fair and reasonable charges for connection with and for the use of a sewerage system pursuant to Section 7-255 of the General Statutes.

(2) The water pollution control authority shall secure the approval of the city council of the proposed charges.

B. Sewer rates for metered service:

(1) The sanitary sewer rents and rates for metered service and fixed user charges for the city shall consist of a flat basic service charge based on water meter size plus a commodity charge based on consumption.

(2) Commodity charge (local service customers):

(a) Sanitary sewer rate: \$1.73 per 100 cubic feet of water consumed.

(b) Public use charge: Municipal use charge shall be the same as other local service customers.

(3) Basic service charge (local service customers):

| Meter Size (inches) | Semi-Annual Charge |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| 5/8 | \$6.84 |
| 3/4 | \$7.24 |
| 1 | \$8.42 |
| 1 1/4 - 1 1/2 | \$10.00 |
| 2 | \$14.35 |
| 3 | \$46.34 |
| 4 | \$58.19 |
| 6 | \$85.84 |
| 8 and over | \$117.44 |

(4) Customers outside city limits: The rates and charges for users of property located outside the territorial limits of the city shall be 50% higher than the rates and charges

above for the users located within the city except where specifically prohibited by prior contract agreement or as legally amended by the PUC.

(5) Private well water discharge into city sanitary sewers: The type and location of meters shall be determined by the city. Metering of the supply source is generally preferred due to the improved meter accuracy over discharge meters. However, at the discretion of the city, discharge meters may be required in certain situations. Generally for new construction projects served by private wells only or private wells and water supplied from city water mains, a water meter shall be provided according to city standards for each supply to ensure proper billing for discharge into city sanitary sewers. For closed loop systems served by private wells, and not normally discharging into city sewers, the requirement for a water meter may be waived by the Engineering Bureau. For existing buildings or facilities served by private wells only or private wells and water supplied from city water mains, alternatives, including but not limited to the following, may be required at the discretion of the city.

(a) The Director of Public Works or the PUC or their authorized agent may order that a water meter be required according to city standards for each supply to ensure proper billing for discharge into city sanitary sewers. This is the preferred alternative for all existing and proposed facilities.

(b) An estimate of usage will be made based on industry standards for the type of use and other applicable factors. The city may require that the customer provide an estimate of use, supported by detailed calculations, or the city may provide the estimate. If the customer disagrees with the estimate of usage, the city billing review officer shall be contacted. In the event there is still a dispute over the estimated usage, the matter may be referred to the PUC.

(6) Determination of charges when meter is defective:

(a) Where a water meter is operating incorrectly and a test of the meter results in an accurate determination of the percentage of error exceeding 2% the consumer shall be allowed a credit for the amount overpaid.

(b) Where a water meter is operating incorrectly and it is not possible to accurately determine consumption during any billing period, the sewer use charge for that period shall be in proportion to previous charges for similar periods when the meter was operating correctly.

(7) When rents are due; penalty: Sanitary sewer rents shall be due and payable at the office of the Tax Collector semiannually on the first day of June and December. Interest charges at a rate prescribed by the City Tax Collector and not exceeding the maximum amount allowed by Connecticut General Statutes shall be added as penalty to all sewer rents remaining unpaid one month after their due date. The charges if applicable shall be calculated from the payment date.

(8) Abatements for vacancy: Any consumer to whom water is furnished through an unmetered service may claim a sewer bill abatement for partial or complete vacancy of his premises by filing the proper notice at the office of the Water Bureau at the beginning and termination of such vacancy, provided that no abatement shall be allowed for a vacancy of less than two months' duration, and provided further that no abatement may be claimed for any period prior to the date of filing such notice. The right to claim an abatement shall be forfeited if the consumer fails to give proper notice of the termination of the vacancy.

C. Septic waste discharge fees:

(1) A fee of \$40 per 1,000 gallons shall be levied against private septic waste haulers who discharge septic waste at the WPCF. This fee shall be paid in full to the WPCF prior to acceptance of septic waste.

(2) The assistant director of the WPCF may prohibit a private septic waste hauler from discharging at the WPCF if it is deemed that the septic waste may be harmful to the plant.

D. Special connection charges:

(1) A special connection charge shall be paid for each connection made to the municipal sanitary sewer system. This special connection charge shall be used as the basis for assessing properties unassessed for their share of benefits derived from the construction of local sewers, and for apportionment of sanitary sewers built by developers, and for properties previously assessed which have or will have a greater intensity of use.

(2) Special connection charges shall be paid in full prior to connection unless otherwise approved by the PUC.

(3) Special connection charge rates are pursuant to the authority granted in Section 7-255 of the General Statutes, and are outlined in the City of Meriden "Residential and Nonresidential Special Connection Charge Policies" and the "General Policy for Layout and Assessment of Sanitary Sewers" adopted by the PUC.

§ 170-8. Collection of sewer charges.

The Tax Collector shall be the collector of all sewerage system connection and use charges, betterment charges (assessments), liens and violations levied by the WPCA under the provisions of this chapter; and such officer shall collect such charges in accordance with the provisions of the General Statutes for the collection of property taxes.

ARTICLE III
Discharge Limitations

§ 170-9. Stormwater sewers.

Stormwater and all other unpolluted drainage shall be discharged to such sewers as are specifically designated as storm sewers in accordance with all applicable state and federal laws and regulations. No person shall discharge or cause to be discharged any unpolluted waters, such as stormwater, groundwater, roof runoff, subsurface drainage, to any sanitary sewer. Nor shall any person connect any drain or plumbing fixtures or other sanitary sewer system on his premises with any stormwater sewer.

§ 170-10. Certain discharges prohibited.

No user shall contribute or cause to be contributed, directly or indirectly, any pollutant or wastewater which will interfere with the operation or performance of the WPCF. These general prohibitions apply to all such users of a WPCF whether or not the user is subject to national categorical pretreatment standards or any other federal or state pretreatment standards or requirements. A user shall not contribute the following substances to any WPCF:

A. 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 WPCF or to the operation of the WPCF. At no time shall two successive readings on an explosion hazard meter, at the point of discharge into the sewage collection system (or at any point in the system), be more than 5% nor any single reading over 10% of the lower explosive limit (LEL) of the meter.

B. Solids or viscous substances which may cause obstruction to the flow in a sewer or other interference with the operation of the WPCF, including substances such as, but not limited to, grease, garbage with particles greater than 1/2 inch in any dimension, animal guts or tissues, paunch manure, bones, hair, hides or fleshings, entrails, whole blood, feathers, ashes, cinders, sand, spent lime, stone or marble dust, metal, glass, straw, shavings, grass clippings, rags, spent grains, spent hops, wastepaper, wood, plastics, gas, tar, asphalt residues, residues from refining or processing of fuel or lubricating oil, mud or glass grinding or polishing wastes.

C. Any sewage having a corrosive property capable of causing damage or hazard to structures, equipment and personnel of the WPCF. The upper and lower limits of pH for any industrial wastewater discharge shall be within the limits imposed on the WPCF permit.

D. Any sewage containing toxic pollutants in sufficient quantity, either singly or by interaction with other pollutants, to injure or interfere with any wastewater treatment process, constitute a hazard to humans or animals or plant life, create a toxic effect in the

receiving waters of the WPCF or exceed the limitation set forth in a Categorical Pretreatment Standard. A toxic pollutant shall include but not be limited to any pollutant identified pursuant to Section 307(a) of the Act. (i.e. heavy metals and toxic organics).

Note: All metals are to be measured as total metals.

E. Any noxious or malodorous sewage, gases or solids which, either singly or by interaction with other sewage, are sufficient to prevent entry into the public sewers for their maintenance and repair.

F. Any sewage which, by interaction with other sewage in the public sewer releases obnoxious gases, forms suspended solids which interfere with the collection system, or creates a condition which may be deleterious to structures and treatment processes or which may cause the effluent limitations of the WPCF's NPDES permit to be exceeded.

G. Any substance which may cause the WPCF's effluent, or any other product of the WPCF, such as residues, sludges or scums, to be unsuitable for reclamation process where the WPCF is pursuing a reuse and reclamation program. In no case shall a substance discharged to the WPCF cause the facility to be in noncompliance with sludge use or disposal criteria, guidelines or regulations developed under § 405 of the Act; any criteria, guidelines or regulations affecting sludge use or disposal developed pursuant to the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, Clean Air Act, the Toxic Substances Control Act or state criteria applicable to the sludge management method being used.

H. Any substance which will cause a WPCF to violate its NPDES permit or the receiving water quality standards. The Assistant Director WPCF with the concurrence of the Director may modify the limits which are acceptable for discharge into the WPCF if deemed appropriate and in the best interest of the WPCF. Correspondence of such changes shall be sent to the PUC.

I. Sewage containing substances which are not amenable to treatment or reduction by the wastewater treatment process employed or are amenable to treatment only to such degree that the WPCF effluent cannot meet the limits stipulated in the (municipality's) NPDES permit.

§ 170-11. Certain discharges limited.

The following described substances, materials, waters or waste shall be limited in discharges to public sewers to concentrations or quantities which will not harm either the sewers or the WPCF, will not have an adverse effect on the receiving stream, or will not otherwise endanger public property or constitute a nuisance. The assistant director WPCF may set lower limitations if more severe limitations are necessary to meet the water quality standards of the receiving stream. The limitations or restrictions on materials or characteristics of sewage discharged to the public sewer are as follows:

- A. Sewage having a temperature higher than 150° F. (65° C.).
- B. Sewage containing fat, wax, grease, petroleum or mineral oil, whether emulsified or not, in excess of 100 milligrams per liter with floatable oil not to exceed 20 milligrams per liter or containing substances which may solidify or become viscous at temperatures between 32° F. and 150° F. (0° C. and 65° C.). Restaurants shall have grease traps of one-thousand-gallon capacity minimum, or one third the daily discharge and/or a professionally engineered system that meets all applicable sanitary sewer requirements noted in the City Code, accompanied by a certification statement signed by a professional engineer. [Amended 6-19-1995]
- C. Any garbage that has not been properly shredded. (See § 170-2.) Garbage grinders may be connected to sanitary sewers from homes, hotels, institutions, restaurants, hospitals, catering establishments or similar places where garbage originates from the preparation of food in kitchens for the purpose of consumption on the premises or when served by caterers. Solids separators may be required for commercial or industrial establishments if deemed required by the assistant director of the WPCF.
- D. Any sewage containing odor-producing substances exceeding limits which may be established by the PUC and/or the DEP.
- E. Any radioactive wastes or isotopes of such half-life or concentration as may exceed limits established by the PUC and/or the DEP in compliance with all applicable state, federal and municipal regulations.
- F. Materials which exert or cause:
- (1) Unusual concentrations of inert suspended solids (such as, but not limited to, sodium chloride and sodium sulfate).
 - (2) Excessive discoloration (such as, but not limited to, dye wastes and vegetable tanning solutions).
 - (3) Unusual BOD, COD, or chlorine demand in such quantities as to constitute a significant load on the water pollution control facility.
 - (4) Unusual volume of flow or concentrations of wastes constituting a slug as defined in Section 170-2.
- G. Overflow from holding tanks or other receptacles storing organic wastes.
- H. Sewage with a concentration of pollutants, including but not limited to the following items and limits. The director, with the concurrence of the PUC, may require more stringent limits if it is determined in the best interest of the WPCF.

| Pollutant | Concentration [parts/million (mg/l)] |
|---------------------------|---|
| Arsenic as As | 0.05 |
| Barium as Ba | 5.0 |
| Boron as B | 5.0 |
| Cyanides as CN (amenable) | 0.1 |
| Fluoride as F | 20 |
| Chromium (Total) | 1.0 |
| Chromium (CR +6) | 0.1 |
| Magnesium as Mg | 100 |
| Manganese as Mn | 5.0 |
| Copper as Cu | 1.0 |
| Zinc as Zn | 1.0 |
| Cadmium | 0.1 |
| Lead | 0.1 |
| Tin | 2.0 |
| Silver | 0.1 |
| Mercury | 0.01 |
| Nickel | 1.0 |

Note: All metals are to be measured as total metals.

§ 170-12. Certain discharges subject to review and approval.

The admission into the public sewers of any waters or wastes having a five-day BOD greater than 500 parts per million by weight, or containing more than 600 parts per million by weight of suspended solids, or containing more than 15 parts per million by weight of chlorine demand, or containing any quantity of substance described in section 170-11, or having an average daily flow greater than 2% of the average daily sewage flow of the city shall be subject to the review and approval of the assistant director WPCF. Where necessary, in the opinion of the assistant director WPCF, the person discharging or causing the discharge of any such waters or wastes into the public sewers shall provide, at his own expense, such preliminary treatment as may be necessary to reduce the BOD to not more than 500 parts per million by weight, the suspended solids to not more than 600 parts per million by weight and the chlorine demand to not more than 15 parts per million by weight; reduce objectionable characteristics or constituents of the substances described in Section 170-11 to the limits permitted thereunder; and control the quantities and rates of discharge of such waters and wastes.

§ 170-13. Permit required for certain discharges.

In accordance with Section 25-54i of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended, a permit from the DEP is required prior to PUC approval and the initiation of a discharge of any of the following wastewaters to a public sewer:

- (1) Industrial wastewater of any quantity.
- (2) Domestic sewage in excess of 5,000 gallons per day through any individual building sewer to a public sewer.

A potential discharger must obtain a conceptual approval form from the Engineering Bureau. The form must be properly filled out and returned to the Engineering Bureau for review and approval. The potential discharger must then submit an approved copy of the conceptual approval form with the permit application to the Department of Environmental Protection and the PUC not later than 90 days prior to the anticipated date of the initiation of the proposed discharge. See Section 170-1.

§ 170-14. Discharge of deleterious substances.

A. If any sewage is discharged or is proposed to be discharged to the public sewers which contains the substances or possesses the characteristics enumerated in Section 170-11 of this chapter and which, in the judgment of the PUC may have a deleterious effect upon the wastewater facilities, processes, equipment or receiving waters or which otherwise may create a hazard to life or constitute a public nuisance, the PUC may, in accordance with Section 25-54i(b) of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended:

- (1) Reject the discharge of the wastes.
- (2) Require pretreatment to an acceptable condition for discharge to the public sewers. (i.e. swimming pools).
- (3) Require control over the quantities and rates of discharge (i.e. swimming pools).

B. If the DEP permits the pretreatment or equalization of waste flows, the design and installation of the equipment shall be subject to the review and approval of the PUC, subject to the requirements of all applicable codes, ordinances and laws.

§ 170-15. Right of assistant director WPCF to reject or restrict discharges.

The assistant director WPCF shall have the right to reject the discharge of any wastes or require more stringent effluent limitations than required by the user's section 25-54i permit, the decisions of the DEP notwithstanding.

§ 170-16. Separators to be provided when necessary.

Grease, oil and gross particle separators shall be provided when, in the opinion of the DEP and/or PUC, they are necessary for the proper handling of sewage, containing floatable grease in excessive amounts, as specified in Section 5.4(b), or any flammable wastes, sand or other harmful substances, except that such separators shall not be required for private living quarters or dwelling units. All separators shall be of a type and capacity approved by the DEP and/or PUC and shall be located as to be readily and easily accessible for cleaning and inspection. In the maintaining of these separators, the owner(s) shall be responsible for the proper removal and disposal by appropriate means of the captured material and shall maintain records of the dates and means of disposal which are subject to review by the assistant director WPCF. Any removal and hauling of the collected materials shall be performed by a waste disposal firm which possesses a valid permit from the DEP under Section 25-54h of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended.

§ 170-17. Maintenance of pretreatment or flow-equalizing facilities.

Where pretreatment or flow-equalizing facilities are provided or required for any sewage, they shall be maintained continuously in satisfactory and effective operation by the owner(s) at his expense.

§ 170-18. Installation of sampling structure.

When required by the PUC, the owner of any property serviced by a building sewer carrying industrial wastes shall install a suitable structure together with such necessary meters and other appurtenances in the building sewer to facilitate observations, sampling and measurement of the wastes. Such structure, when required, shall be accessible and safely located and shall be constructed in accordance with plans approved by the PUC. The sampling structure shall be located at a point along the industrial waste stream where a representative sample of the industrial wastewater may be obtained prior to its being diluted by domestic sewage in the building sewer. The structure shall be installed by the owner at his expense and shall be maintained by him so as to be safe and accessible at all times.

§ 170-19. Monitoring of industrial discharges.

A. All industries discharging into a public sewer shall perform such monitoring of their discharge as required by the DEP in any state discharge permit issued pursuant to Section 25-54i of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended, including, but not limited to, installation, use and maintenance of monitoring equipment, keeping records and reporting the results to the DEP and the WPCF assistant director.

B. All present and future DEP/EPA treatment and testing parameters required of the WPCF may be assumed by industrial/commercial sanitary sewer users/dischargers as determined by the assistant director WPCF.

C. The PUC may at any time order a water meter placed on any service connection if it deems it in the best interest of the city to do so; and any property owner, upon notification by the PUC, shall allow a representative of the Water Bureau to enter upon his premises to install such a meter. Upon application by the consumer, a meter shall be placed on any service previously unmetered. The consumer shall provide a proper place for the installation of a meter immediately inside the building wall which shall be of easy access at all times for reading and repair. The Director of Public Works, or his representatives, shall determine the size of the meter installed on any service and may determine when any meter shall be repaired or replaced.

D. Water meters for sewer service shall not be supplied to a new account until a proper and adequate water meter setter has been provided by the owner immediately inside the building wall which shall be of easy access at all times for meter reading and repair, the required fee for the proper size meter has been paid to the Water Bureau by the owner, and the Water Bureau has installed and sealed the required meter. The Public Utilities Commission shall act as an Appeals Board to determine when and if a frostproof meter pit shall be required rather than a meter location within the building.

E. The fee for the installation of new meters shall be determined through the Water Bureau.

§ 170-20. Determination of measurements and sampling methods.

All measurements, tests and analyses of the characteristics of sewage to which reference is made in this chapter shall be determined in accordance with the latest edition of Standard Methods for Examination of Water and Wastewater published by the American Health Association. Sampling methods, location, times, durations and frequencies are to be determined on an individual basis subject to the stipulations and general conditions of the discharger's state discharge permit and the assistant director WPCF.

§ 170-21. Special agreements.

No statement contained in this chapter shall be construed as preventing any special agreement or arrangement between the city and any industrial concern whereby an industrial waste of unusual strength or character may be accepted by the city for treatment, provided that such agreements do not contravene any requirements of existing state or federal regulations and are compatible with any user charge and industrial cost recovery system in effect.

§ 170-22. Effect of federal standard.

Upon the promulgation of the federal categorical pretreatment standard for a particular industrial subcategory, the federal standard, if more stringent than limitations imposed under this chapter for sources in that subcategory, shall supersede the limitations imposed under this chapter.

§ 170-23. Increased use of process water prohibited.

No user shall increase the use of process water in an attempt to dilute a discharge as a partial or complete substitute for adequate treatment to achieve compliance with the limitations contained in the federal categorical pretreatment standards or in any specific pollutant limitations which may be developed by the DEP.

§ 170-24. Protection from accidental discharge required.

Each user shall provide protection from accidental discharge of prohibited materials or other substances regulated by this chapter. Facilities to prevent accidental discharge of prohibited materials shall be provided and maintained at the owner's or user's own cost and expense. The Director may require that plans showing facilities and operating procedures be submitted for review and approval prior to construction of the facilities.

§ 170-25. Report of accidental discharge required.

A. The assistant director WPCF shall be immediately notified of all accidental discharges.

B. Within five days following an accidental discharge, the user shall submit to the assistant director WPCF and the DEP a detailed written report describing the cause of the discharge and the measures to be taken by the user to prevent similar future occurrences. Such notification shall not relieve the user of any expense, loss, damage or other liability which may be incurred as a result of damage to the WPCF, fish kills, aquatic plants or any other damage to persons or property; nor shall such notification relieve the user of any fines, civil penalties or other liability which may be imposed by this chapter or other applicable law.

C. A notice shall be permanently posted on the user's bulletin board or other prominent place advising employees whom to call in the event of a dangerous discharge. Employers shall ensure that all employees are advised of the emergency notification procedure.

§ 170-26. Tampering with system prohibited.

No person shall maliciously, willfully or negligently break, damage, destroy, uncover, deface or tamper with any structure, appurtenance or equipment which is a part of the sewage collection system or WPCF.

§ 170-27. Right of entry.

The assistant director WPCF and other duly authorized employees of the city bearing proper credentials and identification shall be permitted to enter all properties for the purposes of inspection, observation, measurement, sampling and testing in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.

§ 170-28. Liability for damages.

While performing the necessary work in private properties referred to in Section 170-27 above, the assistant director WPCF or duly authorized employees of the city shall observe all safety rules applicable to the premises established by the user. The user shall be held harmless for injury or death to the city employees, and the city shall indemnify the user against loss or damage to its property by city employees and against liability claims and demands for personal injury or property damage asserted against the user and growing out of the gauging and sampling operation, except as such may be caused by negligence or failure of the user to maintain safe conditions as required in Section 170-4.

§ 170-29. Sewage works lying within easements.

The assistant director WPCF and other duly authorized employees of the city bearing proper credentials and identification shall be permitted to enter all private properties through which the city holds an easement or any other claim for access for the purposes of repair and maintenance of any portion of the sewage works lying within said easement. All entry and subsequent work, if any, on said easement, shall be done in full accordance with the terms of the duly negotiated easement pertaining to the private property.

§ 170-30. Notice of violation.

Any person found to be in violation of any provisions of this chapter, except Section 170-26, shall be served by the city with written notice stating the nature of the violating and providing a reasonable time limit for the satisfactory correction thereof. The offender shall, within the period of time stated in such notice, permanently cease all violations and shall be liable to the city for any and all expense, loss or damage which may be caused to the public sewer, treatment works or appurtenances by reason of such violation.

§ 170-31. Failure to comply.

A. Sanitary sewer service shall be furnished to consumers subject to the provisions of this chapter and any rules or regulations of the PUC made in connection with such service.

B. If any person, after due time and proper order or direction from the assistant director WPCF, fails to take the remedial steps or perform the acts required by the sections of this chapter or fails thereafter to use, operate and maintain a connection with the public sewers of the city or appurtenances thereof, as required by this chapter, the PUC, by such agents and/or facilities as it may choose, may disconnect the building sewer or connection or drain which was wrongfully connected, altered, repaired or used or through which improper wastes were discharged into the public sewer or drainage system of the city and may, if necessary, interfere with or cut off drainage from other portions of the property whereon such violation of the chapter has occurred or of any adjacent property which is served by such building sewer, connection or drain. If the water pollution control authority shall have disconnected a building sewer, connection or drain from the public sewer system, as above provided, the city may collect the cost of making such disconnection from any person responsible for or who profited by such violation of the requirements of this chapter.

§ 170-32. Violations and penalties.

Any person who continues any violation beyond the time limit provided for in Section 170-30 shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, on conviction thereof, shall be fined in the amount not exceeding \$100 for each violation. Each day in which any such violation shall continue shall be deemed a separate offense.

§ 170-33. Liability for expenses caused by violation.

Any person who is found to be in violation of any of the provisions of this chapter shall become liable to the city for any expense, loss or damage occasioned by the city by reason of such violation.

§ 170-34. Violation of statute.

Any person who is found to be in violation of Section 25-54i of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended, shall be subject to a monetary penalty or forfeiture under Section 25-54q of the statutes.

§ 170-35. Appeals.

Any person who may be aggrieved by any interpretation of any provision of this chapter, or by an order under authority conferred by this chapter, or by requirement of this

chapter, or by any classification of any sewer, drain or any wastewater proposed to be discharged into any sewer or drain made, may appeal within 21 days from such interpretation, order, classification or requirement to the PUC. Any such appeal shall be in writing and forwarded to the PUC by certified mail, setting out the matter in reasonable detail and completeness. The PUC shall consider any such appeal made to it within 90 days of receipt and, if so requested by any such person interested therein, shall afford all interested parties an opportunity to be heard by it or by a committee thereof. The PUC shall take such action deemed appropriate and, in its discretion, may alter any interpretation, order or requirement under its authority. Until such time as the PUC shall have received and considered an appeal, and shall have voted to change the interpretation, order or requirement, such interpretation, order or requirement shall be observed and remain in full force and effect.

§ 170-36. Repealer; severability.

All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed. The invalidity of any section, clause, sentence or provision of this chapter shall not affect the validity of any other part of this chapter which can be given effect without such invalid part or parts.

ARTICLE IV Subsurface Sewage Disposal Systems (Septic Systems)

§ 170-37. Permit required.

A. It shall be unlawful for any person to install, repair or alter any subsurface sewage disposal system in the city without a permit issued by the Division of Health. Applications for such permits shall be made on forms to be provided by the Division of Health and shall be approved by the Director of Health or his agent before any such work is started.

B. Construction shall not be commenced upon any dwelling or other residential, commercial or industrial structure or any buildings that are used for human occupancy or that are to be served by on-site subsurface sewage disposal facilities until they are approved by the Director of Health or his duly appointed agent.

§ 170-38. Criteria on which issuance of permit will be based.

Applications for the permits required by Section 170-37 shall be approved on the basis of conformance with requirements for subsurface sewage disposal systems as specified under the provisions of the Public Health Code of the State of Connecticut and under any subsequent regulations that may be adopted in conformity with such state code.

§ 170-39. Fees.

A. The Division of Health is authorized to charge the applicant a fee per lot or, in the case of multiple dwellings, a fee per unit for the performance of necessary soil tests and review of the applicable plans.

B. Upon approval of soil tests and plans, a permit fee per lot or, in the case of multiple dwellings, a fee per system shall be charged in addition to the fees for soil testing and plan review. A fee shall be charged for permits issued for repair or minor alterations. [Amended 7-18-1994]

§ 170-40. Establishment of additional requirements.

A. The City Council is authorized to approve additional requirements and/or modifications of the regulation of subsurface sewage disposal systems as may be proposed from time to time by the Division of Health.

B. Such additions and/or modifications, once approved by the City Council, shall be published in a newspaper having general circulation in the city prior to their becoming effective.

C. Copies of any such adopted additions and/or modifications shall be made available to applicants during the application process.

§ 170-41. Inspections.

Inspections of the sewage disposal systems shall be made by the Director of Health or his agent as often as may be necessary during the construction or repair process. However, in no case shall any new, repaired or altered system be covered by backfilling before such system repair or alteration is approved by the Director of Health or his agent; such approval shall be given in writing prior to the system's being backfilled.