

CHAPTER 170

SEWERS

ARTICLE I

General Regulations

- | | | | |
|----------|---|-----------|--|
| | | § 170-24. | Protection from accidental discharge required. |
| § 170-1. | Legislative intent, applicability, enforcement. | § 170-25. | Report of accidental discharge required. |
| § 170-2. | Definitions; word usage. | § 170-26. | Tampering with system prohibited. |
| § 170-3. | Use of public sewers. | § 170-27. | Right of entry. |
| § 170-4. | Building sewers and connections. | § 170-28- | Liability for damages. |
| | | § 170-29. | Sewage works lying within easements. |

ARTICLE II

Water Pollution Control Authority

- | | | | |
|----------|------------------------------|-----------|---|
| | | § 170-30. | Notice of violation. |
| § 170-5. | Designation of Authority. | § 170-31. | Failure to comply. |
| § 170-6. | Powers and duties. | § 170-32. | Penalties for offenses. |
| § 170-7. | Sewer charges and fees. | § 170-33. | Liability for expenses caused by violation. |
| § 170-8. | Collection of sewer charges. | § 170-34. | Violation of statute. |
| | | § 170-35. | Appeals. |

ARTICLE III

Discharge Limitations

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| § 170-9. | Stormwater and unpolluted drainage. |
| § 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 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. | Measurements, tests and analyses. |
| § 170-21. | Special Agreements |
| § 170-22. | Effect of federal standard. |
| § 170-23. | Increased use of process water prohibited. |

ARTICLE IV

Subsurface Sewage Disposal Systems (Septic Systems)

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| § 170-36. | Permit required. |
| § 170-37. | Criteria for Issuance of permit. |
| § 170-38. | Fees. |
| § 170-39. | Establishment of additional requirements. |
| § 170-40. | Inspections. |

ARTICLE V

Regulation of Fats, Oils, and Grease (FOG)

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| § 170-41. | FOG discharge permits required. |
| § 170-42. | General introduction. |
| § 170-43. | Purpose. |
| § 170-44. | Definitions. |
| § 170-45. | Food preparation establishment (FPE) permitting program. |
| § 170-46. | Wastewater discharge limitations. |
| § 170-47. | Outdoor grease trap requirements. |
| § 170-48. | Fees and billing. |
| § 170-49. | Administrative enforcement and abatement. |

[HISTORY: Adopted by the Council of the City of Meriden 1-19-1993. ¹ Amendments noted where applicable.]

GENERAL REFERENCES

Building construction — See Ch. 77.
Housing standards — See Ch. 125.
Health nuisances — see Ch. 144.
Solid waste, recycling and littering — see Ch. 176

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. 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.
- (1) As part of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), federal and state agencies [Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and State Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP)] impose discharge limitations on the Meriden Water Pollution Control Facility. The discharge limitations are monitored via a prescribed (usually standard methods) testing/analysis and reporting program.
 - (2) It is the nature of the program that the limitations imposed may be modified and/or increased by mandate of the above agencies.
 - (3) Therefore, any and all commercial and industrial (nondomestic) 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 customer's existing discharge permit requirements.
 - (4) Analysis verifying compliance with the above will be forwarded to the Director of Public Utilities or Designee.
 - (5) Restaurants and commercial and industrial buildings shall be required to complete a conceptual approval form and submit it for review and approval to the Engineering Division. The Engineering Division staff shall review the conceptual approval form and forward it to the Director of Public Utilities or Designee 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 DEEP by the applicant. The DEEP may or may not require a state permit for the discharge. The applicant shall supply a copy of the DEEP permit, if applicable, or a written confirmation from the DEEP that no permit is required to the Director of Public Utilities or Designee. The Director of Public Utilities or Designee may at his discretion require additional or stricter requirements of the applicant.

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.

- (6) The City shall maintain a fee structure to compensate cost incurred to the WPCF due to the industrial monitoring and fats, oils, and grease discharge programs. Fees will be levied for application and permit review, permit revisions, review of records and reports, and on-site compliance inspections of pretreatment facilities. The fees may be adjusted annually as part of the WPCF budget and rate setting process.
- (7) The PUC may impose fines against any discharger who violates City and/or state regulations and codes. If, in the opinion of the PUC, the violation was flagrant or a 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.
- (5) Prevent clogging or blockage of the public sewer system due to grease build-up causing sewage to backup and flood streets, residences, and commercial buildings, resulting in potential liability to the PUC.
- (6) Implement a procedure to recover costs incurred from cleaning and maintaining the sewer and any liability incurred by the PUC for damage caused by grease blockages resulting in flooding of streets, residences, or commercial buildings.

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 Director of Public Utilities or Designee 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 -

- (1) Involves two separate but simultaneously performed static, acute screening tests. 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* (larvae) and *Pimephales promelas* (fathead minnows).]

- (2) 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 DEEP or in the regulations of Connecticut state agencies.

AUTOMATED GREASE RECOVERY UNIT (AGRU) – Means an indoor grease trap used to separate grease from wastewater by active mechanical or electrical means. See definition of Grease Trap.

BACKWATER VALVE – A backwater valve is a one way flow control valve installed in a drainage system, that under normal conditions allows the wastewater to drain out of the system; however, if a reversed flow of drainage water should occur, the valve will be forced closed and protect the interior of the building from sewage backup.

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMP) – The practices and procedures of a user of the public sewer that are designed to prevent or minimize obstruction, damage, or excessive maintenance of the sanitary sewer.

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 facility's 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.

DEEP — The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection of the State of Connecticut.

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC UTILITIES OR DESIGNEE -- 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.

DOMESTIC SEWAGE — Sewage that consists of water and human excretions or other waterborne wastes incidental to the occupancy of a residential building **including residential water softening equipment**, 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.

FATS, OILS, AND GREASE (FOG) – Any fats, oils, and grease generated from the food preparation process. All are sometimes referred to as “grease”.

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.

FOG PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR – 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.

FOOD PREPARATION ESTABLISHMENT (FPE) – Facilities who are required to obtain a FOG Discharge Permit including those who are: a) regulated by the Meriden Health Department and classified as a Class 3 or Class 4 food service establishment, as defined by the State health Code; or b) engaged in similar cooking methods that have the potential to produce fats, oils, and grease. A Class 3 food service establishment may be exempt from obtaining a FOG Discharge Permit if it does not employ frying, sautéing, baking, or roasting of meats, use of rotisseries, grills, smokers, or other methods that have the potential to generate fats, oils, or grease.

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.

GREASE DISPOSAL FACILITY – A regional collection/transfer/disposal site approved in accordance with the law for the disposal of FOG. This means a Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) approved publicly/privately owned treatment works that is for the separation and disposal of FOG by incineration or other methods. Pursuant to Section 22a-174-33 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies related to Title V source, an in-state regional incinerator must have an operating permit that lists FOG as a source of fuel.

GREASE TRAP – The term “grease trap” is used collectively in this chapter to mean both AGRU’s and outdoor grease traps.

HAULER – Any person who collects the contents of a grease trap and transports it to a grease disposal facility. A hauler may also provide other services related to grease trap maintenance.

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. "

INDOOR TRAP – Means an AGRU. See definition of Grease Trap.

INDUSTRIAL WASTEWATER -- All wastewater from industrial processes, trade or business and is distinct from domestic sewage.

NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) PERMIT — A permit issued pursuant to § 402 of the Act (33 U.S.C. § 1342).

NON-RENDERABLE GREASE – Fats, oils, and grease generated from food preparation or serving that has come in contact with water or other contaminants shall prevent this FOG from being rendered. See Renderable Grease.

OUTDOOR GREASE TRAP – A structure or device designed for the purpose of removing and preventing FOG from entering the public sanitary sewer system. These devices are often below-ground units built as two or three chamber baffled tanks.

PERMITTEE – The Permittee represents the FPE and is authorized by the issuance of a FOG Discharge Permit to initiate, create, originate, or maintain a wastewater discharge from the FPE. Where applicable, the Permittee shall be the Owner or the Owner's Local Designee.

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

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

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) and provisions in this chapter.

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 (1 .27 centimeters) in any dimension. Properly shredded garbage shall not include wastes from Food Preparation Establishments.

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 ²

RENDERABLE GREASE – The uncontaminated FOG from the food preparation process that can be used as a source of material that is free of impurities and can be recycled into products such as, but not limited to, animal feed or cosmetics.

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 groundwater, stormwater and surface water.

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 DEEP.

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 0⁰ C. and 65⁰ 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 for the 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 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.

2. ¹ Editor's Note: See Ch. 6, Art. XV, Public Utilities Commission.

WATERCOURSE -- A natural or artificial channel for the passage of water, either continuously or intermittently.

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL FACILITY (WPCF) — An arrangement of devices for the treatment of sewage and sludge.

- 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 his (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 Director of Public Utilities or Designee 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 Division. The application shall be made on forms provided by the Engineering Division and it shall be accompanied by a sketch or plan showing the proposed installation in sufficient detail to enable the Engineering Division 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 application 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 this subsection.
- D. Prior to obtaining a permit to connect, the applicant or his authorized representative shall provide adequate documentation to the Engineering Division to indicate how the connection is proposed. The Engineering Division 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 Division 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 Division 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 Director of Public Utilities or Designee 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 sanitary sewer main, including the wye connection**, 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 that 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, courtyard 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. **Whenever a lateral is shared between two or more properties and/or buildings, a Maintenance Agreement must be written and filed on the Public Land Records via the City Clerk's Office for all properties involved with said Maintenance Agreement.**
- I. **Where outdoor grease traps are in use, separate wastewater lines shall be provided to convey the sanitary wastewater directly to the public sanitary collection system. Wastewater from the kitchen and clean-up areas shall be conveyed to the grease trap and then to the public sanitary collection system.. In no case shall sanitary wastewater be allowed to enter a grease trap.**
- J. Existing building sewers may be used in connection with new buildings only when the proposal is approved by the Engineering Division.
- K. 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 drainpipe, 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.
- L. 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.

- M. 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.
- N. 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.
- O. 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.
- P. 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 200 100 feet without a cleanout. A cleanout is also required at a change of piping direction.
- Q. 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.
- R. Every person so licensed shall file with the Engineering Division 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.
- S. 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 Director of Public Utilities or Designee 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 Director of Public Utilities or Designee 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 Director of Public Utilities or Designee shall proceed to make the necessary repairs. However, if it is determined by the Director of Public Utilities or Designee 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 Director of Public Utilities or Designee and at no expense to the City.
- T. Whenever the Director of Public Utilities or Designee is informed or learns of a sewer stoppage, the Director of Public Utilities or Designee 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.
- U. 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 Division 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. ³

- (1) 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 Division by the owner, and the Water Division has installed and sealed the required meter. The PUC shall act as an appeals board to determine when and if a frost-proof meter pit shall be required rather than a meter location within the building.
- (2) The fee for the installation of new meters shall be determined through the Water Division.

V. Backwater valves must be installed on all plumbing fixtures (including washing machines, toilets, sinks, showers, bathtubs, etc.) that are below the elevation of the nearest upstream sanitary sewer manhole cover.

3. Editor's Note: Amended at time of adoption of Code (see Ch. I, General Provisions, Art. E1).

ARTICLE 11

Water Pollution Control Authority

§ 170-5. Designation of Authority.

Pursuant to § 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 §§ 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 § 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: **\$3.50 per 100 cubic feet of water consumed.** See Fee Schedule. [Amended 6-20-2005; 2-6-2012]
 - (b) Public use charge: municipal use charge shall be the same as other local service customers.
- (3) Basic service charge (local service customers): [Amended 6-20-2005; 2-6-2012] See Fee Schedule.

Meter Size (inches)	Quarterly Charge
5/8	\$ 14.05
3/4	\$ 14.62
1	\$ 16.35
1 1/4 to 1 1/2	\$ 18.65
2	\$ 24.99
3	\$ 71.65
4	\$ 88.93
6	\$129.25
8	\$175.33

- (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 discharges into City sanitary sewers. The type and location of meters shall be determined by the City. Metering of the supply sources 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 by City water mains, a water meter shall be provided according to City standards for each supply to ensure proper billing for discharge into City sewers. The requirements for a water meter may be waived by the Engineering Division. 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 Utilities, the PUC, or 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 that 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 percentages 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 quarterly on the first day of March, June, September, 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 a penalty to all sewer rates, fees, and fines 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 Division 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. Editor's Note: Amended at time of adoption of Code (see Ch. 1, General Provisions, Art. II).

C. Septic waste discharge fees.

- (1) A fee of \$117.00 per 1,000 gallons (see Fee Schedule) 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. [Amended 6-20-2005; 02-06-2012]
- (2) The Director of Public Utilities or Designee 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. FOG fees and billing

- (1) The PUC shall set separate fees and fines for unauthorized discharge of wastewater from a FPE and the discharge of FOG or failure to follow best management practices as included in this chapter. Fines shall fall into two classifications; BMP violation, and equipment installation violation.
- (2) A copy of the FOG Program fees applicable to FOG applications, permits, and notice-of-violation fines pursuant to this section are on file at the WPCF.

E. 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 § 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 and unpolluted drainage.

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, and subsurface drainage, to any sanitary sewer, nor shall any person connect any drain or plumbing fixtures or other sanitary sewer system on his premises to 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 § 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 the 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 Director of Public Utilities or Designee 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 Director of Public Utilities or Designee 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 150⁰ F. (65⁰ 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 32⁰ F. and 150⁰ F. (0⁰ C. and 65⁰ C). Restaurants shall have grease traps of one-thousand-gallon capacity minimum, or 1/3 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. All analyses shall be conducted according to the current method as listed in Title 40 CFR 136 or as approved in writing by the Director of Public Utilities or Designee. [Amended 6-19-1995]

- C. Any residential 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 Director of Public Utilities or Designee. Shredded garbage from Food Preparation Establishments shall be prohibited. Solid separators may be required for establishments if deemed required by the Director of Public Utilities or Designee.
- D. Any sewage containing odor-producing substances exceeding limits which may be established by the PUC and/or the DEEP.
- E. Any radioactive wastes or isotopes of such half-life or concentration as may exceed limits established by the PUC and/or the DEEP 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 § 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
Nickle	1.0
Phosphorus TP	5.0

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

- I. The limitations of wastewater discharged to the sewer system through grease traps and AGRUs shall be as follows:
- (1) Wastewater having a temperature in excess 140°F shall not be discharged into any AGRU.
 - (2) Use of enzymes, solvents, emulsifiers, biological agents, and similar materials for cleaning or maintaining sewer lines or grease traps, shall be prohibited.
 - (3) No food grinder or food pulper shall discharge into an outdoor grease trap or AGRU.
 - (4) All wastewater flows shall be screened to prevent solids from entering the sewer system. Screened solids shall be disposed of in accordance with applicable solids waste regulations.

§ 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 § 170-1 1, 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 Director of Public Utilities or Designee. Where necessary, in the opinion of the Director of Public Utilities or Designee, 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 § 170-1 1 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.

- A. In accordance with § 22a-430 of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended, a permit from the DEEP 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.
- B. A potential discharger must obtain a conceptual approval form from the Engineering Division. The form must be properly filled out and returned to the Engineering Division 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 Energy and Environmental Protection and the PUC not later than 90 days prior to the anticipated date of the initiation of the proposed discharge. See § 170-1.

C. Fog Program

- (1) All Food Preparation Establishments shall be required to apply for and obtain a FOG Discharge Permit or variance from the FOG Program Administrator. The requirements of this section are in addition to the requirements of the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's *General Permit for the Discharge of Wastewater Associated with Food Preparation Establishments*, The International Plumbing code and the Plumbing and Drainage Institute standards as adopted by the Office of the State Building Inspector.
- (2) The FOG Program Administrator shall provide an application form for a FOG Discharge Permit to all FPEs. All existing FPEs shall submit a completed application form within 30 days of receipt of the application. New FPEs shall obtain a FOG Discharge Permit prior to issuance of a food service license. All renovations of an existing FPE's kitchen or cleanup area shall require the application for an issuance of a new FOG Discharge Permit.
 - (a) Each application form submitted shall include, but not be limited to, the following: Application form; variance form where applicable; Conceptual Approval Form; hours of facility operation; a current copy of the FPE's menu; the FPE's engineer's design report for outdoor grease traps or AGRUs including unit specifications, cut sheet, and sizing calculations; the application fee and any outstanding fees or fines payable to the PUC. No installation or modification shall be undertaken prior to receiving approval.
- (3) The FOG Program Administrator shall approve or deny all applications for the FOG Discharge Permits in accordance with the policies and regulations established in this Article. The FOG Discharge Permit shall be in addition to any other permits, registrations, or occupational licenses, which may be required by Federal, State, or local law. It shall be a violation of this Article for any FPE identified by the FOG Program Administrator to discharge wastewater containing fats, oils, and grease to the public sanitary sewer system without a FOG Discharge Permit.
- (4) The permit shall not be transferred or sold to a new owner. A new owner is required to apply to the FOG Program Administrator for a new FOG Discharge Permit. The FOG Discharge Permit or variance shall be displayed in a prominent location where it can be seen by staff.

§ 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 § 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 § 22a430(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 DEEP 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 to reject or restrict discharges.

The Director of Public Utilities or Designee shall have the right to reject the discharge of any wastes or require more stringent effluent limitations than required by the user's § 22a-430 permit, the decisions of the DEEP notwithstanding.

§ 170-16. Separators to be provided when necessary.⁵

Grease, oil and gross particle separators shall be provided when, in the opinion of the DEEP and/or PUC, they are necessary for the proper handling of sewage containing floatable grease in excessive amounts, as specified in § 170-1 1B, 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 DEEP 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 Director of Public Utilities or Designee.

§ 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 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 DEEP in any state discharge permit issued pursuant to § 22a-430 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 DEEP and the Director of Public Utilities or Designee.
- B. All present and future DEEP/EPA treatment and testing parameters required of the WPCF may be assumed by industrial/commercial sanitary sewer users/dischargers as determined by the Director of Public Utilities or Designee.

5. Editor's Note: Amended at time of adoption of Code (see Ch. I, General Provisions, Art. II).

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 Division 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.¹

(1) 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 Division by the owner, and the Water Division has installed and sealed the required meter. The Public Utilities Commission shall act as an appeals board to determine when and if a frost proof meter pit shall be required rather than a meter location within the building.

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

§ 170-20. Measurements, tests and analyses.

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 the 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 Director of Public Utilities or Designee.

§ 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 DEEP.

¹ 6.Editor's Note: Amended at time of adoption of Code (see Ch. 1, General Provisions, Art. H).

§ 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 Director of Public Utilities or Designee shall be immediately notified of all accidental discharges.
- B. Within five days following an accidental discharge, the user shall submit to the Director of Public Utilities or Designee and the DEEP 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 Director of Public Utilities or Designee 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 on private properties referred to in § 170-27 above, the Director of Public Utilities or Designee 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 § 170-4.

§ 170-29. Sewage works lying within easements.

The Director of Public Utilities or Designee 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.

- A. Any person found to be in violation of any provisions of this chapter, except § 170-26, shall be served by the City with written notice stating the nature of the violation 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.
- B. Upon learning or having reason to believe that an accidental discharge may cause a sewer blockage or adversely affect the public sanitary sewer system, a User shall immediately notify the WPCF by telephone and initiate corrective action to prevent further violations. The User shall report, in writing, such violation and corrective actions taken to the WPCF within 5 days of the User learning of such violation. Failure to report may result in a fine pursuant to § 170-25.

§ 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 the time and proper order or direction from the Director of Public Utilities or Designee, 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.
- C. Failure to comply with the FOG Program may result in fines, revocation of FOG Discharge permit, inability to renew a food service license as issued by the Meriden Department of Health, and other penalties provided for in this chapter.

§ 170-32. Penalties for offenses.

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

- A. Any person who continues any violation beyond the time limit provided for in § 170-30 shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, on conviction thereof, shall be fined in **the amount not to exceed \$250** accordance with the **fee schedule** for each violation. Each day in which any such violation shall continue shall be deemed a separate offense.
- B. For initial violations the Director of Public Utilities or Designee may take enforcement actions against FPEs including:

- (1) Judicially enforceable documents including but not limited to consent agreements, compliance agreements, assurances of voluntary compliance, or other similar documents establishing an agreement with any User, or other person responsible for non-compliance. Such documents will include specific actions to be taken to correct the non-compliance including but not limited to:
 - (a) Payment of the notice of violation fine as on file with the Director of Public Utilities or Designee.
 - (b) time period for correction.
 - (c) Required corrective actions including, but not limited to, submittal of records for trap maintenance, immediate pump-out of the trap, or establishment of an ongoing contract with a Hauler or Renderer.
 - (d) Requirements for submittal of plans or upgrade of grease traps, including time frames for preparation of plans, acquisitions of necessary equipment, initiation of construction (including time for permit approval, where required), completion of construction, and date for achievement of final compliance within the provisions of the notice of violation and this Article.
2. Continued Violation Penalties: If a User violates or continues to violate the provisions set forth in this Article or fails to initiate/complete corrective action in response to a notice of violation, the Director of Public Utilities or Designee may pursue one or more of the following options:
 - (a) Referral to other appropriate enforcement agencies for further action, i.e. the Health Department and the CT DEEP.
 - (b) Where applicable, refer the violation to the Health Department recommending closure of the facility and / or denial of Food Service License renewal.
3. FOG Discharge Permit Revocation: Any FOG Discharge Permit issued under the provisions of this Article is subject to be modified, suspended, or revoked in whole or in part for failure to comply with the terms of this Article. Any FPE whose FOG Discharge Permit has been revoked must, on correction of the violation, apply for a new FOG Discharge Permit including all applicable fees.

§ 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.

- A. Any person who is found to be in violation of § 22a-430 of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended, shall be subject to a monetary penalty or forfeiture under § 22a-438 of the statutes.

B. Administrative Enforcement and Abatement:

- (1) If the Director of Public Utilities or Designee records any deficiencies during an inspection, he will provide written notice to the FPE with instructions to correct the deficiency within 30

days of such notice for BMP violations or 60 days for equipment violations. A notice of violation shall be issued to a FPE for any one or more of the following violations.

- (a) Failure to properly maintain the grease trap in accordance with the provisions of the FOG Article.
- (b) Failure to report changes in operations per § 170-42 C (2).
- (c) Failure to report an unauthorized grease discharge per § 170-25 B.
- (d) Failure to maintain grease records including documentation of: pumping activities; grease disposal facility; or receipts onsite at all times.
- (e) Failure to provide access for trap cleaning, inspection, or monitoring activities.
- (f) Failure to store grease in a proper container or dispose of grease at an approved facility.
- (g) Any other failure to comply with the requirements of this Article or conditions of any permit issued pursuant to this Article.

§ 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 a 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.

ARTICLE IV

.Subsurface Sewage Disposal Systems (Septic Systems)

§ 170-36. 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 and Human Services 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 and Human Services or his duly appointed agent.

§ 170-37. Criteria for issuance of permit.

Applications for the permits required by § 170-36 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.

§ 170-38. 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]

§ 170-39. Establishment of additional requirements.

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.

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.

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

§ 170-40. Inspections.

- A. Inspections of the sewage disposal systems shall be made by the Director of Health and Human Services 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 and Human Services or his agent; such approval shall be given in writing prior to the system's being backfilled.
- B. The Director of Public Utilities or Designee, bearing proper identification, shall have the authority to inspect any pretreatment facility on an unscheduled basis to confirm compliance with the requirements of this chapter and any additional requirements of a permit, variance, or agreement. Inspections may include all pretreatment equipment, wastewater generation areas, waste storage areas, and records pertaining to storage and disposal or maintenance of pretreatment equipment.

ARTICLE V

Regulation of Fats, Oils, and Grease (FOG)

§ 170.41. FOG discharge permits required.

- A. All FPEs discharging to the City of Meriden's public sanitary sewer system prior to the effective date of this Article shall submit an application and obtain a FOG Discharge Permit to operate and maintain an outdoor grease trap meeting the criteria of this Article, a variance for an AGRU, or a variance from the requirements of this Article. The requirements of this section are in addition to the requirements of the Department of Energy and Environmental Protections' *General Permit for the Discharge of*

Wastewater Associated with Food Preparation Establishments, The International Plumbing Code and the Plumbing and Drainage Institute standards as adopted by the Office of the State Building Inspector.

- (1) All existing FPEs shall come into compliance with the requirements of this Article no later than July 1, 2011.
- (2) Prior to July 1, 2011, a change in ownership of an existing facility shall require compliance with all conditions of this Article within 60 days of change in ownership.
- (3) All FPE facilities undergoing renovations that require permits from their local building official, shall concurrently apply for the required building permits and a FOG Discharge Permit.
- (4) A new FPE proposing to discharging to the Meriden Sewer System shall comply with all conditions of this article before initiating a discharge.

B. Following the initial enactment of the FOG amendments any modification to the FOG Article shall become effective immediately and be complied with within 7 months of the modification. The FOG Program Administrator shall notify all FPEs of the modification within 30 days of adoption of the amendments.

§ 170.42. General Introduction:

In an effort to curb sanitary sewer overflows from grease accumulation in its public sanitary sewer system, the PUC adopted, at its public meeting on February 15, 2011 a Fats, Oils, and Grease (FOG) Program. Facilities, excluding residential and industrial facilities, connected to the public sanitary sewer system that are involved in the preparing or serving of food will be subject to the conditions of this Article and must come into compliance prior to July 1, 2011.

§ 170.43. Purpose:

The purpose of this Article (also referred to herein as the “FOG Article”) is to protect the environment by preventing sewage overflows and backups into basements caused by grease hardening in sewer lines causing blockages. The objectives of this Article are:

- A. To prevent the introduction of excessive amounts of grease into the City of Meriden’s public sanitary sewer system.
- B. To prevent clogging or blockage of the City of Meiden’s public sanitary sewer system due to grease build-up causing sewage to backup and flood streets, residences and commercial buildings, resulting in potential liability to the PUC, residences, commercial buildings, and others.
- C. To implement a procedure to recover the cost incurred from cleaning and maintaining sewer lines due to improper grease removal.
- D. To implement a procedure to recover costs for any liability incurred by the PUC for damage caused by grease blockages resulting in the flooding of streets, residences, or commercial buildings.
- E. To issue FOG Discharge Permits to Food Preparation Establishments (FPEs) and establish maintenance and monitoring requirements, and enforcement activities.
- F. To establish administrative procedures and reporting requirements.

- G. To establish permit fees for the recovery of costs resulting from this FOG Article.
- H. To establish enforcement procedures for violations of any part or requirement of this Article.

§ 170.44. Definitions:

- A. The following definitions shall apply to this Article:

AUTOMATIC GREASE RECOVERY UNIT (AGRU) - An indoor grease trap (a trap may also be referred to as an interceptor) that separates grease from wastewater by active mechanical or electrical means. Such traps are typically compact under-the-sink units and should be as far away as possible from grease bearing (cleaning) equipment like sinks, before exiting the building. See definition of Grease Trap.

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICE (BMP) - The practices and procedures of a facility designed to prevent or minimize environmental damage. BMPs include, but are not limited to; treatment requirements, operating procedures, practices to control spillage or leaks, and grease disposal.

FATS, OILS, AND GREASE (FOG) - Any fats, oils, and grease generated from the food preparation process. All are sometimes referred to as “grease”.

FOOD PREPARATION ESTABLISHMENTS (FPE) - Food Preparation Establishments are: a) facilities that are regulated by the Meriden Health Department and are classified as a Class 3 or Class 4 food service establishment, as defined by the State Health Code; or b) other facilities that engage in similar cooking methods that have the potential to produce fats, oils, and grease. A Class 3 food service establishment shall be exempt from this Article if it does not employ frying, sautéing, baking or roasting of meats, use of rotisseries, grills, smokers, or other methods that have the potential to generate fats, oils, or grease.

FOG DISCHARGE PERMIT - A permit issued by the Program Administrator authorizing the discharge of wastewater to the public sanitary sewer system from a FPE.

GREASE DISPOSAL FACILITY (GDF) - A regional collection/transfer/disposal site approved in accordance with the law for the disposal of FOG. This means a Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) approved publicly/privately owned treatment works that is for the separation and disposal of FOG by incineration or other methods. Pursuant to Section 22a-174-33 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies related to Title V source, an in-state regional incinerator must have an operating permit that lists FOG as a source of fuel.

GREASE TRAP - The term “grease trap” is used collectively to mean both AGRUs and outdoor grease traps.

HAULER - Any person who collects the contents of a grease trap and transports it to a grease disposal facility. A Hauler may also provide other services to Food Preparation Establishments related to trap maintenance.

MERIDEN PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION (PUC) - The PUC of the City of Meriden with all the powers, purposes and objectives as set forth in Chapter 103 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958 and amendments thereto or their Designee.

NON-RENDERABLE GREASE - Fats, oils, and grease generated from food preparation or serving that has come in contact with water or other contaminants shall prevent this FOG from being rendered. See renderable grease.

OUTDOOR GREASE TRAP - A structure or device designed for the purpose of removing and preventing FOG from entering the public sanitary sewer system. These devices are often below-ground units built as two or three chamber baffled tanks. Traps shall have at least one inspection hatch at grade per chamber to facilitate inspection, cleaning and maintenance by a Hauler. See definition of Grease Trap.

PERMITTEE - The Permittee represents the FPE and is authorized by the issuance of a FOG Discharge Permit to initiate, create, originate, or maintain a wastewater discharge from the FPE. The Permittee shall be the Owner or his local designee.

PERSON - Any individual, firm, association, society, corporation, or group.

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR (PA) - Shall mean the PUC, or persons authorized by the PUC to conduct activities related to this Ordinance including but not limited to: approve discharge permits, approve variances, conduct facility inspections, and conduct enforcement procedures.

PUBLIC SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM - A sewer in which all owners of abutting properties have equal rights and which is controlled by a public authority. Includes the main pipe, manholes, other structures, and equipment appurtenant thereto controlled and maintained by the PUC for the conveyance of sanitary sewage.

RENDERABLE GREASE - The uncontaminated FOG from the food preparation process that is free of impurities and has not come in contact with water and can be recycled into products such as, but not limited to, animal feed or cosmetics.

§ 170-45. Food Preparation Establishment (FPE) Permitting Program:

A. All FPEs discharging wastewater to the public sanitary sewer system are subject to the following requirements.

- (1) **Permitting:** All FPE's shall be required to apply for and obtain a FOG discharge permit from the PA. The PA shall approve or deny all applications for the FOG discharge permits in accordance with the policies and regulations established in this Article. The FOG discharge permit shall be in addition to any other permits, registrations, or occupational licenses, which may be required by Federal, State, or local law. It shall be a violation of this Article for any FPE identified by the PA to discharge wastewater containing fats, oils, and grease to the public sanitary sewer system without a current FOG Discharge Permit.

Following the initial enactment of this FOG Article, any modification to this FOG Article shall become effective immediately and be complied with within 7 months of the modification. Upon modification to this Ordinance, existing FPE's may be required to re-apply and submit the required fee.

- (2) **Application Form:** The PA shall provide an application form for a FOG Discharge Permit to all FPEs. All existing FPEs shall submit a completed application form within 30 days of: a) receipt of the application, or b) prior to the expiration of their valid FOG Discharge Permit. New FPEs shall obtain a FOG Discharge Permit prior to issuance of a food service license. Each application form submitted shall include, but not be limited to, the following information.

- (a) Conceptual Approval Form

- (b) The FPE's engineer's design report for outdoor grease traps or AGRUs including unit specifications, cut sheet, and sizing calculations.
 - (c) Hours of facility operation
 - (d) A copy of the FPE's menu.
 - (e) A statement signed by the Permittee as follows: "I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this document and all attachments thereto, and I certify that, based on reasonable investigation, including my inquiry of those individuals responsible for obtaining the information, the submitted information is true, accurate, and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. I understand that a false statement made in the submitted information may be punishable as a criminal offense, in accordance with Section 22a-6 of the General Statutes, pursuant to 53a-157b of the General Statutes, and in accordance with any other applicable statute".
- (3) Application Procedure: Upon filing of a completed FOG Discharge Permit Application form with fee, and variance application if applicable, the PA shall review and approve or deny a FOG Discharge Permit. No system modification shall be initiated until approval is obtained.
- (4) FOG Discharge Permit:
- (a) The FOG discharge permit must be displayed in a prominent location where it can be seen by staff.
 - (b) A FOG discharge permit shall not be transferred or sold to a new owner. A new owner is required to apply to the PA for a new FOG Discharge Permit.
 - (c) A new FOG discharge permit must be applied for when renovations are completed at an existing FPE, or on making significant changes to the menu.
 - (d) The terms and conditions of the permit are subject to modification by the PUC during the term of the permit. If due to changes in this Article, modifications to a facility are required in order to remain in compliance, the Permittee shall be informed at least 6 months prior to the compliance date of the new requirement or 6 months prior to the expiration date of the existing permit.
- (5) Entry: Each FPE shall allow the Inspector, bearing proper identification, access at all reasonable times to all parts of the premises for the purpose of inspection, observation, records examination, measurements, sampling and testing in accordance with the provisions of this Article. The refusal of any FPE to allow the Inspector official entry for purposes of inspection or performing such other duties as shall be required shall constitute a violation of this Article. The PUC may pursue legal action as provided for in § 170-49 as may be advisable and reasonably necessary for Inspectors to carry out their duties.
- (6) Inspection: The Inspector shall inspect the FPE on an unscheduled basis after a FOG Discharge Permit has been issued to confirm compliance with the requirements of this Article. All FPEs with a current FOG Discharge Permit shall be inspected. Inspections shall include, but not be limited to, all equipment, food processing, clean-up, and storage areas and shall include any area that produces wastewater discharge to the grease trap. The Inspector shall also inspect the grease trap maintenance logbook and/or file, other pertinent data to the grease trap, and may check the level of the trap contents and/or take samples/measurements as

necessary. The Inspector shall record all observations in a written report. Any deficiencies as provided in §170-49 of this Article shall be noted.

- (7) Violation Reporting: A Permittee shall immediately notify the PA by telephone upon learning or having reason to believe that a discharge may cause a sewer blockage or adversely affect the public sanitary sewer system and initiate corrective action to prevent further violations.

The Permittee shall report, in writing, such violation and corrective actions taken, to the PA within 5 days of the Permittee learning of such violation. Failure to report may result in a fine pursuant to §170-49.

§ 170-46. Wastewater Discharge Limitations:

- A. No user shall allow wastewater discharge concentrations from a grease trap, or alternative pretreatment technology to exceed 100 milligrams per liter. All analyses shall be conducted according to the current method as listed in Title 40 CFR 136 or as approved in writing by the PA. All costs associated with testing are the responsibility of the FPE.
- B. Where outdoor grease traps are used, separate wastewater lines shall be provided to convey the sanitary and kitchen wastewater outside the facility. Only wastewater from the kitchen and cleanup areas shall be directed to the grease trap. In no case shall sanitary wastewater be allowed to enter a grease trap.
- C. Wastewater having a temperature in excess 140°F shall not be discharged into any AGRU.
- D. Any use of enzymes, solvents, emulsifiers, biological agents, and similar material for maintaining or cleaning grease traps is prohibited.
- E. No food grinder or food pulper shall discharge into a grease trap.
- F. All wastewater flows connected to grease traps shall be screened to prevent solids from entering the grease trap. Screened solids shall be disposed of in accordance with applicable solid waste regulations.

§ 170-47. Outdoor Grease Trap Requirements:

- A. Requirements: All FPEs are required to have an outdoor grease trap or variance. The requirements in this Article are in addition to any applicable requirements of the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's (DEEP) *General Permit for the Discharge of Wastewater Associated with Food Preparation Establishments*, *The International Plumbing Code*, and the Plumbing and Drainage Institute standards as adopted by the Office of the State Building Inspector.
- B. Equipment Requirements: On or after the effective date of this Article, all FPEs discharging to or proposing to discharge to the City of Meriden's public sanitary sewer system shall submit an application and obtain a permit to operate and maintain an outdoor grease trap, a variance for an AGRU, or a variance from the requirements of this Article as established by § 170-47 (F) (1). All outdoor grease traps and shall meet the requirements of this Article.
- C. On or after the effective date of this Article, the PA shall require an existing FPE to install, operate, and maintain a new grease trap that complies with the requirements of this Article or to modify any non-compliant plumbing or existing grease trap within 60 days of written notification by the PA when any of the following conditions exist.
 - (1) The establishment is found to be contributing grease in quantities to cause pipe blockages or increase maintenance on the public sanitary sewer system.

- (2) The establishment does not have a grease trap.
 - (3) The establishment has an undersized, irreparable, or defective grease trap.
 - (4) Existing establishment is sold or undergoes a change of ownership.
 - (5) Remodeling of a kitchen, which requires a plumbing permit to be issued by the City of Meriden.
 - (6) The menu of an establishment changes so that it meets the requirements of a FPE.
- D. Variance from Outdoor Grease Trap Requirements: An AGRU may only be installed after authorization by the PA. The FPE shall request a variance in writing, which shall consist of a completed Program Application and Variance Application.
- E. Outdoor Grease Trap: Outdoor grease traps shall be installed in all FPEs as described in § 170-47 B and C. All outdoor grease traps shall meet the following criteria.
- (1) Trap Design and Location: Outdoor grease traps shall have a minimum of two compartments and shall be capable of separation and retention of grease and storage of settled solids. Access manholes with a minimum diameter of 17 inches shall be provided over each trap chamber and sanitary tee. The manhole shall also have readily removable covers to facilitate inspection, grease removal, and wastewater sampling activities. The invert elevation of the inlet shall be between 3” and 6” above the invert elevation of the outlet.
 - (2) The trap shall be designed, constructed, and installed for adequate load-bearing capacity.
 - (3) Trap Capacity: The minimum capacity of any one unit shall be 1,000 gallons. Where sufficient capacity cannot be achieved with a single unit, installation of grease traps in series is required.
 - (4) Trap Sizing: At a minimum, the trap shall hold kitchen discharges equivalent to the maximum flows over a 24-hour period. The maximum flow over a 24-hour period shall be calculated by the method published by the City of Meriden Engineering Department.
 - (5) Pumping and Maintenance: Each FPE shall be responsible for the cost of installing, inspecting, pumping, cleaning, and maintaining its outdoor grease trap. Outdoor grease trap cleaning shall include complete removal of all contents including scraping of excessive solids from the walls, floors, baffles, and all pipe work. It shall be the responsibility of each FPE to inspect its outdoor grease trap during the pumping operation to ensure proper cleaning and that all fittings and fixtures are functioning properly.
 - (6) Outdoor Trap Pumping Frequency: Each FPE shall have its outdoor grease trap(s) pumped whenever 25% of the operating depth of the outdoor grease trap is occupied by grease and settled solids or a minimum of once every 3 months, whichever is more frequent.
 - (7) Inspections: The Inspector shall inspect grease traps as necessary to ensure compliance with this Article.
 - (8) Disposal: Renderable grease shall not be disposed of in any sewer, septic tank, or grease trap. All renderable grease shall be stored in a separate, covered, leak proof, labeled, renderable grease container, stored out of reach of vermin and collected by a Renderer.

- (9) Grease removed from outdoor grease traps shall be disposed of at a Grease Disposal Facility permitted by DEEP.
- (10) Recordkeeping: Each FPE shall maintain a logbook in which a record of all grease trap maintenance is entered, including the date and time of the maintenance, repairs, records of inspection, log of pumping activities, and grease disposal facility. The file shall be available at all times for inspection and review by the Inspector.

F. Variance Procedure: Two types of variances may be granted, Program Variances and Equipment/BMP Variances, as follows.

- (1) Program Variances: The PA may, at his sole discretion, exempt from this FOG Program facilities that meet the definition of FPE but whose wastewater discharge contributes negligible FOG to the sanitary sewer. This may include:
 - (a) FPE's which are itinerant vendors, either truck or cart, with no fixed sewer connection.
 - (b) Facility's generating a low volume of wastewater that meets the requirements of a de minimis discharge as provided in § 170-47 J.
- (2) Equipment/BMP Variances: At the request of the Permittee, the PA at his sole discretion may grant a variance from the equipment or BMP requirements of this Article. Any change to the conditions of the variance must be reported to the PA for review within 30 days.
- (3) A FPE that has been granted a variance shall have 30 days to report to the PA and Meriden Health Department any changes that cause a violation in the terms of the variance. Changes that may cause a violation to the terms of the variance may include but are not limited to hours of operation, food preparation techniques, or changes to the menu.

G. Alternative Grease Removal Devices: The PA, at his sole discretion, may approve these types of devices depending on manufacturer's specifications and verified operations on a case-by-case basis. Alternative devices shall be subject to written approval based on a demonstration prior to installation.

- (1) AGRU: AGRUs shall be prohibited at new FPEs, except as granted by variance at the discretion of the PA per § 170-47 B.
- (2) AGRU Size: The AGRU design flow shall be sized by a licensed engineer according to the PUC's guidelines including all connected fixtures and drains.
- (3) Traps shall have a removable lid on the top surface to facilitate inspection, cleaning, and maintenance.
- (4) Flow Control Device: AGRUs shall be equipped with a device to control the rate of flow through the unit and shall not exceed the design flow capacity.
- (5) Cleaning and Maintenance: Each FPE shall be solely responsible for the cost of the AGRU installation, cleaning, and maintenance. The AGRU shall include a skimming device, automatic draw-off, or other mechanical means to automatically separate fats and oils from the wastewater, using a timer or level controller. The AGRU shall be connected to the

electrical circuit by either hardwire, or cord and plug. The AGRU shall operate no less than once per day.

- H. Other Approved Unit: If the Permittee requests the use of a unit other than an outdoor grease trap or an AGRU, the Permittee must demonstrate to the PA that the proposed unit can reliably meet the effluent limitations established in this Article. Only after receiving approval from the PA will the Permittee be authorized to install the proposed unit.
- I. De Minimis Discharges: At the request of the Permittee, the PA may grant a Program Variance from the treatment requirements of this Article. Any change to the conditions of the variance must be reported to the PA and the Meriden Health Department for review within 30 days.

§ 170-48. Fees and Billing:

- A. The fees provided for in this Article are separate and distinct from all other fees chargeable by the PUC. All invoiced fees, pursuant to this Article, shall become immediately due and owed upon receipt of invoice, and shall become delinquent if not fully paid within 30 days after receipt. Any delinquent amount shall be subject to the late fee.
- B. Fines shall fall into two classifications; BMP violation, and equipment installation violation.
- C. A copy of the WPCF's current fees applicable to all applications, permits, and notice-of-violation fines pursuant to this Article are shown on the Fee Schedule.
- D. Food Preparation Establishments shall be responsible for any processing fees on payments made through third parties. Processing fees include but are not limited to: credit card fees, online payment fees, and collection fees.

§ 170-49. Administrative Enforcement and Abatement:

- A. Violations: If the PA records any deficiencies during an inspection, they will provide written or electronic notice to the FPE with instructions to correct the deficiency within 30 days of such notice for BMP violations or 60 days for equipment violations. A notice of violation (NOV) shall be issued to a FPE for any one or more of the following violations.
 - (1) Failure to properly maintain the grease trap in accordance with the provisions of the FOG Article.
 - (2) Failure to report changes in operations per § 170-47 G (2).
 - (3) Failure to report an unauthorized grease discharge per § 170-45 A (7).
 - (4) Failure to maintain grease records including documentation of: pumping activities; grease disposal facility; or receipts onsite at all times.
 - (5) Failure to provide access for trap cleaning, inspection, or monitoring activities.
 - (6) Failure to obtain or renew a Discharge Permit in a timely manner.
 - (7) Failure to store grease in a proper container or dispose of grease at an approved facility.
 - (8) Any other failure to comply with the requirements of this Article or conditions of any permit issued pursuant to this Article.

B. Enforcement Actions: Enforcement actions against FPEs in violation of this Article shall be according to the following provisions.

1. Initial Violation Penalties: The PA may take enforcement actions against FPEs including consent agreements, compliance agreements, assurances of voluntary compliance, or other similar documents establishing an agreement with any User, or other person responsible for non-compliance. Such documents will include specific actions to be taken to correct the non-compliance within a time period specified by the document. Such documents shall be judicially enforceable. Including but not limited to:
 - (a) Payment of the notice of violation fine as on file with the PA.
 - (b) Required corrective actions including, but not limited to, submittal of records for trap maintenance, immediate pump-out of the trap, or establishment of an ongoing contract with a Hauler or Renderer.
 - (c) Requirements for submittal of plans or upgrade of grease traps, including time frames for preparation of plans, acquisitions of necessary equipment, initiation of construction (including time for permit approval, where required), completion of construction, and date for achievement of final compliance within the provisions of the notice of violation and this Article.
2. Continued Violation Penalties: If a FPE violates or continues to violate the provisions set forth in this Article or fails to initiate/complete corrective action in response to a NOV, the PA may pursue one or more of the following options:
 - (a) Referral to other appropriate enforcement agencies for further action, i.e. the Health Department and the CT DEEP.
 - (b) Refer the NOV to the Health Department recommending closure of the facility and / or denial of Food Service License renewal.
3. Discharge Permit Revocation: Any Discharge Permit issued under the provisions of this Article is subject to be modified, suspended, or revoked in whole or in part during its term for failure to comply with the terms of this Article.

Any denial or revocation of a permit pursuant to this Article may be appealed to the PUC. The Permittee shall have 15 days from date of notification of the permit denial or revocation to submit a written request for a hearing before the PUC. Failure to file an appeal constitutes acceptance of the decision to deny or revoke the permit and any conditions thereof. The PUC shall conduct a public hearing and decide within 60 days from receipt of appeal, whether or not to grant the permit. The decision of the PUC shall be final. Cause for FOG Discharge Permit modification, suspension, or revocation shall include but not be limited to any one of the following:

- (a) Falsification of any information submitted as part of the application for the Discharge Permit.
- (b) Failure to comply with the requirements or regulations concerning discharges to the public sanitary sewer system.

- (c) Failure to comply with the requirements or regulations concerning grease traps in this Article.
 - (d) Failure to pay required fees or penalties in a timely manner.
 - (e) Failure to attend required BMP training courses if required by PA.
 - (f) When necessary to protect the public health, safety, and welfare of the City of Meriden.
4. **Recovery of Costs:** When a discharge causes any obstruction, damage or any other impairment to the public sanitary sewer system, damage to public or private property, or any expense of whatever character or nature to the PUC, the PUC shall assess the expenses incurred to clear the obstruction, repair damage to the system, and any other expenses or damage of any kind or nature suffered by the City as a result thereof including reimbursement for damage to private property. The PUC may file a claim with the User or other person that caused the obstruction, damage or other impairment for recovery of such cost including any collection costs. If the claim is ignored or denied, the PUC shall notify the City Attorney to take such measures as shall be appropriate to recover any expense or to correct other damages suffered by the City.
5. **Remedies Nonexclusive:** The remedies for this Article are not exclusive. The PUC may take any, all, or any combination of these actions against any person violating this FOG Article.
6. **Search Warrant:** The PUC, through the City's Attorney, may seek to obtain a search warrant from the appropriate authority to gain access to a FPE's facility for the purposes of verification of compliance inspection and monitoring as provided for under §170-45 A (5) if such lawful entry has previously been denied by the FPE.
7. **Citation to Superior Court:** Notwithstanding any of the above, the PUC may cite any User to Superior Court for violation of any provision of this Article. A violation of any condition or requirement of a Discharge Permit, or failure to obtain such a permit shall be deemed to be in violation of this Article.
8. **Injunction and Other Relief:** The City, through the City's Attorney, may file a petition in the name of the City in Superior Court or such other courts as may have jurisdiction seeking the issuance of an injunction, damages, or other applicable law or regulation. Suit may be brought to recover any and all damages suffered by the City as a result of any action or inaction of any person that causes or suffers damage to occur to the PUC's public sanitary sewer system.
- C. Any person found to have violated any provision of this Article, or any condition of a permit issued pursuant to this Article, may be liable for civil fine as shown on fee schedule. Each separate violation shall constitute a separate offense, and for violations continuing longer than 60 days, each day's continuance of a violation shall constitute a separate and distinct violation. In addition to the penalties provided herein, the City may recover attorney's fees, court costs, court reporter's fees and other expenses of litigation by appropriate suit at law against the person found to have violated this Article or the orders, rules, regulations, and permits issued hereunder.

FEE SCHEDULE
EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2018

1. § 170-7B2a - SANITARY SEWER RATE: \$4.69 PER 100 CUBIC FEET OF WATER CONSUMED

2. § 170-7B3 - BASIC SERVICE CHARGE (LOCAL SERVICE CUSTOMERS)

Meter Size (inches)	Quarterly Charge
5/8	\$ 10.75
3/4	\$ 11.09
1	\$ 12.13
1 1/4 to 1 1/2	\$ 13.52
2	\$ 17.32
3	\$ 45.35
4	\$ 55.75
6	\$ 79.95
8	\$107.63

3. § 170-7C1 - SEPTIC WASTE DISCHARGE FEES: \$156.00 PER 1,000 GALLONS

4. § 170-32 – PENALTIES FOR OFFENSES: \$250.00 PER VIOLATION

5. § 170-32A – PENALTIES FOR OFFENSES: \$250.00 PER VIOLATION

6. § 170-48C – FOG Permit Application: \$100.00 PER PERMIT APPLICATION

7. § 170-49C – Violation: \$250.00 PER VIOLATION