

Redlined Code Section

Deleted language indicated by strikethrough and inserted language indicated by underline.

Chapter 92. Water Code – Plumbing

Sec. 92.01. Definitions.

For the purposes of this chapter, the following words and phrases shall have the meanings ascribed to them, unless it is apparent from the context that a different meaning is intended:

- (1) *Plumbing* means the act or occupation of installing water services in the property and any interior piping or fixtures in any building, which pipes or fixtures are used for the conveyance or distribution of the public water supply.
- (2) *Plumbing system* of a building means the piping for the distribution of water from the public water supply, the plumbing fixtures, appurtenances, and appliances connected thereto, including the piping to such fixtures and appliances.
- (3) *Fixture* shall be defined as including, but not limited to, the following: water closet, urinal, faucet, shower, dishwasher, drinking fountain, hose connection, sillcock, water heater, water softener, underground sprinkler, hot tub/spa, clothes washer supply or any water supplied fixture.
- (4) *Master plumber* means any person duly authorized to engage in the plumbing business, in the capacity of employer or contractor, taking the responsibility of supervision and an employer of ~~journeyman~~ journeyperson plumbers.

Sec. 92.02. Plumbing must meet code.

No part of any plumbing system shall be installed, constructed, altered or repaired in any building, structure, part thereof or premises in the City of Saint Paul except in conformity with the provisions of the state plumbing code, this code, and the rules and regulations of the water utility. This code has no reference to the drainage system of any building, structure or premises.

Sec. 92.03. Permits required.

No person shall install, extend, attach, repair or replace any plumbing system in any building, structure, premises or property where the total market cost of the plumbing work exceeds six hundred dollars (\$600.00) without first obtaining a permit from the water utility. However, all plumbing work associated with meter settings and backflow prevention devices (new installation or replacement) will require a permit regardless of the market value of the work. Plumbing permits must be obtained prior to commencement of the plumbing work.

Sec. 92.04. Permit voided.

If the work is not commenced under any permit within six (6) months after issue of said permit, and if the work is not thereafter satisfactorily prosecuted, such permit will be considered as having expired.

Sec. 92.05. ~~Reserved~~Display of permit.

~~Permits issued hereunder, displaying the permit number, date and to whom issued, shall be conspicuously posted on each job.~~

Sec. 92.06. Permit fees; penalty.

(a) Plumbing ~~p~~Permit ~~shall be paid according to the following schedule:~~ Charges shall be in the amount listed in the fee schedule established pursuant to Sec. 85.08.

~~1.—Interior piping:—~~

~~Base fee residential (one and two family dwellings)\$76.00-~~

~~Base fee commercial (other than one and two family dwellings)76.00-~~

~~Each fixture installed (this fee to be charged in addition to base fees on fixtures installed or roughed in for new installations, additions, and rehabilitations. No fixture charge on repairs.)6.00-~~

~~2.—Underground piping:—~~

~~Two inch and smaller water service connections90.00-~~

~~Four inch and larger water service connections and fire supplies210.00-~~

~~3.—Service connection disconnect at property line80.00-~~

~~NOTE: Permit fees for underground piping shall be charged for the first seventy-five (75) feet of piping, each additional seventy-five (75) thereafter, and shall not be prorated.~~

(b) Should any plumber, person, firm or corporation begin work of any kind for which a permit from the water utility is required under this Code without having secured the necessary permit therefor, or within twenty-four (24) hours after work is commenced in the case of an emergency, as determined by the water utility, the plumber, person, firm or corporation shall be required to pay double the plumbing permit fee required, except that such time limit shall be exclusive of holidays and Sundays. If such plumber, person, firm or corporation fails to take out such permit more than three (3) times in any calendar year, such plumber, person, firm or corporation shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to a fine of one thousand dollars (\$1,000). After five (5) such violations of the provisions of this Code, the certificate covering such plumber in plumbing activities shall be revoked.

Sec. 92.07. Plumber's license; plumbing on one's own premises.

(a) No person, firm or corporation shall engage in or work at the business of plumbing, as herein defined, either as a master or as a ~~journeyman~~ journeyperson plumber, without first having received a certificate of competency from the board of examiners of the city and a license from the state.

- (b) Anyone not so licensed and certified may do plumbing work which complies with the provisions of this code and the rules and regulations of the water utility on premises or that part of premises owned and actually occupied by that person as a primary residence.

Sec. 92.08. License not transferable.

- ~~(a) A master plumber's certificate and license is not transferable, and the right of any firm or corporation to do business under said certificate and license depends upon the retention, as an active member or officer, of the holder of the certificate and license under which they are authorized to do business. Hence, if a member of a partnership who is the holder of a certificate and license under which the firm does business, or the officer of a corporation holding a certificate and license under which the firm does business, for any reason severs theirhis connection or for any other reason is no longer connected with such firm or corporation, such firm or corporation is automatically in violation of this chapter until a new certificate and license is secured.~~
- ~~(b) Any master plumber taking out permits in his or her name for the use of any other person, firm or corporation, or employing anyone to do plumbing work who does not have a journeyman's certificate, shall be guilty of violation of this chapter.—~~

Sec. 92.09. Board will license; permits outside city.

The board of water commissioners may accept as master plumbers such persons as have been granted certificates of competency and have a license to practice and engage in business as master plumbers under the provisions of the building code of the City of Saint Paul. The board may grant permits to do work on a water supply system of any building, structure, or part thereof, or premises, which is located outside of the City of Saint Paul and is supplied with Saint Paul city water, when the applicant for such permit has a master plumber certificate of competency issued by the City of Saint Paul and holds a master plumber's license issued by the State of Minnesota.

Sec. 92.10. Reserved.

Sec. 92.11. Reserved Permits, who may secure.

~~Application for a plumbing permit will only be recognized when bearing the signature of a duly authorized master plumber who has complied with the provisions of this code, or the signature of the owner and occupant of premises as described in section 92.07.
(Code 1956, § 253.14)~~

Sec. 92.12. Inspection.

- (a) The board will cause all work reported to be inspected. The plumber or person doing work on their own residence will be notified of any work which has not been done in accordance with the water code, and they will be required to remedy the same.

- (b) In all new installations, the plumber must leave the work exposed until such time as an inspection has been made and the work approved. This includes all exterior service pipe, which must be inspected before back filling the trench, and all interior piping which must be inspected and tagged "approved" by the inspector after it has been roughed in and before it is covered over or concealed in the floors or partitions. The plumber shall give due and sufficient notice when inspection is desired, and shall call for inspection only when the work is in proper condition and stage of completion.
- (c) Water will not be turned on until after the report of such an inspection has been made and the work accepted as satisfactory.

Sec. 92.13. Plumber not to shut off or turn on water.

No plumber or other person shall turn on or shut off the water supply at any stop cock at the main or in the boulevard, or allow any person in the plumber's employ to do so, nor shall the plumber have in possession any tool or instrument for that purpose. Any plumber, person, firm or corporation found to be in violation of this section shall be subject to the following:

1. A one thousand dollar (\$1,000) fine.
2. Water utility will confiscate water supply operating tools or instruments and all such confiscated tools or instruments will become property of the water utility.
3. Water utility will take steps that may lead to suspension or revocation of the plumber's certificate.

Sec. 92.14. Tapping of mains.

No plumber or other person except duly authorized employees of the water utility will be allowed to tap any main or do any excavation or any street work in connection with the laying, installing, extending or repairing of any water service, water pipe or water appurtenances without the express permission of the water utility.

Sec. 92.15. Cross connection control.

- (a) If, in the judgment of the water utility, an approved backflow prevention assembly is required for the safety of the water system, the water utility shall give notice to said customer to install such an approved backflow prevention assembly(ies) at specific location(s) on the customer's premises. The customer shall immediately install such approved assembly(ies) at customer's own expense; and failure, refusal or inability on the part of the customer to install, have tested and maintain said assembly(ies) shall constitute grounds for discontinuing water service to the premises until such requirements have been satisfactorily met.
- (b) The customer's system shall be open for inspection at all reasonable times to authorized representatives of the water utility to determine whether cross connections or other structural or sanitary hazards, including violations of these regulations, exist.

- (c) In the case of premises having
 - (1) Internal cross connections that cannot be permanently corrected and controlled, or
 - (2) Intricate plumbing and piping arrangements or where entry to all portions of the premises is not readily accessible for inspection purposes, making it impracticable or impossible to ascertain whether or not dangerous cross connections exist,

The public water system shall be protected against backflow from the premises by installing an approved backflow prevention assembly in the service line.

- (d) In the case of any premises where, because of security requirements or other prohibitions or restrictions, it is impossible or impractical to make a complete in-plant cross connection survey, the public water system shall be protected against backflow from the premises by either an approved air-gap separation or an approved reduced pressure principle backflow prevention assembly on each service to the premises.