

MORGAN COUNTY PLUMBING REGULATIONS

A REGULATION BY THE MORGAN COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH ESTABLISHING STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES FOR THE ADMINISTRATION AND REGULATION OF PLUMBING WITHIN THE MORGAN COUNTY GENERAL HEALTH DISTRICT.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Sections 3707.01 and 3709.21 of the Ohio Revised Code, the Morgan County Board of Health may assure that persons practicing the profession of plumbing within the health district meet minimum standards necessary to preclude injury to persons or property resulting from improper installation repair, or operation of new and/or existing plumbing systems;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD OF HEALTH OF THE MORGAN COUNTY GENERAL HEALTH DISTRICT ESTABLISHES THE FOLLOWING REGULATIONS.

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Section 1: Definitions

For the purpose of administering the programs established by this Resolution, the following definitions shall apply to the terms used herein;

- (a) "Board of Health" means Board of Health of the Morgan County General Health District as established in accordance with the provisions of Section 3709.07 of the Ohio Revised Code.
- (b) "Buildings" means a structure, place, or premises where plumbing is installed, is to be installed, or is to be a part thereof.
- (c) "Health Commissioner" means the person occupying, in either a permanent or acting role, the office of the Morgan County Health Commissioner in accordance with Section 3709.11 Ohio Revised Code.
- (d) "Plumbing Contractor" means any person who engages in the practice of plumbing, either on a full-time or part-time basis, and who receives compensation for services so performed, regardless of whether such compensation shall be in money or in kind.
- (e) "Plumbing" means the act of plumbing as defined in Chapter 4101:3-2 of the Ohio Administrative Code.
- (f) "Plumbing Contractor Registration" means registration granted by the Board of Health to any person in business as a plumbing contractor.
- (g) "Plumbing Fixtures" means installed receptacles, devices, or appliances which are supplied with water or which receive or discharge liquid borne waste, with or without discharge into the drainage system with which they may be directly or indirectly connected.
- (h) "Plumbing System" means water supply systems; plumbing fixtures and traps; soil, waste, and vent pipes; building drains, including their respective connections, devices, and appurtenances.
- (i) "Testing" means the tests by which plumbing is tested in accordance with Chapter 4101:3-3 of the Ohio Administrative Code.

Section 2: Plumbing Standards

- (a) The installation, alteration, operation and maintenance of plumbing and plumbing systems within the Morgan County General Health District shall be in accordance with Chapter 4101:3 of the Ohio Administrative Code, which is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of this Regulation.

Section 3: Registration

- (a) No person shall work as a plumbing contractor in the Morgan County General Health District unless they have registered in accordance with the provisions of this Regulation.
- (b) The application for a plumbing contractor or homeowner registration shall be on a form prescribed by the Board of Health.
- (c) A plumbing contractor, shall obtain, in the name of the contractor a Plumbing Contractor Registration.
- (d) There shall be a fee charged for each plumbing contractor registration required under this Regulation in such amount that is approved by the Board of Health.
- (e) Each registration required by this Regulation shall expire at twelve midnight on December 31st of the year during which such registration was issued unless the registration suspended or revoked by the Board of Health.

Section 4: Plumbing Permits

- (a) No plumbing contractor, or other person shall install, extensively alter, or repair plumbing in the Morgan County General Health District, except in cases of the replacement of a plumbing fixture with the same or similar plumbing fixture in the same location within the plumbing system, until such person obtains a plumbing permit from the Board of Health.
- (b) All plumbing permit applications shall be accompanied by plans and specifications that provide sufficient information related to the proposed plumbing work to be completed in order for the Health Commissioner to determine that the proposed work is in compliance with applicable regulations.
- (c) The review and approval of plans and specifications described in paragraph (b) of this section shall be completed within thirty (30) days from the date they are received.

Section 5: Inspections

- (a) No person shall install or place into operation any new plumbing any plumbing that has been extensively altered or repaired without the plumbing system being tested, inspected, and approved by the Health Commissioner.
- (b) An owner of any building shall not permit the occupancy of any portion of a building in which the plumbing system is found to be inadequate or unsafe to the occupants.
- (c) The Health Commissioner may require the inspection or testing of the plumbing system in any building, within the Morgan County General Health District, in which there is reasonable cause to believe that defects in the plumbing system or violations of this Regulation which might constitute a hazard to public health or to the health and/or safety of the occupants. The Health Commissioner shall, at any reasonable time, and upon proper identification, be entitled to access to any building for the purpose of inspecting the plumbing system of any building.
- (d) When an inspection or testing reveals defects in a plumbing system which constitute a violation of this Regulation or a public health nuisance as defined in Section 3707.01 of the Ohio Revised Code, the Health Commissioner, shall notify the property owner in writing. The notice shall include the specific violation identified, and order the necessary repair of the plumbing system within a reasonable time period. All plumbing repairs must be made in accordance with this Regulation.
- (e) The Health Commissioner shall require any inspection or test necessary to determine compliance with this Regulation. In each case where new plumbing is installed or existing plumbing is altered, the Health Commissioner shall require the following inspections:
 - 1. All plumbing that will be covered by concrete, dirt, or any other inert material shall be inspected and approved prior to being covered. This approval shall not be considered final approval for the plumbing system.
 - 2. There shall be an inspection and approval of all rough-in work. This approval shall not be considered final approval for the plumbing system.
 - 3. There shall be a final inspection and approval of the completed plumbing system. Final approval shall only be given when the plumbing system has been determined to be in compliance with this Regulation.

Section 6: Backflow Requirements

- (a) In accordance with Rule 3745-95-06(D) of the Ohio Administrative Code suppliers of water, as defined in Rule 3745-95-01(AA) of the Ohio Administrative Code, shall maintain a record of all backflow prevention devices and shall cause all devices to be inspected every twelve months. Suppliers of water may utilize the Board of Health in order to meet these requirements.
- (b) If a supplier of water chooses to utilize the Board of Health to meet the requirements in Rule 3745-95-06(D) of the Ohio Administrative Code, the Board shall notify each consumer, as defined in Rule 3745-95-01(G) of the Ohio Administrative Code, deemed to require backflow protection by the supplier of water annually of their requirement to inspect their device(s) and the Board shall maintain an record of all backflow prevention devices deemed necessary by the supplier.
- (c) The Board may charge a fee to consumers or suppliers of water for the purposes of conducting the activities describe in paragraph (b) of this section.

Section 7: Notice of Violation: Correction of Violations

- (a) Upon determination of the Health Commissioner that a violation of this Regulation exists a notice regarding the violation shall be affixed on the premises where the violation is identified. The notice shall contain, at a minimum: the date of the inspection, a brief description of the violation with reference to the appropriate regulation, ordinance or statute involved, and a warning that removal by other than the Health Commissioner is unlawful.
- (b) In addition to the notice described in paragraph (a) of this section, a written notice of the violation shall be sent by mail, email, or other delivery methods to the permit holder or property owner, whichever is applicable. Such written notice shall contain the date of the inspection, a brief description of the violation or violations involved, and a time frame for which the violation must be corrected. The notice shall contain an explanation of the permit holder's rights to appeal regarding the violation and a description of the penalties involved for failing to comply with the appropriate regulation.

Section 8: Fees and Costs

- (a) All fees related to plumbing permits, plumbing contractor registration, reinspections, backflow requirements and any other such fees under the scope of this Regulation shall be adopted by the Board of Health in accordance with Section 3709.09 of the Ohio Revised Code

Section 9: Suspension and Revocation of Registration

- (a) When the Board of Health finds that a registered plumbing contractor is or has engaged in practices in violation of this Regulation, the Board of Health shall provide the registrant with written notification of the alleged violation, indicate that the registration may be revoked or suspended, and afford an opportunity for a hearing if the registrant does not agree to voluntary compliance.
- (b) The Board of Health may deny, revoke or suspend a registration when a registered plumbing contractor fails to correct violations in compliance with this Regulation in a timely manner, or if the registrant has a history of recurrent violations of this Regulation, or has been convicted of violations of this Regulation.

Section 10: Repeal of Prior Regulation

Any prior plumbing regulation adopted by the Board of Health is superseded by the adoption of this Regulation.

Section 11: Penalty Clause

Any person who violates any provision of this regulation is subject to the penalties provided in 3709.99 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Section 12: Severability Clause

If any provision of this Regulation or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or applications of this Regulation that can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of these regulations are severable.