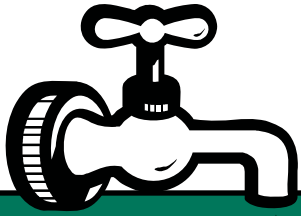


# CONTRACTOR'S TOOLBOX



Spring 2010

## New Procedures and Regulations

### **Medical Gas**

**Effective July 1**, Hamilton County Public Health will be inspecting all Medical Gas Systems within our jurisdiction. Fee schedules and inspection information are located at [www.hamiltoncountyhealth.org](http://www.hamiltoncountyhealth.org).

### **MSD Inspecting All Forced Mains**

Effective June 1, MSD will inspect all low-pressure forced mains serving developments with multiple dwellings as well as individual pressurized systems that serve single buildings and are a tributary to gravity sewers. These inspections will include the building sewer to within 30 inches of the foundation. If the pump assembly is located outside the building or home, MSD will inspect the building sewer up to the location of the pump assembly. Hamilton County Public Health's Division of Plumbing will inspect the pump as well as the plumbing from the building connected to the pump.

**All permits and inspections for forced mains are coordinated by MSD at 513-244-1369.**

### **Plumbing Permit Expiration**

**Effective July 1**, all plumbing permits will be valid and remain open for 18 months without any activity. After 18 months of inactivity, the contractor will receive a notification letter that the permit will be void unless they choose to extend the permit for an additional six months at a cost of \$30.

### **Air Admittance Valves**

Ohio Department of Commerce Plumbing Section has taken another look at Air Admittance Valve (AAV) manufacturer's installation instructions. There have been several complaints concerning AAVs throughout Ohio and one case in particular at a residential condo. These AAVs were installed properly according to the Ohio Basic Code. The manufacturer inspected the condo and stated that the AAVs were not installed to the manufacturer's installation instructions; therefore the warranty was void, and no longer valid. Plumbing codes are supposed to protect a homeowner from poor, non-function plumbing systems. Who is responsible for this plumbing not functioning properly? The State of Ohio revisited the installation instructions:

- "The use of an AAV to relieve positive pressure shall be prohibited."
- "A minimum of one vent for every building drainage system must extend to the outdoors."
- "The drainage system in the building must have one direct connection to the outside air; usually the branch located nearest the main sewer connection is vented through the roof."

The Ohio Department of Commerce recommends that all inspection agencies require a full-size dry vent off the building drain and through the roof on any building with fixtures vented with AAVs. As of June 1, Hamilton County Public Health's Plumbing Division will require any new building installing an AAV to install a full-size dry vent off the building drain.



### Public Health Plumbing Contacts

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- Mary Meyer, secretary ..... 946-7852  
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### Other Numbers to Know

- Hamilton Co. Building Dept. .... 946-4550
- Cincinnati Plumbing Inspectors ..... 352-3280
- Cincinnati Master Plumbers Assoc. .... 742-2672
- Plumbing Permits in Hamilton Co. .... 946-7852
- Septic Tanks/Water Quality in Hamilton Co. .... 946-7862
- Hamilton Co. Private Water Systems ..... 946-7870
- Metropolitan Sewer District: Tap Records, Building Sewer Permits ..... 244-1330
- Metropolitan Sewer District: Industrial Waste ..... 557-7000
- Metropolitan Sewer District: Sewer Inspection..... 244-1366
- Norwood Building Department ..... 458-4510

For information about the Plumbing Contractors License, contact the Ohio Construction Industrial Licensing Board (OCILB) at (614) 644-2487.

### Continuing Education Credits

For information on how to obtain OCILB contractor continuing education hours, call the Cincinnati Master Plumbers Association at 513-742-2672.

### "Must Have" Manual Available Online

The Ohio Department of Commerce Backflow & Cross Connection Manual is available at [www.com.state.oh.us/dic](http://www.com.state.oh.us/dic). It is listed under the plumbing and backflow forms. This manual is a must have for any plumber who installs and tests backflow devices.

### 2010 Holidays

Hamilton County Public Health will be closed in observance of the following holidays:

- July 5: Independence Day
- September 6: Labor Day
- November 11: Veteran's Day
- November 25-26: Thanksgiving
- December 24: Christmas