

## **SEWER USE ORDINANCE FOR THE TOWN OF NORRIDGEWOCK**

**Section 1. Purpose.** Ordinance for regulating the use of public and private sewers and drains, private wastewater disposal, the installation and connection of building sewers, and the discharge of waters and wastes into the public sewer system; and providing penalties for violations thereof, in the Town of Norridgewock, County of Somerset, State of Maine.

**Section 2. Definitions.** Unless the context specifically indicates otherwise, the meaning of terms used in this ordinance shall be as follows:

“Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD)” shall mean the quantity of oxygen utilized in the biochemical oxidation of organic matter under standard laboratory procedure in five (5) days at 20°C, expressed in milligrams per liter.

“Building” shall mean a structure built, erected, and framed of component structural parts designed for the housing, shelter, enclosure, or support of persons, animals, or property of any kind.

“Building Drain” shall mean that part of the lowest horizontal piping of a drainage system that receives the discharge from soil, waste, and other drainage pipes inside the walls of the building and conveys it to the building sewer. The building drain extends eight feet (8’) outside the inner face of the building wall.

“Building Sewer” shall mean the extension from the building drain to the public sewer or other place of disposal, also called house connection.

“Combined Service” shall mean a sewer intended to receive both wastewater and storm or surface water.

“Commercial Service” shall mean an extension of the use of the public sewer to a commercial structure.

“Contractor” shall mean any entity engaged in the construction of building sewer, storm drains, or sewer extensions within the area governed by the Town.

“Easement” shall mean an acquired legal right for the specific use of land owned by others.

“Economic Hardship” shall exist if a property owner qualifies for General Assistance under the guidelines established by the Town of Norridgewock and the State of Maine.

“Engineer” shall mean the Professional Engineer retained by the Town of Norridgewock. In the event the Town has not retained an Engineer, the term “Engineer,” as used herein, will be construed to mean the Superintendent of the Town of Norridgewock.

“Floatable Oil” is oil, fat, or grease in a physical state such that it will separate by gravity from wastewater by treatment in an approved pretreatment facility. Wastewater shall be considered free of floatable oil if it is properly pretreated and the wastewater does not interfere with the collection system.

“Garbage” shall mean the animal and vegetable waste resulting from handling, preparing, cooking, and/or serving of food.

“Industrial Service” shall mean an extension of the use of the public sewer to an industrial structure.

“Industrial Wastes” shall mean the wastewater from industrial processes, trade, or business distinct from domestic or sanitary wastes.

“Legislative Body” shall mean the Town of Norridgewock as established in Town Meetings and within the authority granted to the Select Board.

“Living Unit” means one or more rooms arranged for the use of one or more individuals living together as a single housekeeping unit, with cooking, living, sanitary, and sleeping facilities.

“Motel Unit” means a room or rooms directly accessible from an outdoor parking area.

“Natural Outlet” shall mean any outlet, including storm sewers and combined sewer overflows, into a watercourse, pond, ditch, lake, or other body of surface or groundwater.

“Owner” shall mean the person, organization, or entity listed as the owner of record as recorded at the Registry of Deeds.

“Person” shall mean any individual, firm, company, association, society, corporation, municipal or quasi-municipal agency, state agency, federal agency, or other legal entity.

“pH” shall mean the logarithm of the reciprocal of the hydrogen-ion concentration. The concentration is the weight of hydrogen-ions, in grams, per liter of solution. Neutral water, for example, has a pH value of 7 and a hydrogen-ion concentration of 10.

“Pollutant” shall include but is not limited to dredged spoil, solid waste, junk, sewage sludge, munitions, chemicals, biological or radiological materials, oil, petroleum products or by-products, heat, wrecked or discarded equipment, rock, sand, dirt, and industrial, municipal, domestic, commercial, or agricultural wastes of any kind.

“Properly Shredded Garbage” shall mean the wastes from handling, preparing, cooking, and serving 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 one-half inch ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) in any dimension.

“Property Line” shall mean the edge of the street right-of-way if the building sewer is to connect with the public sewer in a public street. “Property Line” shall mean the edge of a sewer easement in those instances where the building sewer connects to the public sewer in a sewer easement. “Public Sewer” shall mean a common sewer owned, operated, and maintained by a public authority or governmental agency.

“Residential Service” shall mean an extension of the use of the public sewer to a residential structure.

“Sanitary Sewer” shall mean a sewer that carries liquid and water-carried wastes from residences, commercial buildings, industrial plants, and institutions together with minor quantities of ground, storm, and surface waters that are not admitted intentionally.

“Select Board” shall mean the duly elected Select Board Members of the Town of Norridgewock or their authorized representative.

“Sewer” shall mean a pipe or conduit that carries wastewater or drainage water.

“Sewer Commission” shall mean the duly elected Sewer Commissioners of the Town of Norridgewock or their authorized representative.

“Sewer Extension” shall mean a new or upgraded system for wastewater collection from one or more buildings not previously served by public sewer and transport of said wastewater to a location within the existing public sewer system as recommended by the Superintendent and approved by the Sewer Commission. The sewer extension shall consist of sewer pipe and may include manholes, cleanouts, pump stations, or some combination of those components. The sewer extension may consist of new construction only or may include an upgrade of existing components in the public sewer and treatment systems to provide adequate transport and treatment of the additional wastewater discharged into the system.

“Significant Industrial User” shall apply to an industry which discharges a wastewater which:

- i. Is subject to National Categorical Pretreatment standards promulgated by the EPA or
- ii. Would have a substantial impact, either singly or in combination with other industries, on the operation of the treatment works or
- iii. Contains, on an annual basis, more than 10,000 gallons of raw material containing priority pollutants and/or substances of concern and would discharge a measurable quantity of these pollutants to the sewer system or
- iv. Would discharge more than 25,000 gallons per day of process wastewater or
- v. Would discharge more than five percent (5%) of the flow or load of conventional pollutants received by the Treatment Plant.

“Slug” shall mean any discharge of water or wastewater which in concentration or any given constituent or in quantity of flow exceeds for any period of duration longer than fifteen (15) minutes, more than five (5) times the average twenty-four (24) hour concentration or flows during normal operation and adversely affect the collection system and/or performance of the wastewater treatment works.

“Storm Drain” (sometimes termed “Storm Sewer”) shall mean a drain or sewer for conveying water, groundwater, subsurface water, or unpolluted water from any source.

“Superintendent” shall mean the operator of wastewater facilities of the Town of Norridgewock or his/her authorized deputy, agent, or representative. The Superintendent is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the Town’s wastewater facility.

“Suspended Solids” shall mean total suspended matter that either floats on the surface of, or is in suspension in, water, wastewater, or other liquids and that is removable by laboratory filtering as prescribed in “Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater” published by the American Public Health Association and referred to as nonfilterable residue.

“Town” shall mean the Town of Norridgewock and/or its duly authorized employees or agents.

“Unpolluted Industrial Process Water” shall mean wastewater from an industry that is water of quality equal to or better than the effluent criteria in effect or water that would not cause a violation of receiving water quality standards and would not be benefited by discharge to the sanitary sewers and wastewater treatment facilities provided.

“Unpolluted Water” is water of quality equal to or better than the effluent criteria in effect or water that would not cause a violation of receiving water quality standards and would not be benefited by discharge to the sanitary sewers and wastewater treatment facilities provided.

“Wastewater” shall mean the spent water of a community. From the standpoint of source, it may be a combination of the liquid and water-carried wastes from residences, business buildings, institutions, and industrial establishments, together with such ground, surface, and storm waters, as may be present.

“Wastewater Treatment Plant” shall mean an arrangement of devices and structures for treating wastewater, industrial waste, and sludge.

“Wastewater Facilities” shall mean the structures, equipment, and processes required to collect, carry away, and treat domestic and industrial wastes and dispose of the effluent.

“Water Course” shall mean a natural or artificial channel for the passage of water either continuously or intermittently.

**Section 3. Abbreviations.** For the purpose of this ordinance, the following abbreviations shall have the meaning ascribed to them under this section. References to standards of the following organizations shall refer to the latest edition of same.

- i. ANSI shall mean American National Standards Institute.
- ii. ASME shall mean American Society of Mechanical Engineers.
- iii. ASCE shall mean American Society of Civil Engineers.
- iv. ASTM shall mean American Society for Testing and Materials.
- v. AWWA shall mean American Water Works Association.
- vi. cm shall mean centimeter.
- vii. CS shall mean Commercial Standards.
- viii. Celsius shall mean degrees Celsius.
- ix. F shall mean degrees Fahrenheit.
- x. DEP shall mean State of Maine Department of Environmental Protection.
- xi. EPA shall mean United States Environmental Protection Agency.
- xii. ICR shall mean Industrial Cost Recovery.
- xiii. kg shall mean kilograms.
- xiv. l shall mean liters.
- xv. m shall mean meter.
- xvi. mg/l shall mean milligrams per liter.
- xvii. MRSA shall mean Maine Revised Statutes Annotated
- xviii. NEIWPCC shall mean New England Interstate Wastewater Pollution Control Commission.
- xix. NPC shall mean National Plumbing Code.
- xx. ppm shall mean parts per million.
- xxi. PVC-SDR 35 shall mean Polyvinyl chloride sewer pipe material with a standard dimension ratio (pipe diameter/wall thickness) equal to 35.
- xxii. sq m shall mean square meters.
- xxiii. WPCF shall mean Water Pollution Control Federation.

**Section 4. Liability Insurance Required.** A contractor engaged in construction within the Town and State right of ways must present to the Sewer Commission a Certificate of Insurance showing minimum liability coverage of \$1,000,000 aggregate for bodily injury and property damage, including collapse and underground coverage before a permit will be issued for construction of sewer extension. In addition, the contractor must either provide a performance bond in the amount of the work or establish an escrow account in the amount of the work. A 10%

retainage will be withheld from payment until a final inspection by the Superintendent has been performed and the work has been approved. Higher coverage may be required by the Sewer Commission when circumstances reasonably require it, including but not limited to high liability work or contractor with poor performance record. The Sewer Commission shall be notified prior to cancellation of the policy.

#### **Section 5. Use of Public Required.**

- i. It shall be unlawful for any person to place, deposit, or permit to be placed or deposited any sewage, human excrement, or liquid wastes, in any place or manner except by means of an approved plumbing and drain system in accordance with the provisions of this ordinance and the requirements of the State of Maine.
- ii. It shall be unlawful to discharge to any natural outlet within the Town of Norridgewock any wastewater or other polluted waters except where suitable treatment has been provided in accordance with subsequent provisions of these rules and regulations and the requirements of the State of Maine.
- iii. Except as hereinafter provided, it shall be unlawful to construct or maintain any privy, privy vault, septic tank, cesspool, or other facility intended or used for the disposal of wastewater.
- iv. The Owner(s) of any building or property in the Town of Norridgewock in which plumbing fixtures are installed and which abut any street or right-of-way that has a public sanitary sewer of the Town shall connect these fixtures directly to the proper public sewer, and if feasible, with a separate connection for each house or building, in accordance with the provisions of this ordinance within 90 days after date of official notice to do so, provided that the road right-of-way where said public sewer is located is within 200 feet of the nearest point of the structure to be served. Exceptions may be allowed by the Sewer Commission if undue economic hardship would result, in which case the property owner should request in writing a deferral of these requirements, and the Owner shall be required to demonstrate the nature and degree of economic hardship. However, if the Owner's wastewater disposal system malfunctions connection to the public sanitary sewer must be made regardless of hardship.

#### **Section 6. Private Wastewater Disposal.**

- i. Where a public sanitary sewer is not available under the provisions of Section 5, the building sewer shall be connected to a private wastewater disposal system complying with the provisions of this article and the State of Maine Plumbing Code, Part II, Subsurface Wastewater Disposal Rules, Chapter 241.
- ii. Before constructing a private wastewater disposal system, the Owner shall first obtain a written permit signed by the Plumbing Inspector for the Town of Norridgewock. The application for such permit shall be made on a form furnished

by the Division of Health Engineering, Maine Department of Human Services, which the applicant shall supplement by any plans, specifications, and other information as deemed necessary by the plumbing inspector. Permit and inspection fees (required under the State of Maine Plumbing Code) shall be paid to the Plumbing Inspector when the application is filed.

- iii. The type, capacities, location, and layout of a private wastewater disposal system shall comply with the State of Maine Plumbing Code, Part II, Subsurface Wastewater Disposal Rules and the Minimum Lot Size Law (MRSA, Title 12, Chapter 423-A). No private wastewater disposal system shall be permitted to discharge to any natural outlet without proper review and licensing by the Maine DEP.
- iv. The Owner shall operate and maintain the private wastewater disposal facilities in a sanitary manner at all times, at no expense to the Town.

#### **Section 7. Building Sewers and Connections.**

- i. No unauthorized person shall uncover, make any connections with or opening into, use, alter, or disturb any public sewer or appurtenance thereof without first obtaining a written permit from the Sewer Commission. Any person proposing a new discharge into the system or a substantial change in the volume or character of pollutants that are being discharged into the system shall notify the Sewer Commission in writing at least forty-five (45) days prior to the proposed change or connection and shall comply with State Statute.
- ii. Connections shall be the Owner's responsibility and at the Owner's sole expense. The Owner's contractor responsible for connection shall provide the Town with a Certificate of Insurance to work in any Town right of way (\$300,000 minimum coverage). Final connection to the sewer network shall be made under the supervision of the Superintendent or his/her designee.
- iii. There will be three (3) classes of building sewer permits: (a) for residential service, (b) for commercial service, and (c) for industrial service. In any case, the Owner or his/her agent shall make an application on a special form furnished by the Town. The permit application shall be supplemented by any plans, specifications, or other information considered pertinent in the judgment of the Superintendent. A permit and inspection fee shall be paid to the Town when an application is filed (the building sewer fee schedule is provided separately. Permit fees shall be waived for residential services that connect within 90 days after the date of official notice to do so, as referenced in Section 5, following initial installation of a public sewer to service those buildings. However, an inspection fee of not more than \$15.00 will be charged for the services of a licensed plumbing inspector to inspect the building sewer during the initial 90-day period.
- iv. All costs and expenses incident to the installation and connection of the building sewer shall be borne by the Owner. The Owner shall indemnify the Town from any

loss or damage which may directly or indirectly be occasioned by the installation of the building sewer, and all building sewers shall be the property of the Owner.

- v. A separate and independent building sewer shall be provided for every building requiring a sewer connection, except where one building stands at the rear of another on an interior lot and no private sewer is available or can be constructed to the rear building through an adjoining alley, courtyard, driveway, the building sewer from the front building may be extended to the rear building and the whole considered as one building sewer, however; for this case, at least one (1) separate building sewer shall be provided for each group of four (4) living units without an increase in pipe size.
- vi. Old building sewers may be used only when they are found, on examination and testing by the Superintendent, to meet all requirements of these rules and regulations. Testing shall be in accordance with Section 9(v) of the Sewer Use Ordinance. All costs for inspection and testing shall be paid by the Owner.
- vii. The building sewer shall be in accordance with the State of Maine Plumbing Code, at a minimum. Cast or ductile iron pipe may be required by the Town where the building sewer is exposed to damage by tree roots. If installed in filled or unstable ground, the building sewer shall be cast or ductile iron pipe, except if laid on a suitable concrete bed or cradle.
- viii. The size and slope of the building sewer shall be subject to the approval of the Superintendent, but in no event shall the diameter be less than four inches (4"), nor shall the slope of the pipe be less than one-eighth inch ( $\frac{1}{8}$ ") per foot.
- ix. Whenever possible, the building sewer shall be brought to the building at an elevation above the basement floor but shall be sufficient to afford protection from frost. To protect from frost, a minimum soil cover of four and one-half feet (4.5') without insulation and three feet (3') with insulation is recommended. The building sewer shall be laid at uniform grade and in straight alignment insofar as possible. Changes in direction shall be made only with properly curved pipe (see maximum allowable deflection above) and fittings with angles of 45 degrees or less. Where the length of the service from the building to the sewer is greater than 100 feet or where a change of alignment greater than 45 degrees is required, a cleanout shall be installed as directed by the Superintendent. The ends of building sewers that are not connected to the building drain of the structure for any reason shall be sealed against infiltration by a suitable stopper, plug, or other approved means. In all buildings where any building drain is too low to permit gravity flow to the public sewer, sewage or industrial wastes carried by such drain shall be lifted by approved mechanical means and discharged to the building sewer.
- x. No person(s) shall make a connection of roof downspouts, sump pumps, exterior 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 the public sanitary sewer. All such existing connections shall be removed prior to the connection of the building sewer or drain to the



public sanitary sewer. This shall apply to all new and existing building sewers and drains.

- xii. This connection of the building sewer into the public sewer shall conform to the requirements of the procedures set forth in appropriate specifications of the ASTM and WPCF Manual of Practice No. 9. All such connections shall be made gas-tight and watertight and verified by proper testing. Any deviation from the prescribed procedures and materials must be approved by the Superintendent before installation.
- xiii. All excavations required for the installation of a building sewer shall be open trench work unless otherwise approved by the Superintendent. Pipe laying and backfill shall be performed in accordance with ASTM D2321 for PVC pipe and AWWA C600 Type 4 laying condition, except that no backfill shall be placed until the work has been inspected by the Superintendent; and that trench width measured at the top of the installed pipe shall not exceed twenty- four inches (24").
- xiv. The connection of the building sewer to an existing public sewer shall be made at the property line. The connection of the building sewer from the property line to existing sewer mains will be by the Town of Norridgewock but shall be paid for by the Owner unless otherwise approved by the Sewer Commission. Connection of building sewers from the property line to a new sewer main, installed by the Town, shall be by the Town and at its expense. The cost of maintenance of the building sewer from the building drain to the sewer main shall be borne by the Owner.
- xv. The applicant for the building sewer permit shall notify the Superintendent, at least 48 hours in advance when the building sewer is ready for inspection and connection to the public sewer. The connection and testing shall be made under the supervision of the Superintendent or his/her representative. When trenches are opened for the laying of building sewer pipes, such trenches shall be inspected by the Superintendent before the trenches are backfilled, and the person performing such work shall notify the Superintendent when the installation of the building sewer is completed. If the trench is backfilled before inspection, the superintendent may require it to be re-excavated for inspection at the Owner's expense.
- xvi. All excavations for building sewer installation shall be adequately guarded with barricades and lights to protect the public from hazards. Streets, sidewalks, parkways, and other public property disturbed in the course of the work shall be restored in a manner satisfactory to the Superintendent.
- xvii. When any building sewer is to serve a school, hospital, public building, or similar institution or is to serve a complex of industrial or commercial buildings, or which in the opinion of the Superintendent will receive sewage or industrial wastes of such volume or character that frequent maintenance of said building sewer is anticipated, then such building sewer shall be connected to the public sewer through a manhole. The Superintendent shall determine if and where this connection to the public sewer is required. Connections to existing manholes

shall be made as directed by the Superintendent. If required, a new manhole shall be installed in the public sewer pursuant to Section 9(iv) and the building sewer connection made thereto as directed by the Superintendent.

- xvii. Manholes and cleanouts shall be backfilled.

#### **Section 8. Use of Public Sewers.**

- i. No person shall discharge or cause to be discharged any unpolluted waters such as stormwater, surface water, groundwater, roof runoff, subsurface drainage, uncontaminated cooling water, or unpolluted industrial process waters to any sanitary sewer.
- ii. Stormwater and all other unpolluted drainage shall be discharged to such sewers specifically designated as storm sewers or to a natural outlet as approved by the Sewer Commission and the DEP. Unpolluted industrial cooling water or process waters may be discharged, on approval of the Sewer Commission, to a storm sewer or natural outlet, and the discharge shall comply with State Statute.
- iii. No person shall discharge or cause to be discharged any of the following described waters or wastes to any public sanitary sewers:
  - a) Any gasoline, benzene, naphtha, fuel oil, any flammable or explosive liquid, solid, or gas which may create a fire or explosive hazard in the wastewater facilities.
  - b) Any waters or pollutants containing toxic or poisonous solids, liquids, or gases in sufficient quantity, either singly or by interaction with other wastes, to injure or interfere with any waste treatment process, constitute a hazard to humans or animals, create a public nuisance, or create any hazard in the receiving waters of the wastewater treatment plant.
  - c) Any waters or pollutants having pH lower than 5.0 or having any other corrosive property capable of causing damage or hazard to structures, equipment, and personnel of the wastewater collection, transport or treatment systems.
  - d) Solid or viscous substances in quantities or of such size capable of causing obstruction to the flow in sewers or other interference with the proper operation of the wastewater facilities, such as, but not limited to, ashes, bones, cinders, sand, mud, straw, shavings, metal, glass, rags, feathers, tar, plastics, wood, unground garbage, whole blood, paunch manure, hair and fleshings, entrails, paper dishes, cups, milk containers, etc. either whole or ground by garbage grinders.
  - e) Any waters or pollutants, including oxygen-demanding pollutants (BOD, etc.), which are released in quantities of flow or concentrations or both constitute a "slug" as defined herein.
  - f) Any heated waters or pollutants in amounts which will inhibit or interfere with biological activity in the wastewater treatment works but in no case,

heated waters or pollutants in such quantities that the temperature at the wastewater treatment works influent exceeds 104°F (40°C).

- iv. The following described substances, materials, waters, or pollutants shall be limited in discharges to municipal systems to concentrations or quantities which will not harm either the sewers, wastewater treatment process, or equipment, will not have an adverse effect on the receiving stream, or will not otherwise endanger lives, limb, public property, or constitute a nuisance. The Sewer Commission may set limitations lower than those established in the regulations below if, in the Superintendent's opinion, more severe limitations are necessary to meet the above objectives. In forming an opinion as to the acceptability, the quantity of subject wastes in relation to flows and velocities in the sewers, the wastewater treatment process employed, capacity of the wastewater treatment plant, degree of treatability of the waste in the wastewater treatment plant, and other pertinent factors. The limitations or restrictions of waste or wastewaters discharged to the sanitary sewer, which shall not be violated without the approval of the Sewer Commission are as follows:
- a) Wastewaters having a temperature higher than 150°F (65°C).
  - b) Water or waste containing fats, wax, grease, or oils, whether emulsified or not, in excess of 100 mg/l or containing substances that may solidify or become viscous at temperatures between thirty-two (32) and 150°F. (65°C.).
  - c) Wastewater from commercial establishments or industrial plants containing floatable oil, fat, or grease shall not be discharged without a grease trap approved by the Superintendent.
  - d) Any garbage that has not been properly shredded. 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 consumption on the premises or when served by caterers.
  - e) Any water or pollutants containing iron, chromium, copper, zinc, and similar objectionable or toxic substances in such quantities or concentrations that any such material received in the composite wastewater at the wastewater treatment plant exceeds limits for such materials, which may be established by the Superintendent.
  - f) Any waters or pollutants containing odor-producing substances exceeding limits that may be established by the Superintendent.
  - g) Any radioactive wastes or isotopes of such half-life or concentrations as may exceed limits established by the Superintendent in compliance with applicable State or Federal Regulations.
  - h) Quantities of flow, concentrations, or both which constitute a "slug."

- i) Waters or pollutants containing substances which are not amenable to treatment or reduction by the wastewater treatment processes employed or are amenable to treatment only to such degree that the wastewater treatment plant effluent cannot meet the requirements of agencies having jurisdiction over discharge to the receiving waters.
  - j) Any water or pollutants which, by interaction with other water or pollutants in the public sewer system, release obnoxious gases, form suspended solids that interfere with the collection system, or create a condition deleterious to structures and treatment processes.
  - k) Any water or pollutants have a pH in excess of 9.5 or lower than 5.5.
  - l) Wastewater from home or commercial business operations such as furniture stripping, auto body work, or auto repair containing solvents, oil, grease, or other substances which are appropriate to the restrictions of Section 8(iv)(i).
- v. If any waters or pollutants are discharged, or are proposed to be discharged to the public sewers, which contain the substances or possess the characteristics enumerated in Section 8(iv), and which in the judgment of the Superintendent, may have a deleterious effect upon the wastewater facilities, processes, equipment, or receiving waters, or which otherwise create a hazard to life or constitute a public nuisance, the Sewer Commission may:
  - a. Reject the waters or pollutants,
  - b. Require pretreatment to an acceptable condition for discharge to the public sewers,
  - c. Require control over the quantities and rates of discharge.
  - d. Require payment to cover the added costs of handling and treating the wastes.

When considering the above alternatives, the Sewer Commission shall give consideration to the economic impact of each alternative on the discharger.

If the Sewer Commission permits the pretreatment or equalization of waste flows, the design and installation of the pretreatment or equalization plants and equipment shall be subject to the review of the Town's Consulting Engineer and approval of the Superintendent and subject to the requirements of all applicable codes, ordinances, laws, and the Town's discharge permit.

- vi. Grease, oil, and sand interceptors shall be provided when, in the opinion of the Superintendent, they are necessary for the proper handling of liquid wastes containing floatable grease in excessive amounts as specified in Section 8(iv)(c), or any flammable wastes, sand, or other harmful ingredients; except that such interceptors shall not be required for private living units. All interceptors shall be of a type and capacity required by the Superintendent and shall be located as readily and easily accessible for cleaning and inspection. In the maintaining of these interceptors, the Owners 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 Superintendent and Sewer Commission. Any removal, hauling, and disposal of the collected materials must be performed in accordance with this ordinance and are subject to review by the Superintendent and Sewer Commission. Any removal, hauling, and disposal of the collected materials must be performed in accordance with this ordinance and state and federal regulations. Emulsifiers shall not be used to clean out grease or oil interceptors.

- vii. Where pretreatment or flow-equalizing facilities are provided or required for any waters or pollutants, they shall be maintained continuously in satisfactory and effective operation by the Owner at his expense.
- viii. When required by the Sewer Commission, the Owner of any property with commercial or industrial service shall install a suitable structure, such as a manhole, together with such necessary meters and other appurtenances, in the building sewer to facilitate observation, 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 Superintendent. The structure shall be installed and maintained by the Owner at their expense and shall be safe and accessible at all times.
- ix. The Sewer Commission may require a user of sewer services to provide information needed to determine compliance with this Sewer Use Ordinance. These requirements may include but are not limited to:
  - a. Wastewater discharge peak rate and volume over a specified time period.
  - b. Chemical analyses of wastewater.
  - c. Information on raw materials, processes, and products affecting wastewater volume and quality.
  - d. Quantity and disposition of specific liquid, sludge, oil, solvent, or other materials important to sewer use control.
  - e. Details of wastewater pretreatment facilities.
  - f. Details of systems to prevent and control the losses of materials through spills to the municipal sewer.
- x. All measurements, tests, and analyses of the characteristics of waters and pollutants to which reference is made in this Sewer Use Ordinance shall be determined in accordance with the latest edition of "Standards Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater," published by the American Public Health Association, and shall be determined at the structure as required in Section 8(viii), or upon suitable samples taken at said structure. In the event that no special structure has been required, suitable samples shall be taken at the nearest downstream manhole in the public sewer to the point at which the building sewer is connected. Sampling shall be carried out by customarily accepted methods to reflect the effect of constituents upon the wastewater

facilities and to determine the existence of hazards to life, limb, and property. (The particular analyses involved will determine whether a twenty-four (24) hour composite of all outfalls of a premise is appropriate or whether a grab sample or samples should be taken. Normally, but not always, BOD and suspended solids analyses are obtained from twenty-four (24) hour composites of all outfalls, whereas pH is determined from periodic grab samples).

- xi. All commercial establishments and industries discharging into a public sewer shall perform such monitoring of their discharging into a public sewer shall perform such monitoring of their discharges as the Superintendent may reasonably require, including installation, use, and maintenance of monitoring equipment, keeping records, and reporting the results of such monitoring to the Superintendent. Such records shall be made available upon request by the Superintendent to other agencies having jurisdiction over discharges to the receiving waters.

## **Section 9. Sewer Extensions.**

- i. All extensions to the sanitary sewer system owned and maintained by the Town shall be properly designed in accordance with the Design and Construction of Sanitary and Storm Sewers, ASCE Manuals and Reports on Engineering Practice No. 37 (WPCF Manual of Practice No. 9). Plans and specifications for sewer extensions shall be submitted to and approval obtained from the DEP before construction may proceed. Review by the Town's Consulting Engineer will also be required prior to acceptance of the design by the Superintendent. The design of sewers must anticipate and allow for flows from all possible future extensions or developments within the immediate drainage area. All costs of having the Town's Consulting Engineer review the Plans and Specifications shall be paid for by the Owner.
- ii. Sewer extensions, including individual building sewers from the sewer to the property line, may be constructed by the Town under a public contract if, in the opinion of the Town, the number of properties to be served by such extension warrants its cost. Under this arrangement, the property Owner shall pay for the installation of the building sewer from the property line to his residence or place of business in accordance with the requirements of Section 6. Property Owners may propose sewer extensions within the Town by drafting a written petition, signed by a majority of the benefiting property Owners, and filing it with the Select Board. The cost of such extensions may be assessed to the benefited Owners in any manner determined by the Select Board.
- iii. If the Town does not elect to construct a sewer extension under a public contract, the property Owner may construct the necessary sewer extension, if such extension is approved by the Select Board, in accordance with the requirements of Section 9(i). The property Owner must pay for the entire design and installation, including all incidental expenses. Each building sewer must be installed and the design of sewers shall be as specified in Section 9 (iv). The installation of the

sewer expenses for this inspection shall be paid for by the Owner. The Town's Consulting Engineer's decisions shall be final in matters of quality and methods of construction. The sewer, as constructed, must pass the leakage test required in Section 9(v) before it is to be used. The cost of sewer extension thus made shall be borne by the property owners, including all building sewers, and the discharge shall comply with MRSA, Title 38, Chapter 413, as amended.

iv. Sewer design must be approved by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection and shall be in accordance with the following provisions:

- a. Pipe material and joints shall be polyvinyl chloride (PVC) conforming to ASTM D3034 or D3033 and the strength requirements of ADR 35 or Class 52 Ductile iron meeting AWWA C150 with joints meeting AWWA C104 and fittings meeting AWWA C110.
- b. Minimum internal pipe diameter shall be eight (8) inches.
- c. All joints shall be prepared and installed in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations.
- d. Wye branch fittings shall be used, and a watertight connection shall be provided.
- e. The minimum slope of the sewer pipe and maximum width of the trench at a point six (6) inches above the top of the sewer pipe shall be as follows:

Pipe Diameter	Minimum Slope, in Feet Per Trench Width	100 Feet
8"	2' – 8"	0.40
10"	2' – 10"	0.28
12"	3' – 0"	0.22
14"	3' – 2"	0.17
15"	3' – 3"	.015
16"	3' – 4"	0.14

- f. The depth of the sewer shall be sufficient to afford protection from frost but in no event less than three feet (3') with insulation and five and one-half feet (5 ½') without insulation.
- g. All pipe shall be laid with a minimum of six inches (6") of ¾ "crushed stone all around so as to give uniform circumferential support to the pipe unless otherwise recommended by the Town's consulting Engineer.
- h. ¾" crushed stone shall have the following gradation:

Sieve Size	% by Weight Passing
1 inch	100
¾ inch	95-100
½ inch	35-70
⅜ inch	0-20
No. 200	0-2

- i. Manholes shall be constructed at all changes in slope or at intervals not exceeding 350 linear feet and shall be precast.
  1. Precast manhole sections shall be manufactured in accordance with ASTM C913. The minimum compressive strength of the concrete for all sections shall be 4000 psi and shall be Type II. The circumferential steel reinforcement for four-foot (4') diameter riser sections, cone sections, and base walls shall be 0.20 square inches per linear foot. Reinforcing in the bottoms of precast bases shall be of the same design. Reinforcing shall extend into the tongue and groove of each manhole wall section.
  2. The tongue and groove of manhole sections, including the precast base, shall be formed of concrete so as to receive the butyl rubber sealant. Sections shall be set so as to be vertical and in true alignment and sealed with two (2) one-inch (1") butyl rubber strips.
  3. Manhole steps shall be polypropylene reinforced with a steel rod, a minimum width of sixteen inches (16"). All steps shall be cast into walls of the precast sections so as to form a continuous ladder with a distance of twelve inches (12") between steps.
  4. Precast base sections shall be monolithically pressure cast. Holes for pipes shall be cast in the base section so that there is a clear distance of four inches (4") minimum between the inside bottom of the base section and the pipe invert.
  5. Pipe-to-manhole connections shall be made with flexible manhole sleeves and stainless steel bands.
  6. The top of the precast reinforced concrete unit shall be set at a grade that will allow a minimum of one (1) precast annular ring or a maximum of four (4) or a minimum of two (2) courses of brick and mortar before setting the cast iron frame and cover. Mortar for brick masonry shall be Portland cement mixed in the proportion of one part cement to two parts sand, worked to the proper consistency.
  7. The outside of the masonry work of all manholes shall be plastered with a Portland cement mortar mixed in the proportion of one part cement to two parts sand (1:2). The thickness of the mortar shall be one-half inch (½"), and the mortar shall be carefully spread and thoroughly troweled, leaving a smooth, substantially waterproof surface. The mortar shall be extended to completely cover the outside surfaces of all masonry work. The inside brickwork shall be pointed.
  8. The concrete manholes shall have a brick channel passing through the bottom which corresponds in shape with the lower half of the pipe. Side inverts shall be curved, and main inverts (where direction changes) shall be laid out in smooth curves of the longest possible radius. The top of the brick shelf shall slope to drain towards the flowing through channel.



9. Manhole frames and covers shall meet the standards of the Town. Manhole frames shall be eight inches (8") high and shall be approximately thirty-two inches (32") in diameter with a twenty-two-inch (22") opening. Frames shall weigh approximately 310 pounds. Manhole covers shall be twenty-four inches (24") in diameter and weigh approximately 175 pounds.
  10. Prior to backfilling, wrap manholes with four (4) layers of six (6) mil thick U.V. resistant, high-grade polyethethylene.
  11. Manholes shall be backfilled.
- v. All sewers shall satisfy the requirements of a leakage test before they are accepted by the Superintendent. The leakage test shall be as follows:
- a. For each section of pipeline, an initial leakage test shall be made on the first section of the pipeline complete between two (2) adjacent manholes. Thereafter, the leakage tests shall be made on sections of approved lengths of completed pipeline, which shall not exceed 1,000' feet.
  - b. Each section shall be tested upon its completion.
  - c. The pipeline will be subject to testing for infiltration or exfiltration.
  - d. The pipeline shall satisfactorily pass the leakage test with no material except the gasket in the joint spaces. Caulking of joints shall not be permitted.
  - e. Tests shall be made under the supervision of the Superintendent. The allowable infiltration or exfiltration shall be 200 gallons per inch of diameter per day per mile of sewer.
  - f. Test sewer using low pressure air as follows:
    1. Plug ends of section to be tested.
    2. Supply air slowly to the pipe to be tested until the air pressure inside the pipe is 4.0 psi greater than the average back pressure of any groundwater submerging the pipe.
    3. Disconnect air supply and also allow a minimum of two (2) minutes for stabilization of pressure.
    4. Following the stabilization period, measure the drop in pressure over a six (6) minute period.
    5. Acceptable drop: Not more than 1.0 psi.

All manholes shall satisfy the requirements of a leakage test before they are accepted by the Sewer Commission. The leakage test shall be as follows:

1. Tests must be observed and certified by the Superintendent. Manholes must be complete except for shelf and inverted

brickwork. Plug all pipes and other openings in the manhole prior to the test.

2. Infiltration test manholes with groundwater table above the highest joint. Manhole passes the infiltration test if there is no visible leakage into manhole.
3. For exfiltration test of manholes:
  - a. Plug pipes into and out of manhole and secure plugs.
  - b. Lower groundwater table (GWT) to below manhole. Maintain GWT at this level throughout test. Provide means of determining GWT level at any time throughout test.
  - c. Fill manhole with water to top of cone.
  - d. Allow a period of time for absorption (determined by Contractor).
  - e. Refill to top of cone.
  - f. Determine volume of leakage in an eight (8) hour (minimum) test period and calculate rate.
  - g. Acceptable leakage rate: Not more than one (1) gallon per vertical foot per 24 hours.

Pump station design must be approved by the Town's Consulting Engineer and also by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection. All pump stations must pass leakage and performance tests, as determined by the Town's Consulting Engineer, before being accepted by the Superintendent.

All sewer extensions constructed at the property owner's expense, after final approval and recommendation of acceptance by the Town's Consulting Engineer and subsequent acceptance by the Sewer Commission, shall become the property of the Town and shall thereafter be maintained by the Town. Said sewers, after their acceptance, shall be guaranteed against defects in materials or workmanship for twelve (12) months. The guarantee shall be a maintenance bond or certified check in an amount defined by the Sewer Commission.

**Section 10. Protection from Damage.** No person shall maliciously, willfully, or negligently break, damage, destroy, uncover, deface, or tamper with any structure, appurtenance, or equipment which is part of the wastewater facilities. Any person violating this provision may be subject to arrest under the charge of criminal mischief as set forth in MRSA, Title 17-A, Chapter 33, Section 806, as amended.

## **Section 11. Powers and Authority of Inspectors.**

- i. The Superintendent and other duly authorized employees or agents of the Town bearing proper credentials and identification shall be permitted to enter all properties for the purposes of inspection, observation, measurement, sampling, and testing pertinent to discharge to the community system in accordance with the provisions of this Sewer Use Ordinance.
- ii. The Superintendent or other duly authorized representatives are authorized to obtain information concerning industrial processes which have a direct bearing on the kind and source of discharge to the wastewater facilities. The industry may request that such information be kept confidential. The industry must establish that the revelation to the public of the information in question might result in an unfair competitive advantage to competitors.
- iii. While performing the necessary work on private properties referred to in Section 11(i), above, the Superintendent or other duly authorized representatives of the Town shall observe all safety rules applicable to the premises established by the Owner. The Owner shall be held harmless for injury or death to Town employees, and the Town shall indemnify the Owner against loss or damage to Owner's property and against claims and/or demands for personal injury or property damage asserted against the Owner, arising out any misconduct or negligence by the Town, its employees, or its agents in the performance of the necessary work referred to in Section 11(i), except as such may be caused by negligence or failure of the Owner to maintain safe conditions.
- iv. The Superintendent and other duly authorized employees or agents of the Town bearing proper credentials and identification shall be permitted to enter all private properties through which the Town holds a duly negotiated easement for the purposes of, but not limited to, inspection, observation, measurement, sampling, 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 involved.

## **Section 12. Penalties.**

- i. Any person found to be violating any provision of this Sewer Use Ordinance shall be served by the Superintendent 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.
- ii. Any person who shall continue any violation beyond the time limit provided for in Section 12(i), shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, on conviction thereof, shall be fined an amount not exceeding \$200.00 for each violation. Each day in which any such violation shall continue shall be deemed a separate offense.

- iii. Any person violating any of the provisions of this Sewer Use Ordinance shall become liable to the Town for any expense, loss, or damage occasioned by the Town by reason of such offense.
- iv. Notwithstanding any of the foregoing provisions, the Sewer Commission or Superintendent may institute any appropriate action, including injunction or other proceedings to prevent, restrain, or abate violations. The Select Board will make the final determination to institute litigation.

### **Section 13. Administration.**

- i. This Sewer Use Ordinance shall be administered by a Sewer Commission. The Sewer Commission shall be responsible to the Select Board and shall have the following responsibilities:
  - a. Enforce the provisions of the Sewer Use Ordinance.
  - b. Provide interpretation of the Ordinance.
  - c. Establish rates, fees, and other charges.
  - d. Review and approve the Superintendent's annual budget.
  - e. Contract for services.
- ii. The Sewer Commission shall be composed of 5 members, elected by the Town at the regular Town Meeting. Initial election shall provide one member with a one-year term, two members with two-year terms, and two members with three-year terms. Subsequent annual elections will fill the expired terms with staggered three-year terms. If there is a vacancy, the Select Board shall appoint a replacement to serve until the next Annual Town Meeting.
- iii. The Sewer Commission is authorized to borrow up to \$30,000 for capital expenditures and additional funds for emergency expenditures not to exceed \$60,000 in total for both items at any one time. This debt would be repaid out of sewer fees.
- iv. Day to day direction of the Superintendent is the responsibility of the Norridgewock Town Manager.
- v. Responsibilities not specified in the Ordinance shall be responsibilities of the Select Board.

**Section 14. License.** If, in the opinion of the Superintendent, the work performed by any contractor or property owner working within the Town violates any provisions of this Sewer Use Ordinance, or if any work is, in the opinion of the Superintendent or the Town's Consulting Engineer, sub-standard, the Sewer Commission may disapprove existing work or any future work in the Town.

**Section 15. Validity.**

- i. All ordinances or parts thereof in conflict with this Sewer Use Ordinance are hereby repealed.
- ii. The invalidity of any section, clause, sentence, or provision of this Sewer Use Ordinance shall not affect the validity of any other part of this Sewer Use Ordinance that can be given effect without such invalid part or parts.

**Section 16. Sewer Use Ordinance in Force.**

- i. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect when adopted by the Town of Norridgewock.

**Section 17. Appeals.** Decisions of the Sewer Commission may be appealed to the Board of Appeals within thirty (30) days from the date of the decision. Should the Appeals Board make a decision in favor of the aggrieved party, the case shall be remanded to the Sewer Commission for correction. The aggrieved party may take further appeals to the Superior court in accordance with State Law.

A True Attest Copy

Richard A. LaBelle  
Town Clerk

Adopted: March 2, 1992  
Amended: May 1992  
November 2, 1993  
March 4, 2024