

CRANBURY TOWNSHIP ORDINANCE # 06-13-19

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANBURY, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, PROHIBITING ANY PROPERTY OWNER TO CONNECT OR ALLOW ANY SUMP PUMP, STORM DRAIN COLLECTORS OR OTHER INFILTRATION INTO A SEWER LINE

WHEREAS, the Chapter 124 of the Cranbury Township Code regulates connections to the sewer system; and

WHEREAS, certain areas of the sewer system show excessively high flow during periods of high rain fall; and

WHEREAS, sump pumps and storm drainage collectors should not be connected to the sewer lines because they contribute to the excessively high flow rates.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranbury that the Code of the Township of Cranbury be and hereby is amended as set forth below.

SECTION 1. Chapter 124, Section 12, is amended as follows (insertions underlined and deletions ~~struckthrough~~):

Chapter 124. SEWERS

Article I. Sewer Connections

§ 124-1. Installation of toilet; connection required.

A. The owner of every existing house, building or structure which shall or may be occupied by human beings and which is located on a parcel of land adjacent to any street or road along which the line of any such sewer may now or hereafter be constructed or acquired in said Township of Cranbury shall, within six months after the date on which the services of such sewer are made available to such house, building or structure, install a toilet in such house, building or structure, unless a toilet is now installed therein or shall have been installed therein prior to such date, and shall, prior to such date, connect such toilet therein or so installed therein with the sewerage system.

B. The owner of every house, building or structure hereafter constructed which shall or may be occupied by human beings and which is located on a parcel of land adjacent to any street or road along which the line of any such sewer is or may hereafter be constructed or acquired in the Township of Cranbury shall, within six months after the date on which the services of such sewer are made available to such house, building or

structure or prior to occupancy or use of such house, building or structure, whichever date shall be later, install a toilet therein and connect such toilet with the sewerage system.

§ 124-2. Requirements for structures used for industrial or commercial purposes.

If any such house, building or structure referred to in § 124-1B above shall be used for industrial or commercial purposes, the owner thereof shall, within six months after the date on which the services of such sewer are made available to such house, building or structure or prior to occupancy or use of such house, building or structure, whichever date shall be later, install such facilities as are necessary to accept and dispose of industrial wastes emanating therefrom and connect such facilities with the sewerage system pursuant to rules and regulations of the Township of Cranbury to be adopted for such purposes and which shall be on file in the office of the Township Clerk.

§ 124-3. Notice to connect.

A. When such sewerage system along any such street or road of the Township is available for the acceptance of sewage, notice shall be given by the Township to all property owners along the lines of said sewerage system, as aforesaid, to connect their buildings therewith in accordance with the terms of this article. Said notice shall be addressed to the said owner of the property as the name of the owner appears on the last tax duplicate of the Township, shall describe the property by lot and block designation as appears on the Tax Map of the Township and by the street address and shall state under terms of this article that the owner is required to connect the building or buildings on said property with the sewerage system within said six-month period. Said notice shall further inform the owner of the penalty which may be imposed for failure to comply with said notice in accordance with the terms of this article.

B. Said notice may be served on the owner personally or by leaving it at his usual place of abode with a member of his family above the age of 18 years if the owner has a place of abode within the Township of Cranbury, or said notice may be served within or without the limits of the Township by mailing the same by regular mail to the last known post office address of the said owner as the same appears on the last tax duplicate of the Township.

§ 124-4. Failure of owner to connect; costs as lien; violations and penalties.

A. If the owner of any house, building or structure referred to in §§ 124-1 and 124-2 hereof shall fail to make any connection required by this article within six months after service of said notice as set forth in § 124-3B hereof, the Township may proceed to make such connection or cause the same to be made and assess the cost thereof as a

lien against such house, building or structure pursuant to and in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40:63-52 through 40:63-64.

B. The owner of any such house, building or structure failing to make such connection shall also be subject to a fine not to exceed \$500 or by imprisonment for a term not exceeding 90 days, or by both such fine and imprisonment, in the discretion of the Judge.

Article II. Sewer Use

§ 124-5. Definitions and word usage.

A. Definitions. Unless the context specifically indicates otherwise, the meanings of the terms used in this article shall be as follows:

BOD (DENOTING "BIOCHEMICAL OXYGEN DEMAND")

The quantity of oxygen utilized in the biochemical oxidation of organic matter under standard laboratory procedure in five days at 20° C., expressed in milligrams per liter.

BUILDING DRAIN

That part of the lowest horizontal piping of a drainage system which receives the discharge from soil, waste and other drainage pipes inside the walls of the building and conveys it to the building sewer, beginning five feet (1.5 meters) outside the inner face of the building wall.

BUILDING SEWER

The extension from the building drain to the public sewer or other place of disposal.

GARBAGE

Solid wastes from the domestic and commercial preparation, cooking and dispensing of food and from the handling, storage and sale of produce.

INDUSTRIAL WASTES

The liquid wastes from industrial manufacturing processes, trade or business, as distinct from sanitary sewage.

PERSON

Any individual, firm, company, association, society, corporation or group.

pH

The logarithm of the reciprocal of the weight of hydrogen ions in grams per liter of solution.

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.

PUBLIC SEWER

A sewer in which all owners of abutting properties have equal rights and which is controlled by public authority.

SANITARY SEWER

A sewer which carries sewage and to which storm-, surface and ground waters are not intentionally admitted.

SEWAGE

A combination of the water-carried wastes from residences, business buildings, institutions and industrial establishments, together with such ground-, surface and storm waters as may be present.

SEWAGE WORKS

All facilities for collecting, pumping, treating and disposing of sewage.

SEWER

A pipe or conduit for carrying sewage.

SLUG

Any discharge of water, sewage or industrial waste which, in concentration of any given constituent or in quantity of flow, exceeds, for any period of duration longer than 15 minutes, more than five times the average twenty-four-hour concentration of flows during normal operation.

SUPERINTENDENT

The Superintendent of Sewage Works of the Township of Cranbury or his authorized deputy, agent or representative.

SUSPENDED SOLIDS

Solids that either float on the surface of or are in suspension in water, sewage or other liquids and which are removable by laboratory filtering.

B. Word usage. "Shall" is mandatory; "may" is permissive.

§ 124-6. Permit required.

No unauthorized person shall uncover, make any connection with or opening into, use, alter or disturb any public sewer or appurtenance thereof without first obtaining a written permit from the Superintendent.

§ 124-7. Classes of permits; applications; fees.

A. There shall be two classes of building sewer permits: one for residential and commercial service and one for service to establishments producing industrial wastes.

B. In either case, the owner or his agent shall make application on a special form furnished by the Township. The permit application shall be supplemented by any plans, specifications or other information considered pertinent in the judgment of the Superintendent.

C. A permit and inspection fee of \$10 for a residential or commercial building sewer permit and \$100 for an industrial building sewer permit shall be paid to the Township at the time the application is filed.

§ 124-8. Costs to be borne by owner; indemnification of Township.

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 Township from any loss or damage that may directly or indirectly be occasioned by the installation of the building sewer.

§ 124-9. Separate building sewers required; exceptions.

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 private sewer is available or can be constructed to the rear building through an adjoining alley, court, yard or driveway, the building sewer from the front building may be extended to the rear building and the whole considered as one building sewer.

§ 124-10. Building sewer and trench specifications.

The size, slope, alignment and materials of construction of a building sewer and the methods to be used in excavating, placing of the pipe, jointing, testing and backfilling the trench shall all conform to the requirements of the Building and Plumbing Codes or other applicable rules and regulations of the Township. *Editor's Note: See Ch. 72, Construction Codes, Uniform.*

§ 124-11. Elevation of sewer; lifting of sewage.

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.

§ 124-12. Prohibited connections.

- A. Runoff or Groundwater. No person shall make connection of roof downspouts, 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 a public sanitary sewer.
- B. Sump Pumps and Storm Drainage Collectors. No person shall connect any sump pump or storm drainage collectors to a sewer line.
- C. Infiltration into Sewer System. No person shall permit, allow, or suffer or cause the infiltration of water or any other substance which is not normal sewage into the sewer system.
- D. Powers and Authority of the Township. Duly authorized employees or officials of the township bearing proper credentials and identification shall be permitted to enter any and all properties for the purposes of inspection, observation, measurement, sampling and testing in accordance with the provisions of this section.
- E. Responsibility. The record title owner shall be responsible under this subsection and shall be presumed to have caused any such connection.
- F. Waiver of Prosecution Upon Finding of Special Need. Whenever the township committee finds that the public health, safety or welfare requires prompt and efficient access to properties for the purpose of inspection, observation, measurement, sampling and testing; and further finds that this need outweighs the municipality's interest in collecting a fine or imposing a penalty for a violation of this subsection, the township committee may authorize a period of general amnesty, during which the municipality shall suspend the imposition of fines and penalties and waive prosecution of all persons found during the amnesty period to have violated the terms of this subsection. Authorization of a period of general amnesty must be by resolution of the governing body after an advertised public

hearing, and any general amnesty so authorized must be limited to a period not to exceed 120 days.

§ 124-13. Connection to public sewer.

The connection of the building sewer into the public sewer shall conform to the requirements of the Building and Plumbing Codes or other applicable rules and regulations of the Township. All such connections shall be made gastight and watertight.

§ 124-14. Inspection; supervision of connection.

The applicant for a building sewer permit shall notify the Superintendent when the building sewer is ready for inspection and connection to the public sewer. The connection shall be made under the supervision of the Superintendent or his representative.

§ 124-15. Guarding and restoration of excavation.

A. All excavations for building sewer installation shall be adequately guarded with barricades and lights so as to protect the public from hazard.

B. Streets, sidewalks, parkways and other public property disturbed in the course of the work shall be restored in a manner satisfactory to the Township.

§ 124-16. Prohibited discharges to sanitary sewers.

A. No person shall discharge or cause to be discharged any stormwater, surface water, groundwater, roof runoff, subsurface drainage, uncontaminated cooling water or unpolluted industrial process waters to any sanitary sewer.

B. No person shall discharge, deposit or cause to be discharged or deposited any septic system wastes in any sanitary sewer.

§ 124-17. Prohibited discharges to public sewers.

No person shall discharge or cause to be discharged any of the following described waters or wastes to any public sewers:

A. Any gasoline, benzene, naphtha, fuel oil or other flammable or explosive liquid, solid or gas.

B. Any water or wastes 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 sewage treatment process, constitute a hazard to humans or animals or create

a public nuisance, including but not limited to cyanides in excess of two milligrams per liter as CN in the wastes as discharged to the public sewer.

C. Any waters or wastes having a pH lower than 5.5 or having any other corrosive property capable of causing damage or hazard to structures, equipment and personnel of the sewage works.

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 sewage works, such as but not limited to ashes, cinders, sand, mud, straw, shavings, metal, glass, rags, feathers, tar, plastics, wood, unground garbage, whole blood, paunch manure, hair and fleshings, entrails and paper dishes, cups, milk containers, etc., either whole or ground by garbage grinders.

§ 124-18. Waters and wastes possessing harmful characteristics or substances.

No person shall discharge or cause to be discharged the following described substances, materials, waters, or wastes if it appears likely in the opinion of the Superintendent that such wastes can harm either the sewers, sewage treatment process or equipment, have an adverse effect on the receiving stream or can otherwise endanger life, limb or public property or constitute a nuisance. In forming his opinion as to the acceptability of these wastes, the Superintendent will give consideration to such factors as the quantities of subject wastes in relation to flows and velocities in the sewers, materials of construction of the sewers, nature of the sewage treatment process, capacity of the sewage treatment plant, degree of treatability of wastes in the sewage treatment plant and other pertinent factors. The substances prohibited are:

A. Any liquid or vapor having a temperature higher than 150° F. (65° C.).

B. Any water or waste containing fats, wax, grease or oils, whether emulsified or not, in excess of 100 milligrams per liter or containing substances which may solidify or become viscous at temperatures between 32° and 150° F. (0° and 65° C.).

C. Any garbage that has not been properly shredded. The installation and operation of any garbage grinder equipped with a motor of 3/4 horsepower (0.76 horsepower metric) or greater shall be subject to the review and approval of the Superintendent.

D. Any waters or wastes containing strong acid iron pickling wastes or concentrated plating solutions, whether neutralized or not.

E. Any waters or wastes containing iron, chromium, copper, zinc and similar objectionable or toxic substances or wastes exerting an excessive chlorine requirement to such degree that any such material received in the composite sewage at the sewage

treatment works exceeds the limits established by the Superintendent for such materials.

F. Any waters or wastes containing phenols or other taste or odor-producing substances in such concentrations exceeding limits which may be established by the Superintendent as necessary, after treatment of the composite sewage, to meet the requirements of the state, federal or other public agencies of jurisdiction for such discharge to the receiving waters.

G. Any radioactive wastes or isotopes of such half-life or concentration as may exceed limits established by the Superintendent in compliance with applicable state or federal regulations.

H. Any waters or wastes having a pH in excess of 9.0.

I. Materials which exert or cause:

(1) Unusual concentrations of inert suspended solids, such as but not limited to, fuller's earth, lime slurries and lime residues, or of dissolved 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, chemical oxygen demand or chlorine requirements in such quantities as to constitute a significant load on the sewage treatment works.

(4) Unusual volume of flow or concentration of wastes constituting slugs, as defined herein.

J. Waters or wastes containing substances which are not amenable to treatment or reduction by the sewage treatment processes employed or are amenable to treatment only to such degree that the sewage treatment plant effluent cannot meet the requirements of other agencies having jurisdiction over discharge to the receiving waters.

§ 124-19. Discretion of Superintendent as to harmful discharges.

If any waters or wastes are discharged or are proposed to be discharged to the public sewers, which waters contain the substances or possess the characteristics enumerated in § 124-18 and which, in the judgment of the Superintendent, may have a deleterious effect upon the sewage works, processes, equipment or receiving waters or which otherwise create a hazard to life or constitute a public nuisance, the Superintendent may:

- A. Reject the wastes.
- B. Require pretreatment to an acceptable condition for discharge to the public sewers.
- C. Require control over the quantities and rates of discharge.

§ 124-20. Installation of pretreatment or equalization facilities.

If the Superintendent permits the pretreatment or equalization of waste flows, the design and installation of the plants and equipment shall be subject to the review and approval of the Superintendent and subject to the requirements of all applicable codes, ordinances and laws.

§ 124-21. Interceptors.

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 grease in excessive amounts or any flammable wastes, sand or other harmful ingredients; except that such interceptors shall not be required for private living quarters or dwelling units. All interceptors shall be of a type and capacity approved by the Superintendent and shall be located as to be readily and easily accessible for cleaning and inspection.

§ 124-22. Maintenance of pretreatment facilities.

Where preliminary treatment or flow-equalizing facilities are provided for any waters or wastes, they shall be maintained continuously in satisfactory and effective operation by the owner at his expense.

§ 124-23. Manholes.

When required by the Superintendent, the owner of any property serviced by a building sewer carrying industrial wastes shall install a suitable control manhole, together with such necessary meters and other appurtenances, in the building sewer to facilitate observation, sampling and measurement of the wastes. Such manhole, when required, shall be accessibly and safely located and shall be constructed in accordance with plans approved by the Superintendent. The manhole 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.

§ 124-24. Analyses of waters and wastes.

All measurements, tests and analyses of the characteristics of waters and wastes to which reference is made in this article shall be determined in accordance with the latest edition of Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater, published

by the American Public Health Association, and shall be determined at the control manhole provided or upon suitable samples taken at said control manhole. In the event that no special manhole has been required, the control manhole shall be considered to be 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 sewage works and to determine the existence of hazards to life, limb and property. The particular analyses involved will determine whether a twenty-four-hour composite of all outfalls of a premises 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-hour composites of all outfalls whereas pH's are determined from periodic grab samples.

§ 124-25. Damage to sewer works.

No unauthorized 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 works. Any person violating this provision shall be subject to immediate arrest under charge of disorderly conduct.

§ 124-26. Notice of violations.

Any person found to be violating any provision of this article, except § 124-25, shall be served by the Township 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.

§ 124-27. Violations and penalties.

Any person who shall continue any violation beyond the time limit provided for in § 124-26 shall, upon conviction thereof, be punishable by a fine not exceeding \$500 or by imprisonment for a term not exceeding 90 days, or by both such fine and imprisonment, in the discretion of the Judge. Each day in which any such violation shall continue shall be deemed a separate offense.

§ 124-28. Liability.

Any person violating any of the provisions of this article shall become liable to the Township for any expense, loss or damage occasioned the Township by reason of such violation.

SECTION 2. Repealer. All ordinances and resolutions, or parts thereof, inconsistent with this Ordinance, are hereby repealed.

SECTION 3. Severability. If any section, paragraph, subsection, clause or provision of this Ordinance shall be adjudged to be invalid, such adjudication shall apply only to the section, paragraph, subsection, clause or provision so adjudged and the remainder of this Ordinance shall be deemed valid and effective.

SECTION 4. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its passage and publication, as required by law.

The ordinance published herewith was introduced and passed upon first reading at a meeting of the governing body of the Township of Cranbury, in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey held on June 10, 2013. It will be further considered for final passage, after a public hearing thereon, at a meeting of the governing body to be held in the meeting room of Town Hall, 23-A North Main Street, in the Township of Cranbury on June 24, 2013 at 7:00 P.M. and during the week prior to and up to and including the date of such meeting, copies of said ordinance will be made available at the Clerk's Office or on the Township's web site: www.cranburytownship.org at no charge to the members of the general public who shall request the same.

Kathleen R. Cunningham, RMC
Municipal Clerk