

## CHAPTER 185

### REGULATION OF CONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENTS

#### SUBCHAPTER 1

#### REGULATION OF BUILDINGS

##### §4101. Permits for buildings

This subchapter applies to any municipal ordinance requiring a permit in connection with: [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

**1. Construction, demolition and alteration.** The construction, demolition, improvement or alteration of any building;

[PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

**2. Building maintenance and facilities.** The maintenance, repair, use, change of use, safety features, light, ventilation and sanitation facilities of any building;

[PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

**3. Sanitation and parking facilities for mobile homes and travel trailers.** The sanitation and parking facilities for mobile homes, travel trailers intended to be used for human habitation and travel trailer parking facilities;

[PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

**4. Building equipment.** The installation, alteration, maintenance, repair and use of all equipment in or connected to all buildings; and

[PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

**5. Buildings used for public assembly.** The operation of a building which is used occasionally or regularly for public assembly.

A. As used in this subsection, "building used for public assembly" means a room or space in or on any structure which is used for the gathering of 100 or more persons for any purpose, and includes any connecting room or space on the same level, above or below, which has a common entrance.

[PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

[PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

This subchapter does not apply to a zoning ordinance as defined in section 4301, subsection 15-A or to a shoreland zoning ordinance adopted pursuant to Title 38, chapter 3, subchapter I, article 2-B. [PL 1995, c. 89, §1 (NEW).]

##### SECTION HISTORY

PL 1987, c. 737, §§A2,C106 (NEW). PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 104, §§C8,10 (AMD). PL 1995, c. 89, §1 (AMD).

**§4102. Nuisance**

Any building, structure, travel trailer parking facility or equipment existing in violation of an ordinance subject to this subchapter is a nuisance. [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

**SECTION HISTORY**

PL 1987, c. 737, §§A2,C106 (NEW). PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 104, §§C8,10 (AMD).

**§4103. Permits**

The provisions of this section apply to any ordinance described in section 4101. [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

**1. Applicability.** The provisions of the ordinance which pertain to buildings apply equally to all structures, including wharves, piers and pilings and parts of them. [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

**2. Licensing authority.** The building official is the licensing authority unless otherwise provided by the municipality. [RR 2007, c. 2, §13 (COR).]

**3. Application; issuance of permit.** An application for a permit must be in writing and shall be signed by the applicant and directed to the licensing authority. The failure of the licensing authority to issue a written notice of its decision, directed to the applicant, within 30 days from the date when the application is filed, constitutes a refusal of the permit.

A. The licensing authority may not issue any permit for a building or use for which the applicant is required to obtain a license under Title 38, section 413, until the applicant has obtained that license. [PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. A, §39 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

B. The licensing authority may not issue any permit for a building or use within a subdivision, as defined in section 4401, subsection 4, unless that subdivision has been approved in accordance with chapter 187, subchapter IV. [PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. A, §39 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

C. The licensing authority may not issue a permit for installation of a mobile home previously installed in another municipality until the mobile home owner provides proof of payment of all property taxes on that mobile home in the municipality where the home was formerly located. [PL 1993, c. 143, §1 (NEW).]

D. The licensing authority may not issue a permit for a building or use for which the applicant is required to obtain a driveway or entrance or traffic movement permit under Title 23, section 704 or 704-A until the applicant has obtained that permit from the Department of Transportation. [PL 2003, c. 363, §6 (NEW).]  
[PL 2003, c. 363, §6 (AMD).]

**4. Powers and duties of enforcement officers.** Ordinances defining the duties of the building official and other enforcement officers, not contrary to Title 25, chapter 313, may be enacted under a municipality's home rule authority. All enforcement officers designated by ordinance must be given free access at reasonable hours to all parts of buildings regulated by ordinance. [RR 2007, c. 2, §14 (COR).]

**5. Appeal to municipal officers or board of appeals.** An appeal may be taken from any order issued by the building official, or from the licensing authority's refusal to grant a permit, to the municipal officers or to a board of appeals established under section 2691. If a municipality has by ordinance required that all such appeals be taken to a board of appeals, the procedure must be the same as in appeals directed to the municipal officers, unless the municipality has provided otherwise.

A. On an appeal in writing to the municipal officers, they shall at their next meeting affirm, modify or set aside the decision of the building official or licensing authority according to the terms of the pertinent ordinance.

(1) The municipal officers may permit a variance from the terms of an ordinance when necessary to avoid undue hardship, provided there is no substantial departure from the intent of the ordinance.

(2) The municipal officers may permit an exception to an ordinance only when the terms of the exception have been specifically set forth by the municipality. [RR 2007, c. 2, §15 (COR).]

B. The failure of the municipal officers to issue a written notice of their decision, directed to the appellant, within 30 days after the appeal is filed, constitutes a denial of the appeal. [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).] [RR 2007, c. 2, §15 (COR).]

**6. Appeal to Superior Court.** An appeal may be taken from the decision of the municipal officers or the board of appeals as provided in section 2691, subsection 3, paragraph G. [PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. A, §40 (RPR); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 1987, c. 737, §§A2,C106 (NEW). PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 104, §§A39,A40,C8 C10 (AMD). PL 1993, c. 143, §1 (AMD). PL 2003, c. 363, §6 (AMD). RR 2007, c. 2, §§13-15 (COR).

#### §4104. Public building violation; liability

**1. Written order sent.** The building official shall send a written order to the owner or lessee of a building used for public assembly requiring any conditions which exist in violation of an ordinance to be corrected within 30 days after the order is sent.

[PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD); PL 2007, c. 699, §24 (REV).]

**2. Liability.** After the expiration of the 30-day period, the owner or lessee is absolutely liable for all injury caused by failure to correct any conditions cited in the order under subsection 1, and the building official shall order the building vacated.

[PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. A, §41 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD); PL 2007, c. 699, §24 (REV).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 1987, c. 737, §§A2,C106 (NEW). PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 104, §§A41,C8,C10 (AMD). PL 2007, c. 699, §24 (REV).

## SUBCHAPTER 2

### REGULATION AND INSPECTION OF ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS

## ARTICLE 1

### GENERAL PROVISIONS

#### §4151. Definitions

As used in this subchapter, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings. [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

**1. Electrical equipment.** "Electrical equipment" means all electrical conductors, fittings, devices and fixtures.

[PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

**2. Reasonably safe to persons and property.** "Reasonably safe to persons and property," as applied to electrical installations and electrical equipment, means reasonably safe to use in the service for which the installation or equipment is intended without unnecessary hazard to life, limb or property.

[PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 1987, c. 737, §§A2,C106 (NEW). PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 104, §§C8,10 (AMD).

#### §4152. Applicability of provisions

This subchapter applies to all installations of electrical equipment, made after August 6, 1949, within or on public and private buildings and premises, including mobile homes, with the following general exceptions which apply to all of this subchapter: [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

**1. Under jurisdiction of certain commissions.** Any person under the jurisdiction of the Public Utilities Commission of the State or of the Federal Communications Commission;

[PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

**2. Public utilities.** The electrical work and equipment employed in connection with the construction, installation, operation, repair or maintenance of any utility facility by a public utility, as defined in Title 35-A, section 102, or by a sewer district or sanitary district in providing its authorized service, or in any way incidental to providing that service;

[PL 1999, c. 657, §12 (AMD).]

**3. Industrial or manufacturing plants.** Any electrical equipment and work, including construction, installation, operation, maintenance and repair in or about industrial or manufacturing plants;

[PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

**4. Other property of industrial or manufacturing plants.** Any electrical equipment and work, including construction, installation, operation, maintenance and repair in, on or about other properties, equipment or buildings, residential or of any other kind, owned or controlled by the operators of industrial or manufacturing plants, if the work is done under the supervision of an electrical engineer employed by the operator;

[PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

**5. Mines, transportation and sound equipment.** The electrical work and equipment in mines, pipe line systems, ships, railway rolling stock or automotive equipment, or the operation of portable sound equipment;

[PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

**6. Electrical equipment in manufacturer's plant.** Any electrical installations or equipment involved in the manufacture, test or repair of electrical equipment in the manufacturer's plant; and

[PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

**7. Certain laboratories.** Installations in suitable laboratories of exposed electrical wiring for experimental purposes only.

[PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 1987, c. 737, §§A2,C106 (NEW). PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 104, §§C8,10 (AMD). PL 1999, c. 657, §12 (AMD).

#### §4153. Effect on bylaws or ordinances

Any bylaw or ordinance in effect in any municipality on August 6, 1949 is not affected in any way by this subchapter. [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 1987, c. 737, §§A2,C106 (NEW). PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 104, §§C8,10 (AMD).

#### §4154. Penalties

Any person who violates this subchapter commits a civil violation for which a forfeiture of not less than \$25 nor more than \$1,000 for each offense may be adjudged. [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 1987, c. 737, §§A2,C106 (NEW). PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 104, §§C8,10 (AMD).

## ARTICLE 2

### STANDARDS

#### §4161. Standards; installation

All installations of electrical equipment must be reasonably safe to persons and property and must comply with the applicable laws of the State and all applicable ordinances, orders and regulations of any municipality, not in conflict with this subchapter. [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

Conformity of installations of electrical equipment with applicable regulations set forth in the National Electrical Code, National Electrical Safety Code or electrical provisions of other safety codes which have been approved by the American Standards Association is prima facie evidence that the installations are reasonably safe to persons and property. [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

**1. Tests of special wiring.** The Commissioner of Public Safety may authorize installations of special wiring to obtain field experience under controlled conditions in territory where electrical inspection is provided.

[PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 1987, c. 737, §§A2,C106 (NEW). PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 104, §§C8,10 (AMD).

#### §4162. Standards; equipment

All electrical equipment installed or used must be reasonably safe to persons and property and must comply with the applicable laws of the State. [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

Conformity of electrical equipment with applicable standards of Underwriters' Laboratories, Inc. is prima facie evidence that the equipment is reasonably safe to persons and property. [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

**1. Tests of special wiring.** The Commissioner of Public Safety may authorize installations of special wiring to obtain field experience under controlled conditions in territory where electrical inspection is provided.

[PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 1987, c. 737, §§A2,C106 (NEW). PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 104, §§C8,10 (AMD).

#### §4163. Standards of equipment in mobile homes

No person engaged in the business of selling mobile homes may sell any mobile home which contains electrical equipment that does not conform to the standards of the National Electrical Code and of the Underwriters' Laboratories, Inc. [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 1987, c. 737, §§A2,C106 (NEW). PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 104, §§C8,10 (AMD).

### ARTICLE 3

#### INSPECTIONS AND PERMITS

**§4171. Local inspectors**

A municipality may provide by resolution or ordinance under its home rule authority for the inspection of electrical installations within the municipality and may appoint an electrical inspector who shall enforce this subchapter and any applicable resolution or ordinance within the inspector's jurisdiction. Any municipality may join with one or more other municipalities in paying for the services of an electrical inspector, provided the municipalities have authorized the appointment of the inspector. Any ordinance or resolution must state whether the electrical inspection in the municipality applies to all or any of the following: [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

**1. Original installations.** Original installations of electrical equipment; [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

**2. Alterations or additions.** Alteration or addition to existing electrical equipment; and [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

**3. Area of municipality.** All the territory of the municipality, or only the section or sections of the municipality that are described in the ordinance or resolution. [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

**SECTION HISTORY**

PL 1987, c. 737, §§A2,C106 (NEW). PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 104, §§C8,10 (AMD).

**§4172. Inspections**

The electrical inspectors shall examine and issue certificates of acceptance of electrical installations at the request or complaint of any owner, lessee, tenant or municipal officer. An electrical inspector may enter any building with the permission of any person having control of that building or may apply to a court for process to do so. If an electrical inspector finds any hazardous electrical installation, the inspector shall order the person having charge of that installation to have it corrected immediately. If that person refuses or neglects to do so, the inspector may apply to an appropriate court for injunctive relief. [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

**SECTION HISTORY**

PL 1987, c. 737, §§A2,C106 (NEW). PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 104, §§C8,10 (AMD).

**§4173. Permits**

A municipality which has provided for electrical inspections under this subchapter may require that no electrical equipment may be installed within or on any publicly or privately owned building, structure or premises, nor may any alteration or addition be made in any such existing equipment without first obtaining a permit for that installation or alteration from the electrical inspector. [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

**1. Minor repair work excluded.** This section does not apply to minor repair work, including, but not limited to:

A. The replacement of fuses; [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

B. The installation of additional outlets; [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

C. The replacement of existing switches, sockets and lamps; [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

D. Repairs to entrance service equipment; and [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

E. Repairs or installation of radio and low voltage equipment. [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

[PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

**2. Application for permit.** The person performing the work must apply to the electrical inspector in writing for a permit. A general description of the electrical work to be done must be included with the application. If required by the electrical inspector, the applicant must file any plans, specifications and schedules that are necessary to determine whether the installation, as described, will comply with this subchapter.

[PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

**3. Issuance of permit.** The electrical inspector shall issue the permit if the applicant has:

A. Complied with this subchapter; and [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

B. Paid any fee established by a municipality for electrical inspections under this subchapter. [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

[PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

**4. Deviation from installation described in permit.** No major deviation may be made from the installation described in the permit without the written approval of the electrical inspector.

[PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

**5. Where permit is not required.** The installation or alteration of electrical equipment in municipalities that do not require a permit and in the unorganized territories is governed by Title 32, section 1102-C.

[PL 2017, c. 198, §1 (AMD).]

## SECTION HISTORY

PL 1987, c. 737, §§A2,C106 (NEW). PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 104, §§C8,10 (AMD). PL 2017, c. 198, §1 (AMD).

### §4174. Inspection and certificates of approval

When the installation of any electrical equipment under a permit is completed, the person making the installation shall notify the electrical inspector having jurisdiction. The electrical inspector shall inspect the work within a reasonable time. [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

**1. Approval of installation.** If, upon inspection, the inspector finds that the installation complies with this subchapter, and all applicable local ordinances and regulations, the inspector shall issue a certificate of approval to the person making the installation.

[PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

**2. Notice of defects.** If, upon inspection, the inspector finds that the installation does not comply with this subchapter, and all applicable local ordinances and regulations, the inspector shall immediately send a written notice to the person making the installation stating the defects which were found to exist.

[PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 1987, c. 737, §§A2,C106 (NEW). PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 104, §§C8,10 (AMD).

### SUBCHAPTER 3

#### REGULATION AND INSPECTION OF PLUMBING

#### ARTICLE 1

#### GENERAL PROVISIONS

##### §4201. Definitions

As used in this subchapter, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings. [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

**1. Commissioner.** "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Health and Human Services. [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD); PL 2003, c. 689, Pt. B, §6 (REV).]

**2. Department.** "Department" means the Department of Health and Human Services. [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD); PL 2003, c. 689, Pt. B, §6 (REV).]

**3. Plumbing.** "Plumbing" means the installation, alteration or replacement of pipes, fixtures and other apparatus for bringing in potable water, removing wastewater and the piping connections to heating systems using water. Except for the initial connection to a potable water supply and the final connection that discharges indirectly into a public sewer or wastewater disposal system, the following are excluded from this definition:

A. All piping, equipment or material used exclusively for manufacturing or industrial processes; [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

B. The installation or alteration of automatic sprinkler systems used for fire protection and standpipes connected to automatic sprinkler systems or overhead; [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

C. Building drains outside the foundation wall or structure; [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

D. The replacement of fixtures with similar fixtures at the same location without any alteration of pipes; or [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

E. The sealing of leaks within an existing line. [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

[RR 2017, c. 1, §21 (COR).]

**4. Seasonal dwelling.** "Seasonal dwelling" means a dwelling which existed on December 31, 1981, and which was not used as a principal or year-round residence during the period from 1977 to 1981. Evidence of use as a principal or year-round residence includes, but is not limited to:

A. The listing of that dwelling as an occupant's legal residence for the purpose of:

(1) Voting;

(2) Filing a state tax return; or

(3) Automobile registration; or [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

B. The occupancy of that dwelling for a period exceeding 7 months in any calendar year. [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

[PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

**5. Subsurface wastewater disposal system.** "Subsurface wastewater disposal system" means:

A. Any system for the disposal of waste or wastewater on or beneath the surface of the earth including, but not limited to:

(1) Septic tanks;

(2) Drainage fields;

(3) Grandfathered cesspools;

(4) Holding tanks; or

(5) Any other fixture, mechanism or apparatus used for those purposes; but [RR 2017, c. 1, §21 (COR).]

B. Does not include:

(1) Any discharge system licensed under Title 38, section 414;

(2) Any surface wastewater disposal system; or

(3) Any municipal or quasi-municipal sewer or wastewater treatment system. [RR 2017, c. 1, §21 (COR).]  
[RR 2017, c. 1, §21 (COR).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 1987, c. 737, §§A2,C106 (NEW). PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 104, §§C8,10 (AMD). PL 2003, c. 689, §§B6,7 (REV). RR 2017, c. 1, §21 (COR).

## ARTICLE 2

### REGULATIONS AND PERMITS

#### §4211. Plumbing regulations

**1. Municipal ordinances.** Municipalities may enact ordinances under their home rule authority that are more restrictive than rules governing plumbing or subsurface wastewater disposal systems adopted by the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation and the Department of Health and Human Services, respectively. Either department may provide technical assistance to municipalities in the development of ordinances under this subchapter, pertaining to their respective rules. The municipality shall enforce any such ordinance.

[PL 1999, c. 228, §1 (AMD); PL 2003, c. 689, Pt. B, §6 (REV).]

**2. State rules.** A municipal ordinance may not be less restrictive than the rules of the department relating to subsurface wastewater disposal systems as adopted under Title 22, section 42. The rules of the department relating to all subsurface wastewater disposal systems have full force and effect, provided that, to the extent that a municipality has enacted more restrictive ordinances, the provisions of those ordinances prevail.

[PL 1999, c. 228, §2 (AMD).]

**3. Subsurface waste water disposal system.** No person may erect a structure that requires a subsurface waste water disposal system until documentation has been provided to the municipal officers that the disposal system can be constructed in compliance with rules adopted under Title 22, section 42, and this section.

A. For the purposes of this section, "expansion" means the enlargement or change in use of a structure using an existing subsurface waste water disposal system that brings the total structure into a classification that requires larger subsurface waste water disposal system components under rules adopted pursuant to Title 22, section 42, and this section. [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

B. No person may expand a structure using a subsurface waste water disposal system until documentation is provided to the municipal officers and a notice of the documentation is recorded in the appropriate registry of deeds that, in the event of a future malfunction of the system, the disposal system can be replaced and enlarged to comply with the rules adopted under Title 22, section 42, and any municipal ordinances governing subsurface waste water disposal systems. No requirement of these rules and ordinances may be waived for an expanded structure.

(1) The department shall prescribe the form of the notice to be recorded in the registry of deeds. The notice must include a site plan showing:

- (a) The exact location of the replacement system;
- (b) The approximate location of lot lines; and

(c) The exact location of existing wells serving the lot on which the replacement system will be located and those located on abutting lots.

(2) The person seeking to expand a structure shall send copies of the notice by certified mail, return receipt requested, to all owners of abutting lots and to a public drinking water supplier if the lot with the structure that is being expanded is within its source water protection area.

(3) After the notice required by this paragraph is recorded, no abutting landowner may install a well on that landowner's property in a location which would prevent the installation of the replacement septic system. The owner of the lot on which the replacement system will be installed may not erect any structure on the proposed site of the replacement system or conduct any other activity which would prevent the use of the designated site for the replacement system. [PL 1999, c. 761, §6 (AMD).]

[PL 1999, c. 761, §6 (AMD).]

**3-A. Temporary portable toilets.** Except for persons required to be licensed under Title 22, chapter 562, a person may place and use a temporary portable toilet on property as long as the temporary portable toilet is maintained and serviced in a reasonable manner to protect the public's health and safety and the environment. For purposes of this subsection, "temporary portable toilet" means a prefabricated toilet designed for temporary use.

[PL 2023, c. 614, §2 (NEW).]

**4. Enforcement and penalty.** Any person who violates this section must be penalized in accordance with section 4452. The municipality or the department may seek to enjoin violations of this section.

[PL 2007, c. 695, Pt. A, §35 (AMD).]

**5. Permit fees.** The following permit fees may be charged.

A. A plumbing permit fee not to exceed \$10 per internal fixture may be charged. [PL 2009, c. 589, §9 (AMD).]

B. [PL 1999, c. 228, §3 (RP).]

C. A minimum fee, not to exceed \$40, may be charged for all internal plumbing permits combined. [PL 2009, c. 589, §9 (AMD).]

D. A nonengineered subsurface wastewater disposal system fee not to exceed \$250 may be charged, and a surcharge of \$15 must be charged. The surcharge must be paid by the municipality to the Treasurer of State, who shall credit the amount to the Water Quality Improvement Fund established under Title 38, section 424-B. [PL 2009, c. 589, §9 (AMD).]

[PL 2009, c. 589, §9 (AMD).]

## SECTION HISTORY

PL 1987, c. 737, §§A2,C106 (NEW). PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 104, §§C8,10 (AMD). PL 1993, c. 404, §§C1,2 (AMD). PL 1993, c. 611, §1 (AMD). PL 1997, c. 106, §1 (AMD). PL 1999, c. 228, §§1-3 (AMD). PL 1999, c. 761, §6 (AMD). PL 2003, c. 689, §B6 (REV). PL 2007, c. 695, Pt. A, §35 (AMD). PL 2009, c. 213, Pt. FFFF, §1 (AMD). PL 2009, c. 589, §9 (AMD). PL 2023, c. 614, §2 (AMD).

## §4212. Department of Health and Human Services; responsibilities

**1. Administration of rules.** The department is responsible for ensuring the proper administration of the subsurface wastewater disposal rules and permitting processes by municipalities. The department shall assist municipalities in complying with this subchapter and with section 3428.

[PL 1999, c. 228, §4 (AMD).]

**2. Review.** The department shall review the administration of subsurface wastewater disposal rules and laws in each municipality for compliance with this subchapter and with section 3428. This review must be made on a regular basis and may be made in response to a written complaint from any person as necessary. The department shall inspect the municipality's records and discuss the administration of the program with the local plumbing inspector. The local plumbing inspector shall be available during the department's review and shall cooperate in providing all necessary information. The department shall report the results of its review in writing to the municipality and, when applicable, to the complainant. The written notice must set forth the department's findings of whether the municipality is in compliance with this subchapter and section 3428.

[PL 1999, c. 228, §4 (AMD).]

**3. Violation; penalty.** If after review the department finds any violation of this subchapter or section 3428, it shall notify the municipality that it has 30 days in which to take enforcement action and shall specify what action must be taken in order to achieve compliance. The municipality shall file a plan acceptable to the department setting forth how it will attain compliance. The department shall notify the municipality that it will review the municipality for compliance within 60 days of accepting the plan and shall conduct that review. Any municipality which fails to file an acceptable plan with the department or which remains in violation at the expiration of the 60-day period is subject to a civil penalty of at least \$500. The department shall enforce this section in any court of competent jurisdiction. Every 30-day period that a municipality remains in violation after review and notification constitutes a separate offense.

[PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 1987, c. 737, §§A2,C106 (NEW). PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 104, §§C8,10 (AMD). PL 1999, c. 228, §4 (AMD). PL 2003, c. 689, §B6 (REV).

#### §4213. Right of entry on inspection

The department and any duly designated representative or employee of the department, including the local plumbing inspector, may enter any property at reasonable hours, enter any building with the consent of the property owner, occupant or agent, inspect the property or structure for compliance with the applicable rules or investigate alleged conditions which do not comply with the rules. Upon the request of the occupant of the premises, the department's representative or the local plumbing inspector shall present proper credentials before entering the premises. [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

If entry is denied, entry shall not be attempted until after obtaining an order of the court. [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 1987, c. 737, §§A2,C106 (NEW). PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 104, §§C8,10 (AMD).

#### §4214. Legislative intent

It is the intent of the Legislature that local jurisdictions have primary responsibility for enforcing rules adopted by the department governing the installation and inspection of subsurface wastewater disposal systems. The adoption of rules by the department does not deny municipal authority under section 3001 to adopt more restrictive ordinances. [PL 1999, c. 228, §5 (AMD).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 1987, c. 737, §§A2,C106 (NEW). PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 104, §§C8,10 (AMD). PL 1999, c. 228, §5 (AMD).

#### §4215. Permits

**1. Permit required.** A permit is required for the following activities and is valid for work commenced within 24 months after the permit is issued:

A. The installation of plumbing into a building; [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

B. The installation of a subsurface waste water disposal system or components; or [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

C. The conversion of a seasonal dwelling as provided in subsection 2. This paragraph may not be construed to require a permit for any dwelling which:

(1) Will be occupied seasonally;

(2) Is not the principal dwelling place of the occupant; or

(3) Has the disposal system located outside the shoreland zoned area. [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

[PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

**2. Permit for seasonal conversion.** Before converting a seasonal dwelling which is located in the shoreland zoning area, as defined in Title 38, section 435, to a year-round or principal dwelling, a conversion permit must be obtained from the local plumbing inspector. A seasonal conversion permit shall not be approved if a holding tank is used as a means of waste water disposal or storage. The inspector shall issue a permit for conversion of a seasonal dwelling to a year-round or principal dwelling if one of the following conditions is met:

A. A subsurface waste water disposal application, completed after July 1, 1974, exists indicating that the dwelling's waste water disposal system substantially complies with departmental rules and applicable municipal ordinances, provided that the disposal system was installed with the required permit and certificate of approval; [PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. A, §42 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

B. A replacement for an existing wastewater disposal system has been constructed so that it substantially complies with departmental rules and applicable municipal ordinances; or [PL 1991, c. 838, §6 (AMD).]

C. The dwelling unit's wastewater is connected to an approved sanitary sewer system. [PL 1991, c. 838, §6 (AMD).]

D. [PL 1991, c. 838, §7 (RP).]

[PL 1991, c. 838, §§6, 7 (AMD).]

**3. Penalties.** Any person who installs or orders the installation of any plumbing or subsurface wastewater disposal system without the permit required by this section or who otherwise violates this section must be penalized in accordance with section 4452. The municipality or the department may seek to enjoin violations of this section.

[PL 1991, c. 824, Pt. B, §9 (AMD).]

**4. Fees.** The plumbing inspector shall issue any permit under this section upon receipt and approval of a completed application form as prescribed by the commissioner and payment by the

applicant of the fee established by the municipality. The fee must be at least the minimum amount determined by rule of the department. One-quarter of the amount of the minimum fee must be paid through the department to the Treasurer of State to be maintained as a permanent fund and used by the department to implement its subsurface wastewater disposal rules, to administer the receipt and collation of completed permits and to issue plumbing permit labels to the municipality and by the Department of Economic and Community Development, Office of Community Development for training and certification of local plumbing inspectors. The department and the Department of Economic and Community Development, Office of Community Development shall together determine an amount to be transferred annually by the Treasurer of State for training and certification of local plumbing inspectors to the Maine Code Enforcement Training and Certification Fund established in section 4451, subsection 3-B. The remainder of the fee must be paid to the treasurer of the municipality. [PL 2011, c. 655, Pt. FF, §5 (AMD); PL 2011, c. 655, Pt. FF, §16 (AFF).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 1987, c. 737, §§A2,C106 (NEW). PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 104, §§A42,C8,C10 (AMD). PL 1991, c. 824, §B9 (AMD). PL 1991, c. 838, §§6,7 (AMD). PL 1999, c. 228, §6 (AMD). PL 2009, c. 213, Pt. M, §4 (AMD). PL 2011, c. 655, Pt. FF, §5 (AMD). PL 2011, c. 655, Pt. FF, §16 (AFF).

#### §4216. Transfers of shoreland property

**1. Shoreland areas.** Any person transferring property on which a subsurface waste water disposal system is located within a shoreland area, as described in Title 38, section 435, shall provide the transferee with a written statement by the transferor as to whether the system has malfunctioned during the 180 days preceding the date of transfer. [PL 2007, c. 568, §2 (NEW).]

**2. Additional requirements; shoreland areas.** In addition to the requirements of subsection 1, the following provisions apply to the transfer of property within a shoreland area as described in Title 38, section 435.

A. A person purchasing property on which a subsurface waste water disposal system is located within a shoreland area, as described in Title 38, section 435, shall prior to purchase have the system inspected by a person certified by the department except that if it is impossible due to weather conditions to perform an inspection of the system prior to the purchase, the inspection must be performed within 9 months after transfer of the property. If the inspection finds that the system is malfunctioning, the system must be repaired or replaced within one year after transfer of the property. For purposes of this paragraph only, indications of a malfunctioning system are limited to the indications specified in the definition of "malfunctioning system" in the department's rules regulating subsurface waste water disposal that are in effect on the effective date of this paragraph. [PL 2019, c. 43, §1 (AMD); PL 2019, c. 43, §2 (AFF).]

B. A subsurface waste water disposal system that has been installed pursuant to section 4211 and rules adopted under Title 22, section 42 within 3 years prior to the closing date of the transfer of property is not subject to the inspection requirements of paragraph A. [PL 2007, c. 568, §2 (NEW).]

C. If the seller of the shoreland property has a written inspection report for an inspection of the subsurface waste water disposal system that was performed within 3 years prior to the date of the transfer of property by a person certified by the department, then the seller shall provide the inspection results to the purchaser, and the purchaser is not required to have the system inspected pursuant to paragraph A. [PL 2007, c. 568, §2 (NEW).]

D. The inspection described in paragraph A is not required if the purchaser certifies to the local plumbing inspector that the purchaser will replace the subsurface waste water disposal system within one year of the transfer of property. [PL 2007, c. 568, §2 (NEW).]  
[PL 2019, c. 43, §1 (AMD); PL 2019, c. 43, §2 (AFF).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 1987, c. 737, §§A2,C106 (NEW). PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 104, §§A43,C10 (RPR). PL 1989, c. 104, §§C8,10 (AMD). PL 2007, c. 568, §2 (RPR). PL 2019, c. 43, §1 (AMD). PL 2019, c. 43, §2 (AFF).

### ARTICLE 3

#### LOCAL PLUMBING INSPECTORS

##### §4221. Plumbing inspectors

**1. Appointment; compensation; removal.** In every municipality, the municipal officers shall appoint one or more inspectors of plumbing, who need not be residents of the municipality for which they are appointed. Plumbing inspectors are appointed for a term of one year or more and must be sworn and the appointment recorded as provided in section 2526, subsection 9. An individual properly appointed as plumbing inspector and satisfactorily performing the duties may continue in that capacity after the term has expired until replaced. The municipal officers shall notify the department and the Department of Public Safety, Office of the State Fire Marshal of the appointment of a plumbing inspector in writing within 30 days of the appointment.

Compensation of plumbing inspectors is determined by the municipal officers and paid by the respective municipalities.

The municipal officers may remove a plumbing inspector for cause, after notice and hearing.  
[PL 2019, c. 517, §4 (AMD).]

**2. Certification requirements.** A person may not hold the office of plumbing inspector unless currently certified as qualified pursuant to section 4451. Certification is effective for a period of 5 years unless sooner revoked or suspended by the District Court as provided for in section 4451.

A. [PL 1997, c. 296, §4 (RP); PL 1997, c. 683, Pt. B, §15 (RP).]  
[PL 2011, c. 655, Pt. FF, §7 (AMD); PL 2011, c. 655, Pt. FF, §16 (AFF).]

**3. Duties.** Plumbing inspectors shall:

A. Inspect all plumbing for which permits are granted, within their respective municipalities, to ensure compliance with state rules and municipal ordinances and investigate all construction or work covered by those rules and ordinances; [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

B. Condemn and reject all work done or being done or material used or being used which does not comply with state rules and municipal ordinances, and order changes necessary to obtain compliance; [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

C. Issue a certificate of approval for any work that the inspector has approved; [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

D. Keep an accurate account of all fees collected and transfer those fees to the municipal treasurer; [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

E. Keep a complete record of all essential transactions of the office; [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

F. Perform other duties as provided by municipal ordinance; [PL 2007, c. 568, §3 (AMD).]

G. Investigate complaints of alleged violations relating to plumbing or subsurface waste water disposal and take appropriate action as specified by the department by rule in the department's enforcement manual for subsurface waste water disposal and plumbing rules; and [PL 2007, c. 568, §4 (AMD).]

H. Accompany staff of the Department of Environmental Protection or the department in the conduct of a sanitary survey intended to identify potentially failing subsurface waste water disposal systems affecting shellfish harvesting areas when requested by either agency. [PL 2007, c. 568, §5 (NEW).]

[PL 2007, c. 568, §§3-5 (AMD).]

**4. Inspections and permits not required.** Plumbing inspections and permits are not required for:

A. Minor plumbing work or minor installations that are performed in compliance with state laws and rules if that plumbing work or those installations are done inside the structure of a private residence by the owner of that residence; [PL 2003, c. 304, §1 (AMD).]

B. Installation of domestic heating appliances by master oil and solid fuel burning technicians licensed pursuant to Title 32, chapter 139; and [PL 2009, c. 344, Pt. D, §6 (AMD); PL 2009, c. 344, Pt. E, §2 (AFF).]

C. Installation of stand-alone water meters, water meters in combination with nontestable backflow prevention devices and related valves by water utility personnel or water utility contractors. The water utility shall include in any notice it provides to a customer regarding entry to install such a meter or related valves a statement that installation of a backflow preventor may necessitate installation by the customer of additional devices, such as an expansion tank, due to thermal expansion. [PL 2003, c. 304, §1 (NEW).]

[PL 2009, c. 344, Pt. D, §6 (AMD); PL 2009, c. 344, Pt. E, §2 (AFF).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 1987, c. 737, §§A2,C106 (NEW). PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 104, §§A44,C8,C10 (AMD). PL 1991, c. 688, §2 (AMD). PL 1993, c. 404, §B1 (AMD). PL 1997, c. 296, §§3,4 (AMD). PL 1997, c. 456, §20 (AMD). PL 1997, c. 683, §B15 (AMD). PL 1999, c. 547, §B78 (AMD). PL 1999, c. 547, §B80 (AFF). PL 2003, c. 304, §1 (AMD). PL 2007, c. 568, §§3-5 (AMD). PL 2009, c. 344, Pt. D, §6 (AMD). PL 2009, c. 344, Pt. E, §2 (AFF). PL 2011, c. 655, Pt. FF, §§6, 7 (AMD). PL 2011, c. 655, Pt. FF, §16 (AFF). PL 2019, c. 517, §4 (AMD).

#### §4222. Approving own work forbidden

A primary or alternate local plumbing inspector may not issue a permit or perform any construction inspection for an internal plumbing job or subsurface wastewater disposal system for which the local plumbing inspector or any employee, employer, agent or representative of the local plumbing inspector has performed or intends to perform a site evaluation or labor or has provided or intends to provide any products or services. [PL 2007, c. 358, §1 (RPR).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 1987, c. 737, §§A2,C106 (NEW). PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 104, §§C8,10 (AMD). PL 2007, c. 358, §1 (RPR).

**§4223. Annual reports**

Inspectors of plumbing shall annually, before February 1st, make a full report in detail to their respective municipalities and to the department of all their proceedings during the previous calendar year under this subchapter. [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

**SECTION HISTORY**

PL 1987, c. 737, §§A2,C106 (NEW). PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 104, §§C8,10 (AMD).

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