

1-76

SEWER USE ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE REGULATING THE USE OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SEWERS AND DRAINS, PRIVATE SEWAGE 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 CITY OF Brookland COUNTY OF Craighead STATE OF Arkansas

Be it ordained and enacted by the Council of the City of Brookland County of Craighead, State of Arkansas, as follows:

ARTICLE I  
Definitions

Unless the context specifically indicates otherwise, the meaning of terms used in this ordinance shall be as follows:

- SEC. 1 "BOD" (denoting Biochemical Oxygen Demand) 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.
- SEC. 2 "Building Drain" shall mean that part of the lowest horizontal piping of a drainage system which receive the discharge from soil, waste, and other drainage pipes inside the walls of the building and conveys it to the building sewer, beginning five (5) feet (1.5 meters) outside the inner face of the building wall.
- SEC. 3 "Building Sewer" shall mean the extension from the building drain to the public sewer or other place of disposal.
- SEC. 4 "Combined Sewer" shall mean a sewer receiving both surface run-off and sewage.
- SEC. 5 "Garbage" shall mean solid wastes from the domestic and commercial preparation, cooking, and dispensing of food, and from the handling, storage and sale of produce.
- SEC. 6 "Industrial Wastes" shall mean the liquid wastes from industrial manufacturing processes, trade, or business as distinct from sanitary sewage.
- SEC. 7 "Natural Outlet" shall mean any outlet into a water course, pond, ditch, lake, or other body of surface or groundwater.
- SEC. 8 "Person" shall mean any individual, firm, company, association, society, corporation or group.



- SEC. 9 "pH" shall mean the logarithm of the reciprocal of the weight of hydrogen ions in grams per liter of solution.
- SEC. 10 "Properly Shredded Garbage" shall mean 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 particles greater than one-half (1/2) inch (1.27 centimeters) any dimension.
- SEC. 11 "Public Sewer" shall mean a sewer in which all owners of abutting properties have equal rights, and is controlled by public authority.
- SEC. 12 "Sanitary Sewer" shall mean a sewer which carries sewage and to which storm, surface, and ground waters are not intentionally admitted.
- SEC. 13 "Sewage" shall mean 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.
- SEC. 14 "Sewage Treatment Plant" shall mean any arrangement of devices and structures used for treating sewage.
- SEC. 15 "Sewage Works" shall mean all facilities for collecting, pumping, treating and disposing of sewage.
- SEC. 16 "Sewer" shall mean a pipe or conduit for carrying sewage.
- SEC. 17 "Shall" is mandatory; "May" is permissive.
- SEC. 18 "Slug" shall mean 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 fifteen (15) minutes more than five (5) times the average twenty-four (24) hour concentration or flows during normal operation.
- SEC. 19 "Storm Drain" (sometimes termed "storm sewer") shall mean a sewer which carries storm and surface waters and drainage, but excludes sewage and industrial wastes, other than unpolluted cooling water.
- SEC. 20 "Superintendent" shall mean the Superintendent of Sewage Works of the City of Brookland or his authorized deputy, agent, or representative.



SEC. 21 "Suspended Solids" shall mean solids that float on the surface of, or are in suspension in water, sewage, or other liquids, and which are removable by laboratory filtering.

SEC. 22 "Watercourse" shall mean a channel in which a flow of water occurs, either continuously or intermittently.

## ARTICLE II

### Use of Public Sewers Required

SEC. 1 It shall be unlawful for any person to place, deposit, or permit to be deposited in any unsanitary manner on public or private property within the City of Brookland or in any area under the jurisdiction of said City, any human or animal excrement, garbage, or other objectionable waste.

SEC. 2 It shall be unlawful to discharge to any natural outlet within the City of Brookland or in any area under the jurisdiction of said City, any sewage or other polluted waters, except where suitable treatment has been provided in accordance with subsequent provisions of this ordinance.

SEC. 3 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 sewage.

SEC. 4 The owner of all houses, building, or properties used for human occupancy, employment, recreation, or other purposes, situated within the city and abutting on any street, alley, or right-of-way in which there is now located or may in the future be located a public sanitary sewer of the city, is hereby required at his expense to install suitable toilet facilities therein, and to connect such facilities directly with the proper public sewer in accordance with the provisions of this ordinance, within 45 days after date of official notice to do so, provided that said public sewer is within 300 of the property line.

## ARTICLE III

### Private Sewage Disposal

SEC. 1 Where a public sanitary sewer is not available under the provisions of Article II, Section 4, the building sewer shall be connected to a private sewage disposal system complying with the provisions of this article.

SEC. 2 Before commencement of construction of a private sewage disposal system, the owner shall first obtain a written permit signed by the Superintendent. The application for such permit shall be made on a form furnished by the city, which the applicant shall



supplement by any plans, specifications, and other information as are deemed necessary by the Superintendent. A permit and inspection fee of Five (\$5.00) dollars shall be paid to the city at the time the application is filed.

- SEC. 3 A permit for a private sewage disposal system shall not become effective until the installation is completed to the satisfaction of the Superintendent. He shall be allowed to inspect the work at any stage of construction and, in any event, the applicant for the permit shall notify the Superintendent when the work is ready for final inspection, and before any underground portions are covered. The inspection shall be made within 24 hours of the receipt of notice by the Superintendent.
- SEC. 4 The type, capacities, location and layout of a private sewage disposal system shall comply with all recommendations of the Department of Public Health of the State of Arkansas. No permit shall be issued for any private sewage disposal system employing subsurface soil absorption facilities where the area of the lot is less than 7,000 square feet. No septic tank or cesspool shall be permitted to discharge to any natural outlet.
- SEC. 5 At such time as a public sewer becomes available to a property served by a private sewage disposal system, as provided in Article III, Section 4, a direct connection shall be made to the public sewer in compliance with this ordinance, and any septic tanks, cesspools, and similar private sewage disposal facilities shall be abandoned and filled with suitable material.
- SEC. 6 The owner shall operate and maintain the private sewage disposal facilities in a sanitary manner at all times, at no expense to the city.
- SEC. 7 No statement contained in this article shall be construed to interfere with any additional requirements that may be imposed by the Health Officer.
- SEC. 8 When a public sewer becomes available, the building sewer shall be connected to said sewer within sixty (60) days and the private sewage disposal system shall be cleaned of sludge and filled with clean bank-run gravel or dirt.

#### ARTICLE IV Building Sewers and Connection

- SEC. 1 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 Superintendent.



- SEC. 2** There shall be two (2) classes of building sewer permits: (a) for residential and commercial service, and (b) for service to establishments producing industrial wastes. In either case, the owner or his agent shall make application on a special form furnished by the city. The permit application shall be supplemented by any plans, specifications, or other information considered pertinent in the judgement of the Superintendent. A permit and inspection fee of Five (\$5.00) dollars for a residential or commercial building sewer permit and Ten (\$10.00) dollars for an industrial building sewer permit shall be paid to the city at the time the application is filed.
- SEC. 3** All costs and expense incident to the installation and connection of the building sewer shall be borne by the owner. The owner shall indemnify the city for any loss or damage that may directly or indirectly be occasioned by the installation of the building sewer.
- SEC. 4** A separate and independent building sewer shall be provided for every building, 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, court, yard, driveway, the building sewer from the front building may be extended to the rear building and the whole considered as one building sewer.
- SEC. 5** Old building sewers may be used in connection with new buildings only when they are found, on examination and test by the Superintendent, to meet all requirements of this ordinance.
- SEC. 6** The size, slope, alignment, materials or 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 code or other applicable rules and regulations of the city. In the absence of code provisions or in amplification thereof, the materials and procedures set forth in appropriate specifications of the A. S. T. M. and W. P. C. F. Manual of Practice No. 9 shall apply.
- SEC. 7** 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.



- SEC. 8** No person shall make connection of roof downspout, exterior foundation drains, arseway 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.
- SEC. 9** The connection of the building sewer into the public sewer shall conform to the requirements of the building and plumbing code or other applicable rules and regulations of the city, or the procedures set forth in appropriate specifications of the A. S. T. M. and the W. P. C. F. Manual of Practice No. 9. All such connections shall be made gastight and watertight. Any deviation from the prescribed procedures and materials must be approved by the Superintendent before installation.
- SEC. 10** The applicant for the 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.
- SEC. 11** All excavations for building sewer installation shall be adequately guarded with barricades and lights so as to protect the public from hazard. Streets, sidewalks, parkways, and other public property disturbed in the course of the work shall be restored in a manner satisfactory to the city.

#### ARTICLE V Use of the Public Sewers

- SEC. 1** No person shall discharge or cause to be discharged any stormwater, surface water, groundwater, roof runoff, subsurface drainage, including interior and exterior foundation drains, uncontaminated cooling water, or unpolluted industrial process waters to any sanitary sewer.
- SEC. 2** Stormwater and all other unpolluted drainage shall be discharged to such sewers as are specifically designated as storm sewers, or to a natural outlet approved by the Superintendent. Industrial cooling water or unpolluted process waters may be discharged, on approval of the Superintendent, to a storm sewer or natural outlet.
- SEC. 3** 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 waters 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, create a public nuisance, or create any hazard in the receiving waters of the sewage treatment plant, including, but not limited to cyanides in excess of 0.05 ppm (parts per million) 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.

**SEC. 4** 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, 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 one hundred fifty (150)° F (65)°C.
- (b) Any water or waste containing fats, wax, grease, or oils, whether emulsified or not, in excess of one hundred (100) mg/l or containing substances which may solidify or become viscous at temperatures between thirty-two (32) and one hundred fifty (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 three-fourths (3/4) horsepower (0.76 hp 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 waste 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 concentration 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 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 9.5.
- (i) Materials which exert or cause:
  - (1) Unusual concentrations of inert suspended solids (such as, but not limited to, Fullers 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 solution).
  - (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.

**SEC. 5** 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 Section 4 of this Article, and which in the judgement 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 pre-treatment to an acceptable condition for discharge to the public sewers.
- (c) Require control over the quantities and rates of discharge, and/or:
- (d) Require payment to cover the added cost of handling and treating the wastes not covered by existing taxes or sewer charges under the provisions of Section 10 of this Article.

If the Superintendent permits the pre-treatment 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.

**SEC. 6** 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.

**SEC. 7** 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.



SEC. 8 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 accessible 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.

SEC. 9 All measurements, tests, and analyses of the characteristics of waters and wastes to which reference is made in this ordinance 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.

SEC. 10 No statement contained in this article shall be construed as preventing any special agreement or arrangement between the city and any industrial concern whereby an industrial waste of unusual strength or character may be accepted by the city for treatment, subject to payment therefore, by the industrial concern.

#### ARTICLE VI Protection From Damage

SEC. 1 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.

#### ARTICLE VII Powers and Authority of Inspectors

SEC. 1 The Superintendent and other duly authorized employees of the city bearing proper credentials and identification shall be permitted to enter all properties for the purposes of inspection,



observation, measurement, sampling and testing in accordance with the provisions of this ordinance. The Superintendent or his representatives shall have no authority to inquire into any processes including metallurgical, chemical, oil, refining, ceramic, paper, or other industries beyond that point having a direct bearing on the kind and source of discharge to the sewers or waterways or facilities for waste treatment.

SEC. 2 While performing the necessary work on private properties referred to in Article VII, Section 1, above, the Superintendent or duly authorized employees of the city shall observe all safety rules applicable to the premises established by the company and the company shall be held harmless for injury or death to the city employees and the city shall indemnify the company against loss or damage to its property by city employees and against liability claims and demands for personal injury or property damage asserted against the company and growing out of the gauging and sampling operation, except as such may be caused by negligence or failure of the company to maintain safe conditions as required in Article V, Section 8.

SEC. 3 The Superintendent and other duly authorized employees of the city bearing proper credentials and identification shall be permitted to enter all private properties through which the city holds a duly negotiated easement for the purpose 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.

#### ARTICLE VIII Industrial Surcharges

In the event the City elects to accept an industrial waste which contains excessive BOD and suspended solids sufficient to constitute a significant load on the treatment works, a surcharge shall be added to the normal rates for sewer service as established by ordinance according to the following formula:

In the event the industrial load of any industrial user amounts to as much as 30% of the plant capacity, a substantial prepayment of the cities capital investment in plant facilities shall be required before application of the surcharge.

$$IUS = V (A (BOD - 250) + B (SS-200))$$

Where the following definitions apply

IUS - Industrial User Surcharge

V = Volume of Discharge in Million Gallons



A = BOD Surcharge Factor (dollars per million gallons per Mg/L)  
BOD = 5 Day 20 degree C Strength of Composite Samples of waste as determined by standard methods

B = Suspended solids surcharge factor (dollars per million gallons per Mg/L)

SS = Suspended Solids value of the composite samples as determined by standard methods in Mg/L

The value of each of these factors A & B shall be determined annually as the capitalized annual cost of removal of BOD & SS solids at the sewage plant after considering the cost of operation and maintenance, sinking fund, chemicals, power, depreciation, repairs, overhead, and all other costs attributable thereto. The method of calculation shall be in accordance with federal guidelines pertaining to this subject.

#### ARTICLE IX

##### Penalties

SEC. 1 Any person found to be violating any provision of this ordinance except Article VI, shall be served by the city 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.

SEC. 2 Any person who shall continue any violation beyond the time limit provided for in Article IX, Section 1, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction thereof shall be fined in the amount not exceeding one hundred dollars for each violation. Each day in which any such violation shall continue shall be deemed a separate offense.

SEC. 3 Any person violating any of the provisions of this ordinance shall become liable to the city for any expense, loss or damage occasioned the city by reason of such violation.

#### ARTICLE X

##### Validity

SEC. 1 All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

SEC. 2 The invalidity of any section, clause, sentence or provision of this ordinance shall not affect the validity of any other part of this ordinance which can be given effect without such invalid part or parts.



ARTICLE XI  
Ordinance in Force

SEC. 1 This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage, approval, recording, and publication as provided by law.

SEC. 2 Passed and adopted by the Council of the City of Brookland, State of Arkansas, on the 13th day of January, 19 76, by the following vote:

Ayes 6 : Namely Mayor, 4 Councilmen & Recorder  
Nays 0 : Namely

- Approved this 13th day of January, 19 76.

(Signed) Eugene T. Bennett, Mayor

Attest:

(Signed) Roberto Mobley, Clerk

