

## **CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF GAHANNA**

### **PART NINE - STREETS AND PUBLIC SERVICES CODE**

#### **TITLE ONE - Street and Sidewalk Areas**

- Chap. 903. Sidewalk Construction.
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**CHAPTER 903**  
**Sidewalk Construction**

- |               |   |               |                                     |
|---------------|---|---------------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>903.01</b> | <b>Plans and specifications.</b>                          | <b>903.05</b> | <b>Guarantee of builder, owner.</b> |
| <b>903.02</b> | <b>Copy of Exhibit A attached to<br/>building permit.</b> | <b>903.99</b> | <b>Penalty.</b>                     |
| <b>903.03</b> | <b>Width of sidewalks.</b>                                |               |                                     |
| <b>903.04</b> | <b>Permit fee.</b>  |               |                                     |

**CROSS REFERENCES**

- Construction or repair at owner's expense - see Ohio R.C. 729.01 et seq.
- Notice to construct or repair sidewalks - see Ohio R.C. 729.03

**903.01 PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS.**

All sidewalks constructed on public property in the Municipality shall henceforth be made and constructed in accordance with the Municipal Engineer's plans and specifications, File Number G-29, dated November 5, 1962, a copy of which is marked "Exhibit A" and is attached hereto and made a part hereof, as if fully written herein. Construction shall be made according to the requirements of the State Department of Highways Construction and Materials Specifications in force at the time of construction (as determined applicable by the Building Inspector), a copy of which is on file in the Municipal Building and/or the Municipal Engineer's Office.  
(Ord. 34-62. Passed 11-5-62.)

**903.02 EXHIBIT A ATTACHED TO BUILDING PERMIT.**

The Building Inspector shall henceforth attach a copy of such "Exhibit A" to each building permit issued in the Municipality. Final approval and acceptance shall be based upon such requirements and subject to the provision contained in Section 903.05.  
(Ord. 34-62. Passed 11-5-62.)

**903.03 WIDTH OF SIDEWALKS;**

Sidewalks are to be four feet in width in residential districts. In all other districts, sidewalk widths are to be governed by the Municipal Engineers.  
(Ord. 34-62. Passed 11-5-62.)

**903.04 PERMIT FEE.**

The Building Inspector shall charge a fee of five dollars (\$5.00) for such permit.  
(Ord. 17-69. Passed 5-19-69.)

**903.05 GUARANTEE OF BUILDER, OWNER.**

Sidewalks must be guaranteed by the builder or owner for a period of one year for construction and material. (Ord. 34-62. Passed 11-5-62. )

**903.99 PENALTY.**

Whoever constructs a sidewalk in the Municipality without having first obtained a permit therefor, shall be fined not more than fifty dollars (\$50.00) and costs.  
(Ord. 34-62. Passed 11-5-62.)

**CHAPTER 905**  
**Streets**

<b>905.01</b>	<b>Director of Public Service to set sign standards.</b>	<b>905.04</b>	<b>Creation of Roadway Improvement Districts.</b>
<b>905.02</b>	<b>Signs to be furnished before final subdivision street acceptance.</b>	<b>905.05</b>	<b>YMCA Place Roadway Improvement District.</b>
<b>905.03</b>	<b>Cul-de-sac fee and maintenance fund.</b>		

**CROSS REFERENCES**

Dedication and acceptance - see Ohio R.C. 723.03

Change of name, vacating and narrowing streets - see Ohio R.C. 723.04 et seq.

**905.01 DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO SET SIGN STANDARDS.**

The Director of Public Service shall choose suitable standards of design, design material and color for street name signs, posts and the method of installation. Such standards shall be on file with the Division of Building Regulation and the Municipal Engineers.  
(Ord. 35-64. Passed 8-17-64.)

**905.02 SIGNS TO BE FURNISHED BEFORE FINAL SUBDIVISION STREET ACCEPTANCE.**

(a) Before the final acceptance of any subdivision streets by the Deputy Director of Public Service and City Engineer and Council, the developer shall furnish or agree to furnish, all initial signage and posts designed and manufactured to City specifications. The developer shall further arrange to install such signs and posts or have the Department of Public Service and Engineering install the same at locations to be marked upon the proposed subdivision plat and according to the City specifications.

(b) Such signage may include, but is not limited to, street name signs, stop signs, yield signs, no parking signs, pavement markings, school zone indicators, including posts, and any other traffic control devices deemed necessary or appropriate.

(c) As an alternative, the developer may furnish to the Department of Public Service and Engineering, money to purchase and install such initial signage whenever it is deemed practicable. Such money may also be charged against the developer's escrow, if necessary, to assure reimbursement to the City.

(d) Expenses for any initial signs or devices installed by the City under this section shall be charged to the developer at the actual cost per sign, device or other material, plus actual labor for each installation. (Ord. 14-86. Passed 3-4-86.)

**905.03 CUL-DE-SAC FEE AND MAINTENANCE FUND.**

(a) Before the final acceptance of any streets by the Deputy Director of Public Service/City Engineer and Council, the developer shall pay to the Director of Finance a cul-de-sac fee at the rate of five dollars (\$5.00) per lineal foot of cul-de-sac, measured from the point at the centerline of the cul-de-sac where it intersects with the right-of-way line of the public street, commencing from there down the centerline of the cul-de-sac, to the other end of the right of way of such cul-de-sac, as measured by the Deputy Director of Public Service/City Engineer. No part of this fee shall be refundable. The developer shall pay this fee prior to final acceptance of the streets, storm drainage and street lights.

(b) For purposes of this chapter, a "cul-de-sac" is defined as a public right of way for vehicular traffic designed with only one outlet. It includes blind alleys, dead-end streets, and hammerheads, but does not include stub streets which are intended, as of the time of final plat acceptance, to be designed for future extension or connection with another public right of way for vehicular traffic.

(c) Funds received by the Director of Finance pursuant to this section shall be deposited in the Cul-de-sac Maintenance Fund, which shall be used solely for equipment capable of maintaining and repairing cul-de-sacs.  
(Ord. 28-82. Passed 4-6-82.)

**905.04 CREATION OF ROADWAY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS.**

Council may, from time to time, designate areas within the City as special Roadway Improvement Districts. The regulations, rates, and fees applicable shall apply to Roadway Improvement Districts created by Council unless Council shall otherwise provide.  
(Ord. 0033-2003. Passed 2-18-03.)

**905.05 YMCA PLACE ROADWAY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT.**

(a) There is hereby established an area known as the YMCA Place Roadway Improvement District for the purpose of constructing roadway improvements to serve the District and to recover the cost of said roadway improvements by means of a per acre fee, as described herein, with said YMCA Place Roadway Improvement District most particularly described in Exhibit A and map as shown on Exhibit B, with both exhibits attached to the original Ordinance 0033-2003, passed February 18, 2003.

(b) The boundary zone consists of 23.68 acres which consists of Franklin County Parcel Identification numbers: 170-001817, 025-011840, 025-011837, 025-011230, 025-011482, and 025-012709, of record on January 22, 2003.

(c) As development occurs in the subject area, the developers shall pay an acreage fee in the amount of \$6,123 per acre. This fee is based upon the total composite acreage of the bound area described. Furthermore all right of way, park land and easement dedication required by annexation, rezoning and final development plan approvals are non-exempt from this acreage fee.

(d) The said district formed by this described boundary is being assessed for roadway improvements known as YMCA Place. Additional requirements and/or improvements may be required as a result of annexation, rezoning, final development plan approval, and site utility engineering review. (Ord. 0033-2003. Passed 2-18-03.)

**CHAPTER 907  
Driveways and Curb Cuts**

<b>907.01</b>	<b>Plans and specifications.</b>	<b>907.03</b>	<b>Inspection.</b>
<b>907.02</b>	<b>Copy of City of Columbus Standard Drawing attached to building permit.</b>	<b>907.04</b>	<b>Width of driveway curb cuts.</b>
		<b>907.99</b>	<b>Penalty.</b>

**CROSS REFERENCES**

Construction or repair at owner's expense - see Ohio R.C. 729.05  
 Repairing curbs - see Ohio R.C. 729.07  
 Driveway drainage - see S. & P S. Ch. 907

**907.01 PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS.**

All driveway approach construction and curb cut construction shall henceforth be made and constructed in accordance with the City of Columbus Standard Drawings, Current Version, Drawing Number 2201, 2202, 2210 or 2220. Such plans and specifications of the City of Columbus shall apply only where the street and curb grades are already determined and actually constructed, or are to be constructed, at the time the curb cut or driveway approach is put in. (Ord. 0053-2013. Passed 3-18-13.)

**907.02 COPY OF CITY OF COLUMBUS STANDARD DRAWING ATTACHED TO BUILDING PERMIT.**

The Chief Building Official shall henceforth attach a current copy of such City of Columbus Standard Drawing 2201, 2202, 2210 or 2220 to each building permit issued in the Municipality. (Ord. 0053-2013. Passed 3-18-13.)

**907.03 INSPECTION.**

The owner, builder or contractor making a curb cut or constructing a driveway approach in the Municipality shall inform the Chief Building Official who shall thereupon inspect the project after the forms are in place and before the concrete is poured. (Ord. 0053-2013. Passed 3-18-13.)

**907.04 WIDTH OF DRIVEWAY CURB CUTS.**

Any driveway curb cut made for a commercial or industrial establishment shall not be less than twenty-five feet, nor more than thirty-five feet in width and there shall be at least six feet between curb cuts, unless approved otherwise by the City Engineer. In no case shall curb cuts or openings encroach on the limits of a minimum twenty-foot radius curb circle at the intersections of streets. If a larger radius exists at such intersections, no encroachment shall be permitted on the limits thereof. (Ord. 0053-2013. Passed 3-18-13.)

**907.99 PENALTY.**

Any person, firm, corporation, partnership or association violating any provision of this chapter shall be guilty of a minor misdemeanor on the first offense. On a second or subsequent offense, if less than twelve months have elapsed since the last offense of the same provision, a person, firm, corporation, partnership or association is guilty of an unclassified misdemeanor. See Section 501.99 for penalties applicable to any misdemeanor classification. Each day such violation takes place shall constitute a new offense.  
(Ord. 0053-2013. Passed 3-18-13.)

**CHAPTER 908**  
**Sidewalk Dining and Non-Permanent Amenities**  
**Installed Within Public Right-of-Way**

<b>908.01</b>	<b>Rules and regulations.</b>	<b>908.07</b>	<b>Inspections.</b>
<b>908.02</b>	<b>General provisions.</b>	<b>908.08</b>	<b>Fees.</b>
<b>908.03</b>	<b>Form of application.</b>	<b>908.09</b>	<b>Revocation/termination</b>
<b>908.04</b>	<b>Plans.</b>		<b>notification and removal.</b>
<b>908.05</b>	<b>Restoration.</b>	<b>908.99</b>	<b>Penalty.</b>
<b>908.06</b>	<b>Emergency repairs.</b>		

**908.01 RULES AND REGULATIONS.**

Any company, corporation, persons or individuals wishing to use or occupy public sidewalk or other real property within the public right-of-way for those purposes including, but not limited to, sidewalk seating and/or dining, placement of removable railing or other barricades in conjunction with said seating and/or dining, installation of removable awnings in conjunction with said seating and/or dining, installation of bike racks, flower boxes, movable planters, benches, placement of temporary signage, and any other uses authorized in these rules and regulations must apply for and obtain written consent from the City of Gahanna. Such consent shall be given in the form of a lease for use that is commercial in nature, which shall be approved by City Council, and shall be executed by the Mayor or a permit for use that is considered to be a private amenity in nature, which shall be approved and executed by the Director of Public Service or designee. Issuance of a Chapter 908 Lease/Permit will not relieve the applicant from the responsibility to obtain any permit required by the City for the actual installation of said non-permanent amenities.  
 (Ord. 0084-2012. Passed 4-16-12.)

**908.02 GENERAL PROVISIONS.**

(a) Authority. Chapter 908 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Gahanna regulates placement of non-permanent amenities in, and the limited use and occupation of, public sidewalk or other real property within the public right-of-way, and authorizes leases, subsequent to City Council approval and execution by the Mayor and/or permits executed by the Director of Public Service or designee to grant permission for such uses.

(b) When Required. Any company, corporation, persons or individuals wishing to use or occupy public sidewalk or other real property within the public right-of-way for those purposes including but not limited to sidewalk seating and/or dining, placement of removable railing or other barricades in conjunction with said seating and/or dining, installation of removable awnings in conjunction with said seating and/or dining, installation of bike racks, flower boxes, movable planters, benches, placement of temporary signage, must apply for and obtain written consent from the City of Gahanna. Nothing in these rules and regulations shall relieve the applicant from the responsibility to obtain any other permits required by Gahanna City Code, specifically Parts 11 and 13, before proceeding with the installation of the proposed amenities.

(c) Application. Applications for right-of-way lease permits shall be made through the Department of Public Service. All requests shall be on forms approved by the Department. No use of public sidewalk or other real property within public right-of-way for the above referenced purposes shall be allowed prior to City execution of a lease agreement or issuance of a permit.

(d) Review and Approval. Each application shall be reviewed by the appropriate Departments and Divisions within the City which may include but are not limited to the Development Department, the Public Service Department, the Public Safety Department, and/or Planning Commission to determine that a) the public health, property, safety and welfare of the City will not be negatively impacted upon the granting of a lease or the issuance of a permit; and b) that the granting of the requested lease or permit will be consistent with the policy of the City as set forth in Section 908.01.

(e) Liability. The applicant shall acknowledge acceptance of the premises in "as is" condition with absolutely no warranties, implied or expressed, by the City as to the condition or suitability of the premises for the intended use. The granting of a lease or execution of an agreement does not relieve the applicant from any liability for any damage that might occur to the public sidewalk or other real property within the public right-of-way as a result of their use or occupancy of said premises. Additionally the individuals obtaining the lease or permit shall forever indemnify and hold harmless the City and all of its agents, employees and representatives from and against all claims, damages, losses, suits and actions, including attorney's fees, arising or resulting from the use of the premises by them, their agents, representatives, employees, patrons, customers, business invitees and guests or any other person or persons who may use said premises. Further they shall obtain and maintain liability insurance in the amount of \$1,500,000.00 and shall name the City as an additional insured on said policy. A copy of the Certificate of Insurance shall be provided to the City and shall become a part of any lease or permit issued by or on behalf of the City.  
(Ord. 0084-2012. Passed 4-16-12.)

### **908.03 FORM OF APPLICATION.**

(a) Sidewalk Dining and Ancillary Uses: The request for a lease must be submitted in writing and must contain the following information:

- (1) Name of applicant or agent making the lease request
- (2) Address of the applicant or agent
- (3) Phone number of applicant or agent
- (4) Name and phone number of a 24-hour emergency contact if not the same as the applicant

- (5) Name of business
- (6) Site location; include property address and County Auditor Parcel number
- (7) Certificate of Appropriateness from Planning Commission if required by the Planning and Zoning Administrator.
- (8) Written explanation of proposed use of site (food service, food & liquor service, outdoor seating only, etc.)
- (9) Proposed hours of operation
- (10) Plans as required by Section 908.04.  
(Ord. 0084-2012. Passed 4-16-12.)

**908.04 PLANS.**

(a) Sidewalk Dining and Ancillary Uses: The written request for a lease shall be accompanied by a detailed description of the proposed use of the right-of-way and a sketch of the premises including, but not limited to the following information:

- (1) Width of the sidewalk from back of curb to the face of the building
- (2) Description of all items within the area from back of curb to back of utility strip (include signs, parking meters, trees, news boxes, etc. in the utility strip)
- (3) Total length and width of area desired
- (4) Distance to nearest cross walk
- (5) Distance to nearest intersection
- (6) Type, size and method of installation of fencing if desired
- (7) Type, size and method of installation of awning if desired
- (8) Location of all existing parking meters, bus stops, traffic signs, traffic signals, light poles, fire hydrants, trees, planters, newspaper boxes, mail boxes, bike racks, advertising benches, trash receptacles, doorways, driveways, pedestrian ramps and all other decorative items within the public right-of-way. (Ord. 0084-2012. Passed 4-16-12.)

**908.05 RESTORATION.**

At such time as any right-of-way lease agreement or permit is terminated, regardless of which party initiates the termination, any facilities installed within those premises occupied pursuant to Chapter 908 shall be removed and the premises shall be restored as nearly as possible to the pre-occupied condition by the party having the lease or permit with the City.  
(Ord. 0084-2012. Passed 4-16-12.)

**908.06 EMERGENCY REPAIRS.**

When any public agency, or any private utility company or corporation must make emergency repairs to any utilities located in, over, across, under or through the occupied premises, the lessee shall immediately upon notification of such need, remove or cause to be removed any facilities located within the occupied premises. Upon completion of any emergency repairs those facilities removed to allow such repairs may be reinstalled by the party having a lease or a permit with the city. Failure by the lessee or permit holder to immediately remove facilities when notified of the need to do so may result in the City removing said facilities with the cost of such removal being assessed to the lessee or permit holder. Additionally such failure may result in the termination of the lease or permit.  
(Ord. 0084-2012. Passed 4-16-12.)

**908.07 INSPECTIONS.**

The City shall have the right to inspect the occupied premises at any time without serving advanced notice of such inspection.  
(Ord. 0084-2012. Passed 4-16-12.)

**908.08 FEES.**

Sidewalk dining and ancillary uses: For uses deemed by the City to be private amenities to the public right-of-way including but not limited to flower boxes, planters, bike racks and benches a one-time fee of \$25.00 per application will be required. For uses deemed by the City to be commercial in nature including but not limited to sidewalk dining or kiosks, an initial fee of \$100.00, due at the time the original application is submitted and a fee of \$25.00 for any subsequent annual renewal will be required. Any material change in the scope or purpose for which the original lease was issued will require a \$100.00 fee to process the modification.  
(Ord. 0084-2012. Passed 4-16-12.)

**908.09 REVOCATION/TERMINATION NOTIFICATION AND REMOVAL.**

(a) Revocation/Termination: The City reserves the right to revoke or terminate any right of-way lease or permit granted pursuant to Chapter 908 in the event a) the party having the lease or permit violates any material provision of said chapter; b) the City determines the occupied premises are necessary for any public purpose inconsistent with or antagonistic to the purpose for which said lease or permit was granted; c) a material change in the public use of the right-of-way occurs.

(b) Notification: Notification of the requirement to remove facilities installed pursuant to a lease or permit shall take the form of a written notice to the lessee or permit holder sent overnight delivery or regular certified mail.

(c) Removal: If such lease or permit is revoked or terminated for any reason other than an emergency, those facilities installed pursuant to Chapter 908 shall be removed and restored per Section 908.05 at the sole expense of the lessee or permit holder within 15 days of receipt of a written notice to remove. Failure to remove such facilities shall result in the City removing and restoring the facilities with the cost of such removal being assessed to the lessee or permit holder. (Ord. 0084-2012. Passed 4-16-12.)

**908.99 PENALTY.**

Whoever violates any provision of Chapter 908 shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree, or imprisoned for not more than sixty (60) days or both. Any such violation shall constitute a separate offense on each successive day continued.  
(Ord. 0084-2012. Passed 4-16-12.)

**CHAPTER 909**  
**Driveway Drainage**

<b>909.01</b>	<b>Requirements prior to construction.</b>	<b>909.03</b>	<b>Driveway pipe requirements.</b>
<b>909.02</b>	<b>Temporary driveway to be installed before building construction.</b>	<b>909.04</b>	<b>Fees.</b>
		<b>909.99</b>	<b>Penalty.</b>

**CROSS REFERENCES**

Driveways - see S. & P. S. Ch. 907  
 Obstructing drainage - see S. & P. S. Ch. 911

**909.01 REQUIREMENTS PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION.**

Before commencing the construction, enlargement, alteration, repair or removal of any building or other structure, or the excavation therefor, in which it is desired or may be necessary to drive across the curb, tree lawn or sidewalk, the person obtaining the permit shall cut the curb for a sufficient width at the location of the contemplated permanent driveway so as to prevent damage to the remainder of the curb. If there is no curbing, he shall install in the ditch paralleling the street, tile of sufficient size to prevent the backing up of water in such ditch and shall cover such tile with crushed stone or gravel to the level of the existing road for a width sufficient to allow trucks carrying building supplies to pass over. Thereafter, no vehicle shall be driven across the curb, tree lawn, sidewalk or ditch except by way of such curb cut and proposed driveway. Such person shall take such further action as may be necessary to prevent the formation of ruts, depressions or other obstacles or hazards to pedestrian travel along such tree lawn or sidewalk. All of such work shall be done under the supervision and to the satisfaction of the Chief Building Official, who shall have the authority to determine the width, depth and manner of cutting the curb or laying tile, and the type of protection of the sidewalk and tree lawn.  
 (Ord. 0121-2007. Passed 6-18-07.)

**909.02 TEMPORARY DRIVEWAY TO BE INSTALLED BEFORE BUILDING CONSTRUCTION.**

Before commencing the construction, alteration or repair of any such building or other structure or the excavation therefor, the owner shall construct a driveway of gravel or crushed stone from the curb extending to the farthest point where building materials will be unloaded. When such structure is completed, such driveway shall be completed in accordance with the requirements then in force as to the construction of driveways.  
 (Ord. 33-64. Passed 7-20-64.)

**909.03 DRIVEWAY PIPE REQUIREMENTS.**

Any or all pipe installed under driveways shall meet the following requirements: pipe is to be reinforced concrete pipe or of a design as approved by the City Engineer. The diameter shall be not less than twelve inches, and have a minimum length of twenty feet. It shall be tongue and groove reinforced pipe with joints sealed either by sewer-tite or oakum and mortar. The cost of the driveway pipe shall be absorbed by the owner of the property where it is to be installed. (Ord. 0121-2007. Passed 6-18-07.)

**909.04 FEES.**

All driveways shall be constructed in accordance to standards established by the City Engineer and shown on Standard Drawings G-17a on file in the office of the City Engineer. The fee for driveway inspection herein shall be as established in the Development Fee Schedule set forth in Section 148.12 in Part One of These Codified Ordinances. (Ord. 0121-2007. Passed 6-18-07.)

**909.99 PENALTY.**

Whoever violates the provisions of this chapter shall be fined not more than fifty dollars (\$50.00) and costs. (Ord. 50-64. Passed 10-5-64. )

**CHAPTER 911**  
**Diverting or Obstructing Drainage or Watercourses**

<b>911.01</b>	<b>Permit required; fee, application.</b>	<b>911.03</b>	<b>Drains and conduits discharging on adjacent properties.</b>
<b>911.02</b>	<b>Notice to remove obstruction or diversion; failure to comply.</b>	<b>911.99</b>	<b>Penalty.</b>

**CROSS REFERENCES**

Water pollution - see Ohio R.C. 715.08, 743.24 et seq.  
 Driveway drainage - see S. & P. S. Ch. 909  
 Stormwater management policy - see P. & Z. Ch. 1193

**911.01 PERMIT REQUIRED; FEE, APPLICATION.**

No person, firm or corporation or any other business entity shall obstruct or cause the obstruction or diversion of any ditch, drain or watercourse of any kind, natural or artificial, in the Municipality, by constructing or erecting therein a culvert, dam or by making any other obstruction of any kind therein or thereon; without first obtaining a permit to do so from the Director of Public Service. A fee of five dollars (\$5.00) and all engineering costs shall be charged for such permit. The person, firm or corporation desiring such permit shall apply in person or by a duly authorized representative to the Director of Public Service. Such application shall be accompanied by an engineer's drawing showing the location of the intended culvert, dam or other obstruction of any kind, the property upstream which would be affected thereby, elevations, contours, etc., and any other information needed by the City Engineer who must advise the Director of Public Service. No permit shall be granted by the Director of Public Service for the construction or erection of a culvert, dam or other obstruction of any kind which would cause the water to flow back and flood any public street or alley, or to become stagnant in a way prejudicial to the public health, or which would not be of sufficient size and capacity to accommodate the quantity of storm water runoff necessary to meet the requirements of the Stormwater Design Manual as specified in Chapter 1193 of the Codified Ordinances. The City Engineer must approve the project before the Director of Public Service may issue a permit. (Ord. 191-97. Passed 10-7-97.)

**911.02 NOTICE TO REMOVE OBSTRUCTION OR DIVERSION;  
FAILURE TO COMPLY.**

The Director of Public Service shall serve notice upon the owner or upon the person having the care and control of any lot or parcel of land through which any ditch, drain or watercourse of any kind, natural or artificial, passes to remove within fifteen days after the service of such notice, any culvert, dam or other obstruction of any kind which causes water to flow back and flood any public street or alley, or to become stagnant or to be diverted from the natural or designed course in a way prejudicial to the public health and which is not of sufficient size and capacity to accommodate the flow of water resulting from a storm occurring with a frequency of one in 100 years, as determined by the Stormwater Design Manual specified in Chapter 1193 of the Codified Ordinances of Gahanna. Failure or refusal of the owner or of the person having the care and control of such lot or parcel of land to comply with such notice shall be deemed a misdemeanor and subject to the penalty hereafter provided. If the owner or the person having the care and control of such lot or parcel of land fails or refuses to comply with such notice, the Director of Public Service may also authorize the work required by such notice to be done at the expense of the Municipality, and the amount of money so expended shall be recoverable from the person upon whom such notice was served by a civil action in any court of competent jurisdiction.

(Ord. 191-97. Passed 10-7-97.)

**911.03 DRAINS AND CONDUITS DISCHARGING ON ADJACENT  
PROPERTIES.**

Conductors into Gutters or Storm Sewers. All water from sumps, sump pumps, gutters or downspouts which would flow by gravity over a public sidewalk or over adjacent property shall be carried by means of conductors away from such adjacent property into the gutter, natural stream or storm sewer. If the curb outlets provided are not used or are not sufficient in number, any curb cuts made shall be drilled.

(Ord. 191-97. Passed 10-7-97.)

**911.99 PENALTY.**

Any person, firm or corporation convicted of violating any of the provisions of this chapter shall be fined not less than twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) and not more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00) and the cost of prosecution. Each day such owner or person fails to comply with any order issued under the provisions of Section 911.02 shall constitute a separate offense.

(Ord. 191-97. Passed 10-7-97.)

**CHAPTER 913**  
**Landscaping Requirements**

<b>913.01</b>	<b>Intent.</b>	<b>913.07</b>	<b>Landscape materials, spacing and location.</b>
<b>913.02</b>	<b>Purpose.</b>	<b>913.08</b>	<b>Installation, maintenance and pruning.</b>
<b>913.03</b>	<b>City and Landscape Board rights.</b>	<b>913.09</b>	<b>Protection of trees.</b>
<b>913.04</b>	<b>Definitions.</b>	<b>913.10</b>	<b>Street tree planting</b>
<b>913.05</b>	<b>Site affected.</b>	<b>913.99</b>	<b>Penalty.</b>
<b>913.06</b>	<b>Landscaping for accessory buildings.</b>		

**CROSS REFERENCES**

Power to regulate shade trees and shrubbery - see Ohio R.C. 715.20

Assessment for tree planting or maintenance - see Ohio R.C. 727.011

Injury or destruction - see GEN. OFF. 541.06

**913.01 INTENT.**

The intent of this chapter is to improve the appearance of vehicular use areas and property abutting public right-of-way; to require buffering between noncompatible land uses; and to protect, preserve and promote the aesthetical appeal, character and value of the surrounding neighborhoods; to promote public health and safety through the reduction of noise pollution, air pollution, visual pollution, air temperature and artificial light glare. (Ord. 0107-2011. Passed 6-20-11.)

**913.02 PURPOSE.**

It is further the purpose of this chapter to specifically promote the preservation and replacement of trees and significant vegetation removed in the course of land development, and to promote the proper utilization of landscaping as an easement between certain uses to minimize the opportunities of nuisances. (Ord. 0107-2011. Passed 6-20-11.)

**913.03 CITY AND LANDSCAPE BOARD RIGHTS.**

(a) The City shall have the right to plant, prune, maintain and remove trees, plants and shrubs within the lines of all streets, alleys, avenue, lanes and other public grounds as may be necessary to insure public safety or to preserve or enhance the symmetry and beauty of such public grounds.

(b) The Director of Public Service and/or Parks Superintendent may cause or order to be removed any tree or part thereof which is in an unsafe condition or which by reason of its nature is injurious to sewers, electric power lines, gas lines, water lines, or other public improvements, or is affected with any injurious fungus, insect or other pest. This section does not prohibit the planting of street trees by adjacent property owners provided that the selection and location of such trees is in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.

(c) The Director of Public Service will notify in writing the owners of such trees. Removal shall be done by such owners at their own expense within sixty days after the date of service of notice.

(d) In the event of failure of owners to comply with such provisions, the City shall have the authority to remove such trees and charge the cost of removal on the owners property tax notice. (Ord. 0107-2011. Passed 6-20-11.)

#### **913.04 DEFINITIONS.**

(a) The following words and phrases when used in this chapter shall, for the purpose of this chapter, have the meanings respectively ascribed to them in this section. When not inconsistent with the context, words used in the present tense include the future, words in the singular number include the plural, words in the plural number include the singular; "occupied" includes arranged, designed or intended to be used; "shall" is always mandatory and not merely directive; "may" is permissive; "lot" includes plot or parcel:

- (1) "Accessory use or building" means a use or a structure subordinate to the principal use or building on a lot and serving a purpose customarily incidental thereto.
- (2) "Board" means the City Landscape Board.
- (3) "Injurious plants" means the following list of trees that are prone to disease, seek water (trouble for water and sewer lines), are soft wood trees, and prone to pest and need room for roots to grow and a curb lawn does not provide enough room. Some of the trees have thorns and some won't tolerate snow, salt and sand that could affect it during the winter:
 

Box Elder	Silver Maple
Dogwood	Redbud
Buckeye	Catalpa
Mulberry	Willow species
Black Locust	Ginko (female)
Siberian Elm	Tree-of-heaven
Fruit Trees	Cottonwood
Evergreens	Crab species (limited)
Poplar species	Ash species
Hawthorns (except thornless species)	
Honey Locust (except thornless species)	
- (4) "Interior landscaping" means the use of landscape materials within the innermost boundaries of the landscape buffer zone and perimeter landscaping.
- (5) "Landscape buffer zone" means that area adjacent to any vehicular use area or along common boundaries in which the perimeter landscape requirements are to be met.

- (6) "Large tree" means any tree species which normally attains a full grown height in excess of fifty feet.
- (7) "Medium tree" means any tree species which normally attains a full grown height of between twenty-five feet and fifty feet.
- (8) "O.F.T." means or fraction thereof.
- (9) "Opacity" means an imaginary vertical plane extending from the established grade to a required height of which a required percentage of the vertical plane shall be visually screened from adjacent property use.
- (10) "Park trees" means those trees, shrubs, bushes and all other woody vegetation in public parks which have individual names, and all areas owned by the City or to which the public has free access to as a park.
- (11) "Parking area or structure" means an off-street area or structure, for required parking or loading spaces, including driveways, accessways, aisles, parking or loading spaces, including driveways, accessways, aisles, parking and maneuvering space, but excluding required front yard or public right-of-way.
- (12) "Parking lot or structure" means an off-street area or structure, other than the parking or loading spaces or areas required or permitted under the Zoning Ordinance, for the parking of automobiles, and available to the public customarily for a fee.
- (13) "Perimeter landscaping" means the use of landscape materials within the landscape buffer zone to achieve the required opacity.
- (14) "Person" means any person, corporation, partnership, company, contracting firm or other entity.
- (15) "Pruning" means to cut branches, stems, etc. from a plant to improve shape and growth.
- (16) "Small tree" means any tree species which normally attains a full grown height under twenty-five feet.
- (17) "Street trees" means those trees, shrubs, bushes, and all other woody vegetation on land lying between property lines on either side of all streets, avenues or ways within the City.
- (18) "Topping" means the severe cutting back of limbs to stubs larger than three inches in diameter within the tree's crown to such a degree so as to remove the normal canopy and disfigure the tree.
- (19) "Treelawn" means that part of a street not covered by sidewalk or other paving, lying between the property line and that portion of the street right-of-way that is paved and usually used for vehicular traffic.
- (20) "Vehicular use area" means any area used by vehicles.  
(Ord. 0107-2011. Passed 6-20-11.)

**913.05 SITE AFFECTED.**

(a) New Sites. No certificate of zoning compliance or occupancy permit shall be issued hereafter for any site development or the construction or improvement of any building, structure or vehicular use area except where landscaping for such development, construction or improvement shall have been approved as required by the provisions of this chapter.

(b) Existing Sites. No building, structure or vehicular use area shall be constructed or expanded, unless the minimum landscaping required by the provisions of this chapter is provided for the property unless the alteration or expansion is substantial, (any additional construction equal to twenty-five percent (25%) of the existing area of the structure or new use area) in which case, landscaping shall be provided as hereafter required in this chapter. (Ord. 0107-2011. Passed 6-20-11.)

#### **913.06 LANDSCAPING FOR ACCESSORY BUILDINGS.**

(a) Any accessory building shall be screened whenever located in any professional office zone, commercial or office, commerce and technology zone or multi-family zone or when located on property abutting any residential zone, freeway or arterial street prohibiting driveway access. Structures may be grouped together; however, screening height requirements will be based upon the tallest of the structures.

(b) Location of Screening. A continuous (having one hundred percent (100%) opacity) planting, hedge, fence, wall of earth, which would enclose any accessory building on four sides with provisions for access by gate is required. The average height of screening material shall be one foot more than the height of the enclosed structure, but shall not be required to exceed ten feet in height. Whenever an accessory building is located next to a building wall, perimeter landscaping material, or vehicular use area landscaping material, such walls or screening material may fulfill the screening requirement for the side of the accessory building if that wall or screening material is of an average height sufficient to meet the height requirement set out in this section. Whenever accessory buildings are screened by plant material, such material may count towards the fulfillment of required interior or perimeter landscaping. No interior landscaping shall be required within an area screened for accessory buildings.

(c) Whenever screening material is placed around any trash disposal unit or waste collection unit which is emptied or removed mechanically on a regularly occurring basis, a curb to contain the placement of the container shall be provided within the screening material on those sides where there is such material. The curbing shall be at least one foot from the material and shall be designed to prevent possible damage to the screening when the container is moved or emptied. (Ord. 0107-2011. Passed 6-20-11.)

#### **913.07 LANDSCAPE MATERIALS, SPACING AND LOCATION.**

The landscaping materials shall consist of, the following, but are not limited to, the following: City Landscape Board approval must be obtained prior to execution of landscaping.

The proposed landscape materials should complement the form of the existing trees and plantings, as well as the development's general design and architecture. The type of shade or sun should be considered in selecting plant materials.

(a) Walls and Fences. Walls and fences should comply with Chapter 1171 of the Codified Ordinances of Gahanna. For any proposed new building, residential or otherwise, where stone fencing exists, such stone fencing shall be retained and improved as part of the approved landscaping.

- (b) Earth Mounds. Earth mounds shall be physical barriers which block or screen the view similar to a hedge, fence or wall. Mounds shall be constructed with proper and adequate plant material to prevent erosion. When earth mounds are combined with walls or fences, the combined height shall not exceed six feet. A difference in elevation between areas requiring screening does not constitute an existing earth mound, and shall not be considered as fulfilling any screening requirement.
- (c) Plants. All plant materials shall be living plants (artificial plants are prohibited) and shall meet the following requirements:
- (1) Quality. Plant materials used in conformance with provisions of this chapter shall conform to the standards of the American Association of Nurserymen and shall have passed any inspections required under state regulations.
  - (2) Deciduous trees. Deciduous trees, those which normally shed their leaves in the fall, shall be species having an average mature crown spread of greater than fifteen feet in Central Ohio and having trunk(s) which can be maintained with over five feet of clear wood in areas which have visibility requirements, except at vehicular use area intersections where eight foot clear wood mature spread of crown less than fifteen feet may be substituted by groupings of the same so as to create the equivalent of a fifteen foot crown spread. A minimum of ten feet overall height or a minimum caliper (trunk diameter, measured six inches above ground for trees up to four inches caliper) of at least one and one-fourth (1 1/4) inches immediately after planting shall be required. Trees of species whose roots are known to cause damage to public roadways or other public works shall not be planted closer than fifteen feet to such public works, unless the tree root system is completely contained within a barrier for which the minimum interior containing dimensions shall be five feet square and five feet deep and for which the construction requirements shall be four inches thick, reinforced concrete.
  - (3) Evergreen trees. Evergreen trees shall be a minimum of six feet high with a minimum caliper of one and one-fourth (1 1/4) inches immediately after planting.
  - (4) Shrubs and hedges. Shrubs and hedges shall be at least eighteen inches in average height when planted, and shall conform to the opacity and other requirements within four years after planting.
  - (5) Vines. Vines shall be at least twelve inches or fifteen inches high at planting, and are generally used in conjunction with fences.
  - (6) Grass or ground cover. Grass (of the fescus (Gramineae) or Bluegrass (Poaceae) family) shall be planted in species normally grown as permanent lawns in Central Ohio, and may be sodded, or seeded; except in swales or other areas subject to erosion, where solid sod, erosion reducing net, or suitable mulch shall be used, nurse-grass seed shall be sown for immediate protection until complete coverage otherwise is achieved. Grass sod shall be clean and free of weeds and noxious pests or diseases. Ground cover shall be planted in such a manner as to present a finished appearance and seventy-five percent (75%) of complete coverage after complete growing seasons, with a maximum of eight inches on center. In certain cases, ground cover also may consist of rocks, pebbles, sand, and similar approved materials.
- (Ord. 0107-2011. Passed 6-20-11.)

**913.08 INSTALLATION, MAINTENANCE AND PRUNING.**

All landscaping materials shall be installed in a sound, workmanshiplike manner, and according to accepted, good construction and planting procedures. The owner of the property shall be responsible for the continued proper maintenance of all landscaping materials, and shall keep them in proper, neat and orderly appearance, free from refuse and debris at all times. All unhealthy or dead plant material shall be replaced within one year, or by the next planting period, whichever comes first; while other defective landscape material shall be replaced or repaired within three months. Violation of these installation and maintenance provisions shall be grounds for the Building Department to refuse a building occupancy permit or institute legal proceedings. (Ord. 0107-2011. Passed 6-20-11.)

**913.09 PROTECTION OF TREES.**

(a) All trees and shrubs on any street or other publicly owned property near any excavation or construction of any building, structure or street work, shall be guarded with a good substantial fence, frame or box, not less than four feet high and eight feet square, or at a distance in feet from the tree or shrub equal to the diameter of the trunk in inches at five feet above grade, whichever is greater. All building material, dirt or other debris shall be kept outside the barrier and shall be removed upon completion by the company or person doing such work.

(b) No person shall excavate any ditches, tunnels, trenches or lay any drive within a radius of ten feet from any public tree or shrub without first obtaining a written permit from the Landscape Board.

(Ord. 0107-2011. Passed 6-20-11.)

**913.10 STREET TREE PLANTING REQUIREMENTS.**

(a) These requirements shall apply to ER-1, ER-2, SF-1, SF-2, SF-3, MR-1, AR, SO, CC, CS, PCC, PID, and all planned districts, as well as all public lands within the City limits.

(b) The subdivider or developer of property within the City shall pay a fee for the planting of street trees. This fee shall be placed in a Street Tree Fund and shall be used for the sole purpose of street tree planting and maintenance within the City. This fee shall be based on the amount of linear street built for the subdivision, plus any street frontage on existing streets. This fee shall be established as ten dollars (\$10.00) per linear foot of street that the subdivision involves as measured at the centerline of the street. This fee shall be placed in a Street Tree Fund established by the City, and the money in this Fund will be used for yearly bid contracts for the planting of street trees as shown on the approved street tree plans for approved subdivisions within the City, as well as areas in need of street trees as indicated by the Landscape Board. The fee shall be paid by the developer prior to the acceptance of the appurtenances and improvements of the subdivision by Council. No funds shall be expended for other areas until the approved street tree plan has been completed for the approved subdivision. Funds shall be held for a two-year period after completion of the subdivision before funds can be used for other planting purposes.

(c) The Landscape Board shall have the responsibility for the review of the street tree plans for the City, and the creation of tree planting standards. The developer of subdivisions shall propose his/her own plan for approval by the Landscape Board. The developer shall submit ten sets of plans to the Zoning Officer at the time of the final plat, who shall forward them to the Landscape Board for approval. The street tree plan shall be approved prior to the construction of the subdivision. The Landscape Board shall notify the City Engineer of approval of any street tree plan.

- (d) The following information shall be present on any street tree plan:
- (1) Street and lot layout of the subdivision.
  - (2) Tree location showing minimum and maximum spacing.
  - (3) Type of tree(s) proposed for the subdivision by street.
  - (4) Landscape plan for entry features or cul-de-sac circles if in public right-of-way.
  - (5) Proposed utility locations.
  - (6) Width of tree lawn.
  - (7) Any other information deemed necessary by the Landscape Board.

(e) The following minimum requirements shall be followed for any proposed street tree plan, unless the Landscape Board finds that the minimum requirements cannot be met:

- (1) The minimum spacing between this and other trees is forty-five feet (large trees), thirty-five feet (medium trees) and twenty-five feet (small trees).
- (2) A street tree shall be planted one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) the distance between the curb and the sidewalk.
- (3) The tree location is to be at least twenty feet from driveways and street intersections and ten feet from fire hydrants and utility poles. Cul-de-sac street trees will be located at the individual appropriate discretion of the City Landscape Board.
- (4) A small tree is to be used when planting under or within ten lateral feet of overhead utility wires. A small or medium tree is to be used when planting within ten or twenty lateral feet of overhead utility wires.
- (5) The trees should be of the same shape, texture and size with up to three different species planted continuously on any given street.
- (6) The minimum trunk caliper measured at six inches above the ground for all street trees shall be no less than one and one-half ( $1\frac{1}{2}$ ) inches.
- (7) The maximum spacing for large trees shall be fifty feet, for medium trees, forty feet, and thirty feet for small trees.
- (8) The Street Tree Landscape Plan shall not include any trees on the injurious plants list (913.04).

(f) Height of Limbs Over Sidewalks and Streets. Tree limbs extending over a sidewalk shall be trimmed to such an extent that no portion of the same shall be less than eight feet above the sidewalks. Tree limbs extending over streets shall be trimmed to a minimum of fifteen feet so as not to interfere with the normal flow of traffic.

(g) Utilities. The Landscape Board shall determine those species of trees, shrubs and plantings which may be planted and maintained under or within ten feet laterally of any overhead utility wire, or above or within five feet laterally of any underground water line, sewer line, distribution line or other public utility service on public property or utility or drainage easements within the City.

No tree, shrub or other planting shall be located so as to prevent or hinder proper access to water and gas shut-off valves, fire hydrants, sanitary and storm sewer manholes, communication system terminals, electric service disconnects or other controls and devices to which immediate access may be required under emergency conditions.

(h) Reducing Tree Lawn. No person shall by any type of construction reduce the size of a tree lawn without first procuring permission from the Landscape Board.

(i) Species not Permitted to be Planted on Public Property or Utility or Drainage Easements within the City. The Landscape Board shall determine that poplar, willow, silver maple, and cottonwood trees shall not be planted in the street tree lawn, or within a drainage or utility easement. The City Landscape Board must approve, prior to planting, all species of trees to be planted in the street tree lawn. (Refer to Definitions, Section 913.04, for other “injurious plants”.)

(j) Abuse or Mutilation of Trees. It shall be a violation of this chapter to abuse, destroy or mutilate any tree, shrub or plant in a public tree lawn or any other public place, or to attach or place any rope or wire other than one used to support a young or broken tree. No signs of any kind shall be attached to any tree in a public tree lawn or other public place. No gaseous, liquid, or solid substance which is harmful to such trees, shrubs or plants shall be allowed to come in contact with their roots or leaves, or to set fire or permit fire to burn when such fire or heat thereof will injure any portion of any tree or shrub.

- (1) No person shall deposit, place, store or maintain upon public places of the City, any stone, brick, sand, concrete, wood or other materials which may impede the free passage of water, air or fertilizer to the roots of any tree growing therein, except by written permit from the Landscape Board.
- (2) No person, business entity, or City department shall top any tree located on public property unless such action is first specifically approved by the Landscape Board or Parks Superintendent unless otherwise provided within this chapter.
- (3) A person or business entity who holds a grant of right-of-way by easement or otherwise or a City department may prune or top trees located on public property which might interfere with or endanger the safe and efficient operation of a service provided by such person, firm or City department. (Ord. 0107-2011. Passed 6-20-11.)

**913.99 PENALTY.**

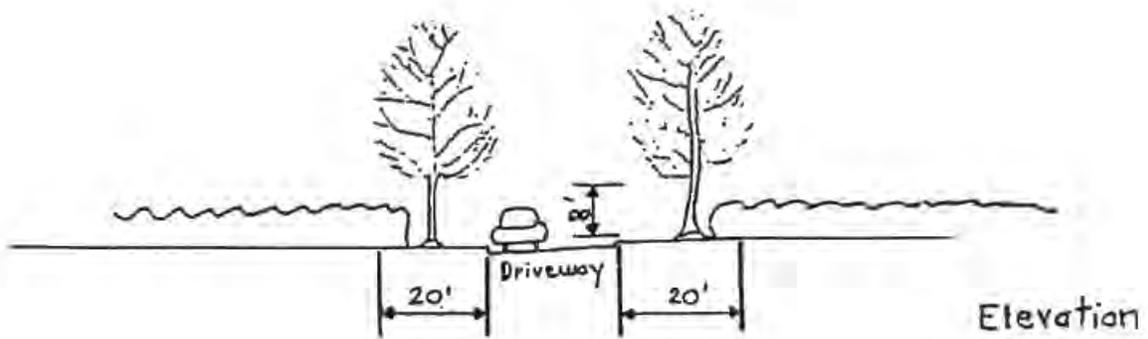
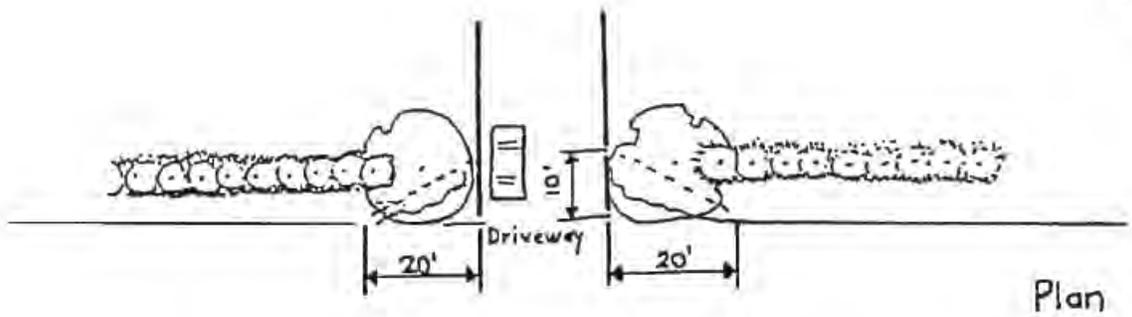
(a) A person who removes, damages or causes to be removed a public tree, shrub or lawn cover from the tree lawn or other public place will be required to replace such trees at his own expense, with the replacement tree having a minimum diameter of two and one-half (2 ½) inches.

(b) Whoever violates any provision of this chapter shall be guilty of a minor misdemeanor on a first offense, and shall be guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree upon the commission of any subsequent offenses.

(c) Each tree, shrub or planting affected by a violation of this chapter shall constitute a separate offense.  
(Ord. 0107-2011. Passed 6-20-11.)

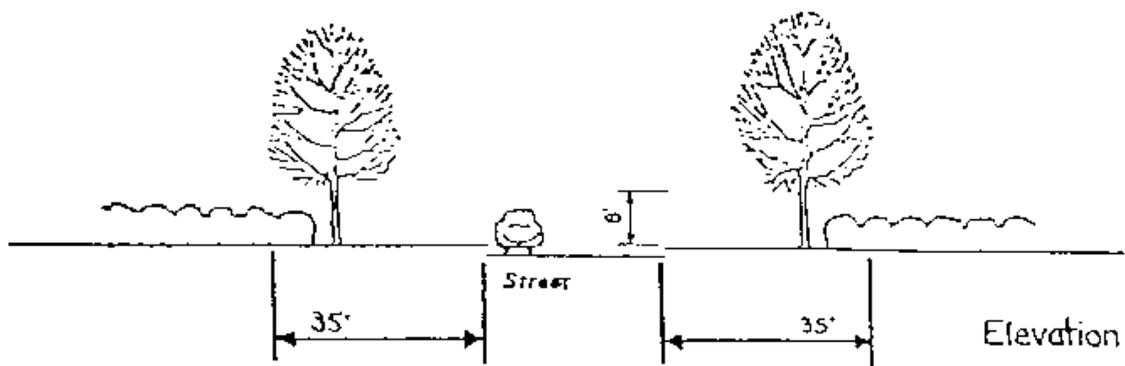
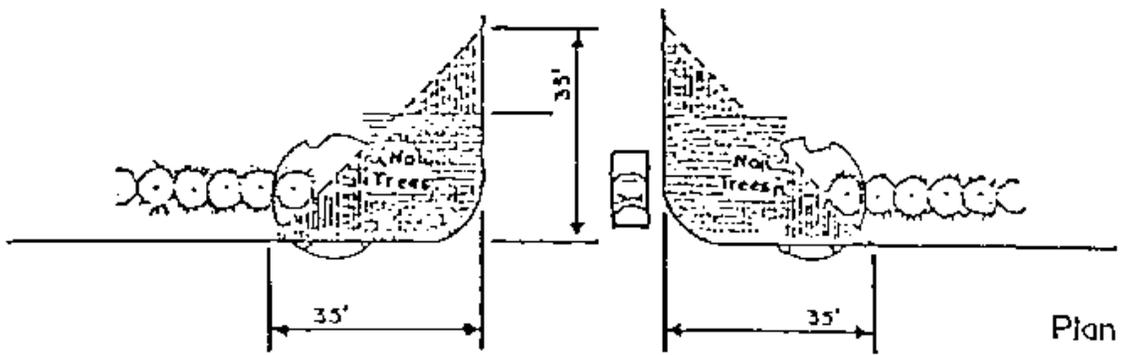


APPENDIX "A"  
DRIVEWAY INTERSECTION  
SIGHT TRIANGLE



Cul-de-sac driveway measurements are individually approved by the City Landscape Board.

APPENDIX 'B'  
STREET INTERSECTION  
SIGHT TRIANGLE



**CHAPTER 914**  
**Tree Replacement (Repealed)**

EDITOR'S NOTE: Former Chapter 914 was  
repealed by Ordinance 0073-2013.



**CHAPTER 915  
Material Standards**

**915.01 Determination.**

**915.02 Specifications.**

CROSS REFERENCES

- Sidewalk construction - see S. & P.S. 903.01
- Driveway and curb cut construction - see S. & P. S. 907.01
- Subdivision improvements - see P. & Z. Ch. 1107

**915.01 DETERMINATION.**

The City by and through the Director of Public Service shall determine the standards of material to be incorporated into improvements of public work construction in accordance with standards developed and promulgated by the Director or as determined and set forth in this chapter. (Ord. 64-80. Passed 5-20-80.)

**915.02 SPECIFICATIONS.**

(a) The following concrete specifications are hereby adopted by the City:

Class	Description	Portland Cement Cement content (pounds)	Entrained (percent)	Air Slump (inches)
A	Sewer Backfill	280	No Air	4 + 1
B	Base Paving (Residential)	380	3 - 5	4.5 max.
C	Structures	600	4 - 8	4 + 1
E	Base Paving (Arterial)	510	3 - 6	3 max.
F	Walks	560	4 - 8	4 max.
	Curbs	560	4 - 8	3 max.
	Approaches	560	4 - 8	4 max.
	Exposed Paving	560	4 - 8	

(b) If the City is contracted with a State of Ohio Federal Highway Administration project that could require different cement content, entrain air, and/or slump than those described in subsection (a) hereof, such Federal or State specifications shall apply for such Federal or State related project.

(c) In the City all exposed aforesaid concrete placed shall have an approved curing compound or curing procedure applied at the time the concrete is being placed; and, secondly, no class F cement may be placed during the winter months when temperatures are anticipated to be below 2°C. for a period of seven days after placement. (Ord. 64-80. Passed 5-20-80.)



**TITLE THREE - Public Utilities**

- Chap. 919. Water and Sewer Internal Review Board.
- Chap. 921. Sanitary Sewer Connections and Rental Rates.
- Chap. 923. Utility Contracts With Columbus.
- Chap. 925. Surface Water Discharge.
- Chap. 927. Storm Sewers.
- Chap. 928. Sewer Districts.
- Chap. 929. Water Connections and Rates.
- Chap. 931. Comprehensive Rights of Way Ordinance.
- Chap. 933. Backflow Prevention.
- Chap. 935. Public Water System.

**CHAPTER 919**

**Water and Sewer Internal Review Board**

- |               |                                 |               |                                    |
|---------------|---------------------------------|---------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>919.01</b> | <b>Organization.</b>            | <b>919.04</b> | <b>Limitations.</b>                |
| <b>919.02</b> | <b>Jurisdiction.</b>            | <b>919.05</b> | <b>Separability of provisions.</b> |
| <b>919.03</b> | <b>Appeal review procedure.</b> | <b>919.06</b> | <b>Report to Council.</b>          |

**CROSS REFERENCES**

- Department of Public Service and Engineering - see ADM. Ch. 135
- Sewer rental rates - see S. & P.S. Ch. 921
- Water rates - see S. & P. S. Ch. 929

**919.01 ORGANIZATION.**

There is hereby created a Water and Sewer Internal Review Board which shall be organized by the Director of Public Service, who shall serve as Chairman, and shall consist of two additional members to be appointed by the Chairman.  
(Ord. 0262-2004. Passed 12-6-04.)

**919.02 JURISDICTION.**

The Water and Sewer Internal Review Board shall have the power to hear and decide appeals for the waiver of penalties on water, sanitary sewer and storm sewer bills, adjustments on water, sanitary sewer, and storm sewer bills and to review any complaints or problems which cannot be resolved at division or departmental levels.  
(Ord. 0262-2004. Passed 12-6-04.)

**919.03 APPEAL REVIEW PROCEDURE.**

(a) In order to have an appeal or complaint reviewed by the Water and Sewer Internal Review Board, a request shall be submitted to the Board stating the name, address, account number, the nature of the appeal and the reason. Such request shall be submitted on a form furnished by the Department of Public Service and Engineering. Forms for appeals or complaints can be acquired from the Utility Billing office.

(b) Each appeal or complaint received by the Water and Sewer Internal Review Board shall be acted upon by the Board within ninety (90) days of receipt of the request or at the next meeting of the Board-whichever comes first. Person or persons making such appeal or complaint may attend the meeting of the Water and Sewer Internal Review Board at the time their request is reviewed.

(c) Meetings of the Water and Sewer Internal Review Board shall be held at the call of the Chairman and at such other times the Board may determine.

(d) Notifications shall be made to person or persons making such appeal or complaint at least five days prior to Board review.  
(Ord. 0157-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

**919.04 LIMITATIONS.**

(a) Waiver of penalty charge may be granted by the Water and Sewer Internal Review Board if, in the Board's opinion, such waiver is deemed to be appropriate and justified, but not more than one time for any one property owner/tenant per address.

(b) The Water and Sewer Internal Review Board may grant adjustments to water and sewer bills if, in the Board's opinion, such adjustments are appropriate and justified.

(c) Adjustments will not be made further than one calendar year from the date of the applicant's appeal form.  
(Ord. 0157-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

**919.05 SEPARABILITY OF PROVISIONS.**

Each section and each part of each section of this chapter is hereby declared to be an independent section or part of a section and, notwithstanding any other evidence of legislative intent that if any such section or part of a section, or any provision thereof, or the application thereof to any person or circumstances, is held to be invalid, the remaining sections or parts of sections and the application of such provisions to any other person or circumstances, other than those as to which it is held invalid, shall not be affected thereby.

It is hereby declared to be the legislative intent that these sections or parts of sections would have been adopted independently of such sections or parts of a section so held to be invalid.

(Ord. 0157-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

**919.06 REPORT TO COUNCIL.**

The Water and Sewer Internal Review Board shall submit a written report to Council on or before December 31 of each year or at the request of Council, stating the following information: name and address of person or persons filing, nature of appeal or complaint, decision rendered by the Water and Sewer Internal Review Board, and the total amount of adjustments granted in each case. (Ord. 0157-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

**CHAPTER 921**  
**Sanitary Sewer Connections and Rental Rates**

<b>921.01</b>	<b>Definitions.</b>	<b>921.08</b>	<b>Inspections.</b>
<b>921.02</b>	<b>Property owner required to install; notice; failure to comply.</b>	<b>921.09</b>	<b>General provisions.</b>
<b>921.03</b>	<b>Permit required; fee; multiple use connections prohibited.</b>	<b>921.10</b>	<b>Prohibitions.</b>
<b>921.04</b>	<b>Sewerage system capacity charge.</b>	<b>921.11</b>	<b>Sewer rental rates.</b>
<b>921.05</b>	<b>Sewer footage fees.</b>	<b>921.12</b>	<b>Unpaid bills.</b>
<b>921.06</b>	<b>Sewer installer license.</b>	<b>921.13</b>	<b>Partial payment.</b>
<b>921.07</b>	<b>Materials and construction.</b>	<b>921.14</b>	<b>Application, administration and enforcement of Columbus sewer usage ordinances.</b>
		<b>921.15</b>	<b>Separability of provisions.</b>
		<b>921.99</b>	<b>Violations.</b>

**CROSS REFERENCES**

Power to license sewer tappers and vault cleaners - see Ohio R.C. 715.27

Compulsory sewer connections - see Ohio R.C. 729.06

Sewerage rates - see Ohio R.C. 729.49, 729.52

Management and control of sewerage system - see Ohio R.C. 729.50

**921.01 DEFINITIONS.**

For the purposes of this chapter:

- (a) "Sewer service connections" means the complete sewer line from the City of Gahanna sewer main in the street, alley, private right of way or easement to a connection with the plumbing at the building.
- (b) "Sewer main" means the sewer pipe located in a street, alley or easement in which the waste water from the sewer service connection is delivered to a treatment facility.
- (c) "Sewer system" means all City of Gahanna facilities for storing, pumping, and transporting waste water.
- (d) "Owner" means any person, group of persons, corporation, partnership, or firm which holds title to a lot or parcel of land adjacent to the sewer system.  
(Ord. 0158-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

**921.02 PROPERTY OWNER REQUIRED TO INSTALL; NOTICE; FAILURE TO COMPLY.**

The owner or owners of any house, cottage or other building which is adjacent to a sanitary sewer main, which contains a toilet, kitchen sink or laundry facilities producing liquid wastes, shall, within ninety days after receipt of a notice from the Director of Public Service to install a sanitary sewer service connection, make application to the City of Gahanna for an appropriate permit and construct such connection. In the event such property owner or owners fail to apply for such permit or fail to construct such sewer service connection within the time limit, the City of Gahanna shall proceed to construct or cause to be constructed such sanitary sewer service connection and shall assess the cost of such construction, including acreage fees, front footage fees, permit fees and all other related costs to the property owner. (Ord. 0158-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

**921.03 PERMIT REQUIRED; FEE; MULTIPLE USE CONNECTIONS PROHIBITED.**

(a) No connection with any part of the City of Gahanna sanitary sewer system, nor the repair or removal thereof, nor any excavation thereof shall be started without first securing a permit from the Department of Public Service. Such permit must be on the premises where such sewer service connection is being constructed, prior to the beginning of such work and during the continuation thereof. A charge of eighty U. S. dollars (\$80.00) shall be made for such permit to cover the cost of issuance and inspections. Such amount shall be deposited in the Treasury to the credit of the Sewer Fund. The charge for such permit is nonrefundable.

(b) No permit shall be issued which contemplates the construction or installation of any multiple use connection. Each commercial, industrial, residential, occupied structure, etc., shall have a separate sewer service connection to the sanitary sewer system, whether or not such facilities are owned by one person. Multiple structures shall have separate connections for each unit, except where this would create a manifest hardship, in which case the Director of Public Service may grant special written permission to the owner to use a single connection. (Ord. 0158-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

**921.04 SEWERAGE SYSTEM CAPACITY CHARGE.**

(a) Before any permit is issued for a sanitary sewer connection, there shall be exacted and collected by the City of Gahanna, a sanitary sewer system capacity charge for all property which is, or will be tributary, directly or indirectly, to any trunk sanitary sewer built by the City of Gahanna. The charge shall be exacted and collected only upon the granting of permission to connect a property to the sanitary sewer system.

(b) The charge so exacted shall be determined in accordance with the following table and reviewed annually by the Director of Public Service with recommendation to Council for necessary code changes. In the event that an existing water tap is subsequently enlarged, the difference between the charges for the two tap sizes shall be paid. In no instance shall a refund be paid.

Domestic Supply Water Tap Size (Inches)	System Capacity Charge (In USD) Effective Charge Beginning 2006
3/4	\$ 5,327
1	8,880
1-1/2	17,757
2	28,413
3	56,826
4	88,790
6	177,581
8	284,130

(c) Any tap larger than 8" shall be based on the same proportionate ratio to that charged by Columbus, so that the City of Gahanna keeps the same percentage of revenue as incorporated in the previous table beyond Columbus' charges. This section shall be changed should Columbus increase their capacity charge.

(d) The funds received from the charges herein imposed shall be deposited in the Treasury, shall be credited to the Sanitary Sewer Capital Improvement Fund, and shall be available for the construction, operation, maintenance, management, repair, extension or enlargement of the sanitary sewer system, and for the payment of principal and interest on any debt incurred for the construction, improvement, repair, or extension of any part of such sanitary sewer system.

(Ord. 0158-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

#### **921.05 SEWER FOOTAGE FEES.**

(a) Front Footage Fee. Before issuing any permit to tap, as set forth in this chapter, a charge of thirty U. S. dollars (\$30.00) per front foot of the property to be served shall be made and collected, provided that such property has not been specially assessed for the cost of construction of a sewer to provide a lateral sewer benefit, or provided that such lateral sewer is not constructed under a private sewer agreement. Lots or parcels of ground which have the same width at the front and rear and the same depth on each side shall be charged on the basis of actual frontage. However, where the depth of such lot or parcel of ground abuts on a street or other public way and the owner elects to construct a building fronting on the street or public way abutting such depth, the fee shall be exacted for such depth.

In the event the lot or parcel of ground is irregular in shape, the front footage shall be measured on a line forty feet from the front lot line and parallel to the center line of the street. However, where the frontage is curved, it shall be measured on a line parallel to and forty feet distant from a line tangent to such curved frontage at a point midway between the sides of the lot or parcel of ground.

A deduction shall be made from the charges herein imposed, wherever, and to the extent that the owner of the property concerned can show that a special assessment has been paid for such or similar trunk sanitary sewer benefit, provided that such deduction shall be limited to the amount of such special assessment so paid.

All amounts so collected shall be deposited in the Treasury and credited to the Sewer System Capital Improvement Fund, Front Foot Charges Account.

(b) Subtrunk Sewer Fees. Before connecting any property to a subtrunk sewer constructed through undeveloped lands, acreage fees shall be charged to the property to be served by such connection. The acreage fees shall be determined and charged on a per acre basis, except under the following conditions:

- (1) Such property has been specially assessed for the cost of the sewer;
- (2) Such sewer has been constructed by the owner of such property and such owner's predecessors in interest under a private sewer agreement;
- (3) Such sewer has been constructed by the owner of such property or such owner's predecessors in interest under a separate special agreement.

These fees are to be reviewed annually by the Director of Public Service.

All amounts so collected shall be deposited in the Treasury and credited to the Sewer System Capital Improvement Fund, Front Foot Charges Account.

(Ord. 0158-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

**921.06 SEWER INSTALLER LICENSE.**

Any person, firm or corporation desiring to engage in the business of installing sewer service connections to any part of the sanitary sewerage system shall make application to the Department of Public Service for an installer's license. The application for such license shall be furnished by the City of Gahanna and shall be executed by the applicant and submitted together with sufficient evidence of prior experience, a performance bond on an approved company in the amount of not less than five thousand U. S. dollars (\$5,000), proof of Worker's Compensation Insurance, a liability insurance policy in an amount approved by the Director of Public Service and an application fee of seventy-five U. S. dollars (\$75.00). The license shall not be transferable and shall expire on December 31 of the year in which it is issued. The installer shall carry such license and shall exhibit the same to any authorized agent of the City of Gahanna on demand. No sewer service connections shall be installed by any person, firm or corporation without an installer's license. Poor workmanship or violation of any of the regulations herein shall be sufficient cause for revocation of the license. The application fee shall not be refundable should the license be voided for any reason. (Ord. 0158-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

**921.07 MATERIALS AND CONSTRUCTION.**

(a) All material used and work performed in making sanitary sewer service connections must conform with regulations and standard drawings approved by the City Engineer and issued by the Department of Public Service. Substitutions shall not be made without specific written approval of the Director of Public Service.

(b) Traps shall not be placed in the main line of the sewer service connections and any change in direction shall be made only with approved fittings. Basement floor drains shall be permitted only when they connect to a trap with a permanent waterseal between them and the sewer service connection. Vents shall be so constructed as to prevent foreign objects from being introduced into the sanitary sewerage system. Tee intersections shall not be permitted in any part of a sewer service connection. (Ord. 0158-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

**921.08 INSPECTIONS.**

Each sewer service connection must be inspected, in its entirety and before being backfilled, by a duly authorized representative of the Department of Public Service, serving as Sewer Inspector. Twenty-four hours notice must be given the Department of Public Service before starting construction of the sewer service connection. The sewer service connection must be constructed in accordance with the City of Gahanna specifications. (Ord. 0158-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

**921.09 GENERAL PROVISIONS.**

(a) Within five (5) calendar days after inspection by the agent of the City of Gahanna, the stone, brick, earth, concrete, asphalt or other material which may have been excavated or disturbed, shall be replaced by the sewer installer as nearly as possible to the same condition in which it was found. All rubbish and excess material shall be immediately removed, and the restored area shall be maintained by the sewer installer for a period of one (1) year.

(b) The sewer installer shall use care not to injure or break any other pipe or drain tile encountered during the construction. In case any such pipes, conduit or tiles are damaged, they shall be restored or replaced in as good condition as originally found, at the expense of the sewer installer.

(c) The owner and the sewer installer shall at all times have the sole responsibility to protect each opening or excavation made by such installer in the public streets, roads or alleys, with sufficient barriers and caution lights to effectually guard the public from accidents and damages.

(d) It shall be the responsibility of the owner to properly install the sewer service connection, and inspection shall not, in any way, relieve the owner of maintaining, operating and repairing the connection, nor shall the City of Gahanna, its agents or employees be liable for any damages arising from the installation or use of the sewer service connection.

(e) Plumbing for all buildings having sewer service connections to the sanitary sewer system shall be installed strictly in accordance with the City of Gahanna and State Building and Plumbing Codes. (Ord. 0158-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

#### **921.10 PROHIBITIONS.**

(a) The sanitary sewer system and connections thereto shall be used exclusively for drainage of waterborne wastes from water closets, urinals, lavatories, bath tubs and showers, laundry tubs, washing machines, refrigerator drips, automatic dishwashers, drinking fountains, sinks, floor drains of all types, soda fountains and for no other purpose whatever. However, garage floor drains, when receiving oil, grease or gasoline shall not be connected to the sanitary sewer system and the residue therefrom must be disposed of by the owner.

(b) Any wastes which may cause damage to, or stoppage of the sanitary sewer system or which may interfere with the purification or treatment of sewage, shall not be permitted to enter the sanitary sewer system. If any such waste is found, the sewer connection or connections discharging the same shall be disconnected at the expense of the owner.

(c) The connection of foundation drains in any way or manner, direct or indirect, shall not be permitted under any circumstances. All such drains found to be connected shall be immediately disconnected at the owner's expense and such use shall be discontinued.

(d) The connection of downspout or gutter drains, or of any roof water, either directly or indirectly, shall not be permitted under any circumstances. Any such connections shall be immediately disconnected at the owner's expense and such use shall be discontinued.

(e) The entrance of any surface water shall not be permitted, regardless of the amount or the method of entrance. Any person or the officers of any firm or corporation deliberately introducing surface water into the sanitary sewer system shall suffer the penalties hereinafter set forth.

(f) No person, group of persons, firm or corporation shall maintain a private sewer system within the City of Gahanna, except where the sanitary sewerage system is not available for use. All buildings accessible to the sanitary sewer system shall, upon order of the Director of Public Service, be required to connect to the sanitary sewer system in accordance with this chapter and the private sewers and septic tanks, or other forms of household sewage treatment systems, shall be properly abandoned per Franklin County Health Code requirements. (Ord. 0158-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

**921.11 SEWER RENTAL RATES.**

(a) All lots and land served by the sanitary sewer system shall be charged rental at the following rate, as recommended by the sewer rate study, with the table modified to include the surcharge in the basic rates as shown in the following tables:

Sewer Rental Table (In USD)

<b>EFFECTIVE DATE</b>	<b>BASE RATE CHARGE PER 1,000 GALLONS WATER</b>	<b>CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND PER 1,000 GALLONS</b>	<b>TOTAL BASE CHARGE PER 1,000 GALLONS</b>	<b>SEWER SURCHARGE FOR CITY OF COLUMBUS CONSENT ORDER PROJECTS PER EQUIVALENT RESIDENTIAL UNIT (ERU)</b>	<b>TOTAL CHARGE CALCULATION FORMULA</b>
JANUARY 1, 2014	5.38	0.35	5.73	2.54/MONTH/ERU	TOTAL BASE CHARGE PER 1,000 GALLONS PLUS 2.54/MONTH/ERU FOR COLUMBUS SURCHARGE
JANUARY 1, 2015	5.92	0.35	6.27	2.60/MONTH/ERU	TOTAL BASE CHARGE PER 1,000 GALLONS PLUS 2.60/MONTH/ERU FOR COLUMBUS SURCHARGE

## GALLONS OF WATER PER QUARTER - FIRST 3,000 OR LESS (IN USD)

Effective Date	Base Total Fee	Sewer Surcharge for City of Columbus Consent Order Projects Per Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU)	Total Charge Calculation Formula
JANUARY 1, 2014	17.19	2.54/MONTH/ ERU	BASE TOTAL FEE PLUS 2.54/MONTH/ ERU FOR COLUMBUS SURCHARGE
JANUARY 1, 2015	18.81	2.60/MONTH/ERU	BASE TOTAL FEE PLUS 2.60/MONTH/ ERU FOR COLUMBUS SURCHARGE

(b) The City of Gahanna adopts the Columbus Low Income Discount Program and the Director of Public Service is authorized to create regulations for administering said program. So long as the City of Columbus offers the Low Income Discount Program, or similar programs, to master meter communities, the City of Gahanna may offer the program to its qualified users.

(c) Additional billing charges may be incurred due to industrial use classification changes, which shall be charged to the individual customer(s) affected in accordance with the industrial user class charges established in Columbus City Code, Section 1147.08. These additional charges shall become a part of the quarterly bill.

(d) Quarters shall consist of three-month periods with billings commencing on a schedule to be determined by the Director of Public Service. The quarter bill, including all penalties, shall be due and payable thirty days from the date of mailing. A ten percent (10%) penalty shall be assessed to all accounts paying after the due date. A delinquent notice granting an additional fourteen days before discontinuance of service shall be mailed to those accounts not paid in the thirty day period. The Director of Public Service or the Director's designee has the authority under this chapter to waive the above ten percent (10%) penalty after review of the facts presented.

(e) Final bills shall be due and payable within fourteen (14) days from the date of mailing.

(f) Bills shall be sent on a time schedule to be determined by the Director of Public Service, but no less frequently than a quarterly basis, with the water bills, to the address given by the owner. The owner shall be responsible for promptly notifying the City of Gahanna of any change of address and no consideration shall be given for failure to do so.

(g) Any property owner who uses or intends to use the City of Gahanna sanitary sewer system, but does not use the water system of such City of Gahanna, shall be required to purchase a water meter from the City of Gahanna and install the same on the private water system line, in order to determine the proper sewer rental charges to be assessed. The owner shall permit inspection and testing of this meter at any reasonable time by a duly authorized representative of the City of Gahanna and shall keep the meter and transmitter in good operating condition.

(h) The Sanitary Sewer Capital Improvement Fund shall be used for the payment of bonds and notes issued for the purpose of financing sewer system capital improvements, and no moneys therein shall be used for any other purpose until and unless the Director of Finance of the City of Gahanna certifies that there are sufficient moneys within the Fund to make all payments necessary to pay the bonds and notes. In the event the Director of Finance so certifies, then the excess funds may be used for capital improvements and maintenance of the sewer system.

(i) The sewer surcharge for City of Columbus consent order projects is mandated to address wet weather issues caused by rain and snow melt overwhelming the sanitary sewer system through inflow and infiltration. (Ord. 0158-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

#### **921.12 UNPAID BILLS.**

(a) Each sewer charge rendered under or pursuant to this chapter is hereby made a lien upon the corresponding lot, parcel of land, building or premises served by a connection to the sanitary sewerage system of the City of Gahanna. If the same is not paid within sixty (60) days after said sewer charge becomes due and payable, in addition to any other remedies available to the City of Gahanna, said sewer charge may be certified to the Auditor of the county in which the property is located, who shall place the certified amount on the real property tax list and duplicate of the property served by the connection. The certified amount to include the interest and penalties allowed by law and shall be collected as other taxes are collected.

(b) It shall be the responsibility of the buyer and seller, where property is sold or transferred, to assure that a final reading of water consumption, for purposes of calculating the sanitary sewer charge, is made and provisions agreed to for payment; otherwise, the responsibility for payment for any sanitary sewer charge whatsoever shall reside with the current owner of such property.  
(Ord. 0158-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

#### **921.13 PARTIAL PAYMENT.**

Partial payments may be accepted. In accepting such partial payments, the amount owing shall be considered delinquent and the moneys paid shall be applied in the following order:

- (a) Refuse;
- (b) Penalty/miscellaneous;
- (c) Storm water management;
- (d) Sewer improvement;
- (e) Water improvement;
- (f) Columbus consent order;
- (g) Sewer; and
- (h) Water.

(Ord. 0148-2013. Passed 12-2-13.)

#### **921.14 APPLICATION, ADMINISTRATION, AND ENFORCEMENT OF COLUMBUS SEWER USAGE ORDINANCES.**

So long as the City of Gahanna discharges its sewage, industrial waste, water and other liquid waste into the transportation, pumping and treatment system of the City of Columbus, all of the provisions of Chapter 1145 of the Columbus City Code, both as they exist and as they are hereafter amended, relating to the regulation of sewage use are hereby adopted by reference and made applicable to the City of Gahanna sewerage system. In the event of conflict between the provisions of this chapter and Chapter 1145 of the Columbus City Code, the provisions of Chapter 1145 of the Columbus City Code shall prevail. Officers and employees of the City of Columbus are hereby empowered to enforce such provisions of the Columbus City Code within the boundaries of the City of Gahanna. (Ord. 0158-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

**921.15 SEPARABILITY OF PROVISIONS.**

Each section and each part of each section of this chapter is hereby declared to be an independent section or part of a section and, notwithstanding any other evidence of legislative intent that if any such section or part of a section, or any provision thereof, or the application thereof to any person or circumstances, is held to be invalid, the remaining sections or parts of sections and the application of such provisions to any other person or circumstances, other than those as to which it is held invalid, shall not be affected thereby.

It is hereby declared to be the legislative intent that these sections or parts of sections would have been adopted independently of such sections or parts of a section so held to be invalid.

(Ord. 0158-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

**921.99 VIOLATIONS.**

Any person violating any provision of this chapter shall be charged with a minor misdemeanor on the first offense and for each subsequent offense shall be charged with a misdemeanor of the fourth degree.

(Ord. 0148-2013. Passed 12-2-13.)



**CHAPTER 923**  
**Utility Contracts With Columbus**

EDITOR'S NOTE: Ordinance 32-67, passed August 21, 1967, authorized a thirty-year contract with the City of Columbus to provide for the discharge of sewage, industrial wastes, water and other liquid waste from the Municipality of Gahanna into, and the transportation, pumping and treatment of the same by, the sewerage system and the sewage treatment works of the City of Columbus. Ordinance 23-60, passed June 6, 1960, authorized a twenty-year contract between the Municipality of Gahanna and the City of Columbus for water supply through December 31, 1980.

**CROSS REFERENCES**

Contract for water supply - see Ohio R.C. 743.24, 4933.04  
Tampering with water hydrants, pipes or meters; unauthorized connections -  
see Ohio R.C. 4933.22



**CHAPTER 925**  
**Surface Water Discharge**

- |               |   |               |  |
|---------------|---|---------------|--|
| <b>925.01</b> | <b>Downspout and gutter drain connections prohibited.</b> | <b>925.04</b> | <b>Conduit connections for surface, roof water prohibited.</b> |
| <b>925.02</b> | <b>Foundation drain connections prohibited.</b>           | <b>925.99</b> | <b>Penalty.</b>  |
| <b>925.03</b> | <b>Ground water drainage; sump pump.</b>                  |               |  |

CROSS REFERENCE  
Obstructing drainage - see S. & P. S. Ch. 911

**925.01 DOWNSPOUT AND GUTTER DRAIN CONNECTIONS PROHIBITED.**

The connection of roof downspout and gutter drains, either directly or indirectly, into the sanitary sewerage system shall not be permitted under any circumstances. Any such connections found shall be immediately disconnected and their use immediately discontinued.  
(Ord. 53-61. Passed 12-4-61.)

**925.02 FOUNDATION DRAIN CONNECTIONS PROHIBITED.**

The connection of foundation drains in any way or manner, direct or indirect, into the sanitary sewerage system shall not be permitted under any circumstances. All such drains found to be so connected shall be immediately disconnected and such use discontinued.  
(Ord. 53-61. Passed 12-4-61.)

**925.03 GROUND WATER DRAINAGE; SUMP PUMP.**

Where a pipe or closed conduit is installed around the foundation of a building or structure for the purpose of draining ground water away from the foundation, a sump pump shall be used to dispose of such ground water by pumping it into a downspout drain to the curb, a storm sewer or other adequate outlet exterior to the house, other than any appurtenance of the sanitary sewerage system. (Ord. 53-61. Passed 12-4-61.)

**925.04 CONDUIT CONNECTIONS FOR SURFACE, ROOF WATER PROHIBITED.**

No person shall connect or cause to be connected to the sanitary sewerage system of the Municipality or any part thereof, any conduit which conveys directly or indirectly surface or roof water from any building, structure, yard or paved surface.  
(Ord. 53-61. Passed 12-4-61.)

**925.99 PENALTY.**

Any officer of any corporation or any person who violates the provisions of this chapter or installs storm drains, foundation drains or roof drains contrary to the provisions of this chapter shall be fined not more than fifty dollars (\$50.00).  
(Ord. 53-61. Passed 12-4-61.)



**CHAPTER 927**  
**Storm Sewers**

<p><b>927.01 Approval of plans; inspection.</b></p> <p><b>927.02 General.</b></p> <p><b>927.03 Definitions.</b></p> <p><b>927.04 Organization of the Utility.</b></p> <p><b>927.05 Stormwater facilities.</b></p> <p><b>927.06 Multiple fund projects.</b></p> <p><b>927.07 Private facilities.</b></p> <p><b>927.08 Public facilities.</b></p> <p><b>927.09 Ancillary improvements.</b></p> <p><b>927.10 Routine and remedial maintenance.</b></p> <p><b>927.11 Land and facilities affected by lands outside the City of Gahanna.</b></p> <p><b>927.12 Rules and regulations.</b></p> <p><b>927.13 Right of entry for survey, examination and maintenance.</b></p> <p><b>927.14 Funding.</b></p> <p><b>927.15 Stormwater Utility Fund.</b></p>	<p><b>927.16 Stormwater management service charge.</b></p> <p><b>927.17 Classification of property and ERU assignment and rate.</b></p> <p><b>927.18 Collection of stormwater management service charge.</b></p> <p><b>927.19 Adjustment charge; appeal.</b></p> <p><b>927.20 Delinquent charges.</b></p> <p><b>927.21 Appeals Board.</b></p> <p><b>927.22 Appeals.</b></p> <p><b>927.23 Contents of appeal request.</b></p> <p><b>927.24 Illicit non-stormwater discharge and illegal connection to the storm sewer system.</b></p> <p><b>927.25 Flooding; liability.</b></p> <p><b>927.26 Separability of provisions.</b></p> <p><b>927.99 Penalty.</b></p>
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**CROSS REFERENCES**

Untreated sewage - see Ohio R.C. 3701.59  
 Interference with sewage flow - see Ohio R.C. 4933.24  
 Sewer connections and rental rates - see S. & P. S. Ch. 921  
 Surface water discharge - see S.U. & P.S. Ch. 925

**927.01 APPROVAL OF PLANS; INSPECTION.**

No storm sewer shall be constructed within the corporate limits of the City of Gahanna and connected to the public storm sewer system of such City of Gahanna, unless and until the City Engineer or his designee has approved the plans, specifications and profiles for the same, and not until the builder has arranged for inspection of the construction of the same by the City Engineer or his designee. (Ord. 0161-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

**927.02 GENERAL.**

The purpose of the stormwater management provision contained in this chapter and other related provisions contained elsewhere in the Code is to provide for effective management and financing of a stormwater system within the City of Gahanna.

- (a) In order to accomplish the purpose of the effective administration of a stormwater system within the City of Gahanna, the chapter shall:
- (1) Establish and maintain fair and reasonable stormwater management service charges for each lot or parcel in the City of Gahanna which bears a substantial relationship to the cost of providing stormwater management services and facilities. Such service charges shall be charged because each property contributes to stormwater runoff and benefits from effective management of stormwater by the City of Gahanna.
  - (2) Ensure that similar properties pay similar stormwater management service charges which reflect the area of each property and its intensity of development, since these factors bear directly on the peak rate of stormwater runoff.  
Charges for residential properties (one dwelling unit) shall reflect the relatively uniform effect that such development has on runoff. Charges for all other properties shall be in proportion to residential properties, utilizing both relative area and intensity of development in setting rates.
  - (3) Provide a mechanism for consideration of specific or unusual service requirements of some properties, and special and general benefits accruing to or from properties as a result of providing their own stormwater management facilities.
  - (4) Provide for a service charge adjustment process to review stormwater charges when unusual circumstances exist which alter runoff characteristics, when either service or benefit varies from a normal condition or is of greater significance than contribution to runoff or to periodically ensure that rates reflect the current costs of effective stormwater management; and
  - (5) Utilize stormwater management funds throughout the City of Gahanna, except where activities or facilities are clearly unusual and in excess of the normal level of service Citywide and where developers are responsible for providing any new stormwater facilities required for their project.
- (b) In order to maintain its effectiveness, this chapter shall:
- (1) Establish a mechanism for appeals and amendments to its provisions.
  - (2) Provide a procedure for abatement of conditions or activities which are not in the interest of public health, safety or welfare.
  - (3) Provide for its continuous validity through severability of its various portions; and
  - (4) Provide penalties for violations of its provisions.  
(Ord. 0161-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

### **927.03 DEFINITIONS.**

For the purpose of this chapter, the words and phrases shall be defined as follows, unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning:

- (a) "Abatement" means any action taken to remedy, correct, or eliminate a condition within, associated with or impacting a drainage system.
- (b) "Appeals Board". The Water and Sewer Internal Review Board shall be the Appeals Board.
- (c) "City Engineer" means a professional engineer designated by and representing the City of Gahanna.

- (d) “Council” means the Council of the City of Gahanna, Ohio.
- (e) “Credit” means an on-going (as long as the various circumstances which produced the credit have not changed) reduction in a utility service charge given for certain qualifying activities which reduce either the impact of increased stormwater runoff or reduces the City of Gahanna’s costs of providing stormwater facilities.
- (f) “Detention facility” means a facility which, by means of a single control point, provides temporary storage of stormwater runoff in ponds, parking lots, depressed areas, rooftops, buried underground vaults or tanks, etc., for future release, and is used to delay and attenuate flow.
- (g) “Developer” means a person, firm, partnership or corporation, which otherwise improves a specific parcel or tract of land, performs construction work of any kind in the “project area” as defined in this section or holds or is required to obtain a “permit” as defined in this section.
- (h) “Director”. The “Director” shall be the Director of Public Service.
- (i) “Embankment” means the difference in elevation between a point on the original ground and a designated point of higher elevation on the final grade; a fill or the material used to make an embankment. This can be caused when earth, sand, gravel, rock, or any other material is placed, pushed, dumped, pulled, transported or moved to a new location above the natural surface of the ground or on top of the stripped surface or cut and shall include the conditions resulting therefrom.
- (j) “Engineer, professional” means a person holding a certificate of registration under O.R.C. §§4733.14 or 4733.19.
- (k) “Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU)” means a value of measured impervious area and is equal to the average amount of impervious area of typical single family residential properties within the City of Gahanna.
- (l) “Excavation” means the difference between a point on the original ground and designated point of lower elevation on the final grade; cut or the material removed in excavation. This can be caused when earth, sand, gravel, rock or any other similar material is dug into, cut, quarried, uncovered, removed, displaced, relocated, or bulldozed and shall include the conditions resulting therefrom.
- (m) “Facilities” means various drainage works that may include inlets, conduits, manholes, energy dissipation structures, public stormwater open channels, outlets, retention/detention basin, and other structural components.
- (n) “Grading” means any stripping, cutting, filling, stockpiling, or any combination thereof and shall include the land in its cut or filled condition.
- (o) “Impervious area” means land areas that have been paved and/or covered with buildings and materials which include, but are not limited to, concrete, asphalt, rooftop, blacktop, and other materials, or artificially compacted so as to provide, in the judgment of the Director, a non-pervious surface.
- (p) “Municipal” means property or facilities owned by the City of Gahanna, Ohio.
- (q) “Notice” means a written or printed communication conveying information or warning.
- (r) “Order” means the whole or any part of the final disposition (whether affirmative, negative, injunctive, or declaratory in form) or any matter issued by the Director or person designated by them pursuant to any provisions of this chapter.
- (s) “Owner” means any person or other legal entity which has rightful or legal title to real property.
- (t) “Permit” means the “stormwater management permit” required by this chapter.
- (u) “Premises” means a lot or parcel and the buildings and improvements situated thereon.

- (v) “Private” means property or facilities owned by individuals, corporations, and other organizations and not by municipal, county, township, state or federal government.
- (w) “Project area” means the land lying within the geographical limits of the tract(s) or parcel(s) under consideration and on which the work is to be performed.
- (x) “Public stormwater open channel” means all open channels which convey, in part or in whole, stormwater, and are owned, operated or maintained by the City; or a stormwater open channel which has a permanent drainage/stormwater easement owned by the City of Gahanna and drains an area which includes City-owned property or right-of-way. A public stormwater open channel does not include roadside ditches which convey only immediate right-of-way drainage.
- (y) “Public” means property or facilities owned by municipal, county, township, state, or federal governments.
- (z) “Retention facility” means a facility which provides storage of stormwater runoff and is designed to eliminate subsequent surface discharges.
- (aa) “Storm, stormwater” means rainfall runoff, snow melt runoff and surface runoff and drainage. “Storm” and “stormwater” as used in this chapter are interchangeable terms.
- (bb) “Storm sewer, storm drain” means a sewer or drain which carries stormwaters, surface runoff, street wash waters, and drainage, but which excludes sanitary sewage and industrial wastes, other than unpolluted cooling water. Storm sewers begin at the grating or opening where water enters the structure, through the sewer and conduits to the outlet structure where water enters a channel or natural watercourse.
- (cc) “Stormwater Management Code” means Chapter 1193 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Gahanna.
- (dd) “Stormwater Management Design Manual” means the latest edition of the Handbook of Design Methods, Standards, and Requirements for the Design, Construction, Maintenance and Use of Stormwater Facilities published by the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission.
- (ee) “Stormwater management system” means all man-made facilities, structures, and natural watercourses used for collecting, transporting, detaining, storing or disposing of stormwater to, through, and from drainage areas to the points of final outlet including, but not limited to any and all of the following: inlets, conduits, and appurtenant features, canals, creeks, public stormwater open channels, catch basins, ditches, streams, gulches, gullies, flumes, culverts, siphons, retention or detention basin, dams, floodwalls, levees, and pumping stations.
- (ff) “Total area” means the square footage of a lot or parcel measured or estimated by using the outside boundary dimensions, in feet, converted to acres (one acre equals 43,560 square feet), to obtain the total enclosed area, without regard for topographic features of the enclosed surface, as used in Section 927.17 for the purpose of determining the rate class for lot(s) or parcel(s) of real property. The boundary dimensions in feet of the enclosed surface area may be established by either of the following methods selected by the utility for each lot or parcel:
  - (1) On-site or photogrammetric measurements of the apparent outside boundary dimensions of the lot or parcel of real property made by the City of Gahanna or on its behalf; or

- (2) Computation of the area using dimensions of lot or parcel of real property and/or existing area measurements which are set forth and contained in the records of the office of the County Recorder or Auditor.
- (gg) “Utility” means the Stormwater Management Utility provided for by this chapter.
- (hh) “Watercourse” means a permanent or intermittent stream, river, brook, creek, public stormwater open channel, swale or ditch for water whether natural or manmade. (Ord. 0161-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

#### **927.04 ORGANIZATION OF THE UTILITY.**

(a) The Utility shall be administered by the Director who shall have the responsibility for planning, developing, and implementing stormwater management or sediment control plans; financing, constructing, maintaining, rehabilitating, inspecting, and managing existing and new stormwater facilities; collecting fees and charges for the utility; implementing and enforcing the provisions of this Code; and other related duties.

(b) The Utility may avail itself of the services of other City of Gahanna departments necessary for the discharge of its responsibilities. (Ord. 0161-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

#### **927.05 STORMWATER FACILITIES.**

(a) The Utility shall monitor the design, operation, maintenance, inspection, construction and use of all storm sewers, storm drains, and stormwater facilities in the City of Gahanna. The Utility shall be responsible for the design and construction of public stormwater facilities in the City of Gahanna and shall inspect, operate and maintain them as prescribed in Section 927.10.

(b) The Utility may accept overriding responsibility for permanent maintenance of stormwater facilities designed to control erosion when the benefiting area involves two or more property owners. The Utility may require facilities to be designed to reduce maintenance costs and will require adequate easements. (Ord. 0161-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

#### **927.06 MULTIPLE FUND PROJECTS.**

Where a public improvement is funded by the City of Gahanna and other agencies or organizations, and storm drainage is not a primary part of that project, the Utility’s responsibility for the storm drainage costs shall be in proportion to the City of Gahanna’s share of the total cost of the project unless otherwise determined by Council. (Ord. 0161-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

#### **927.07 PRIVATE FACILITIES.**

Any owner of private property upon which stormwater drainage facilities exist for the purpose of collecting, conveying, retaining or detaining stormwater within that property and which are not public facilities pursuant to Section 927.08, shall be responsible for the maintenance of these facilities as required to ensure proper operation, maintaining property in litter-free manner; and maintaining grass and weeds.

When the Utility accepts responsibility for design, construction, inspection, operation or maintenance of private facilities in accordance with Section 927.08, all expenses incurred therewith shall be the responsibility of the Utility.

The City of Gahanna reserves the right to cooperatively work with property owners in an area to fix a common problem related to stormwater. This means that financial arrangements may be agreed to between the City of Gahanna and property owners which result in an equitable arrangement that benefits all parties. (Ord. 0161-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

**927.08 PUBLIC FACILITIES.**

The Utility shall be responsible for stormwater drainage facilities, and watercourses on all streets, boulevards, sidewalks, curbing, streets, and other municipal property and public easements, and highway structures and appurtenances belonging to the City of Gahanna.

Where public facilities and watercourses are located in easements on private property, the owner of the property is responsible for aesthetic maintenance such as lawn mowing, litter pick-up, and the like. The owner shall neither place nor allow structures or plantings that interfere with the operation and maintenance of such drainage facilities and watercourses. (Ord. 0161-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

**927.09 ANCILLARY IMPROVEMENTS.**

The Utility may authorize the construction of curbs, pavements, public stormwater open channels, watercourses, conduits, culverts, or other structures on municipal property or public easements necessary to properly operate and maintain new and existing stormwater facilities. (Ord. 0161-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

**927.10 ROUTINE AND REMEDIAL MAINTENANCE.**

The Utility shall provide for inspection and routine maintenance of facilities that have been accepted for maintenance by the Utility. Maintenance may include catch basin cleaning, grating and casting repair, bridge surface drainage systems cleaning, public stormwater open channel clearing, erosion repair, and other incidentals. The Utility shall provide for remedial maintenance of facilities based upon the severity of stormwater problems and potential hazard to the public. Remedial maintenance of bridge surface drainage systems shall remain the responsibility of agencies other than the Utility. (Ord. 0161-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

**927.11 LAND AND FACILITIES AFFECTED BY LANDS OUTSIDE THE CITY OF GAHANNA.**

Where stormwater drains from lands outside the City of Gahanna, facilities within the City of Gahanna shall be designed in accordance with this chapter as if the entire drainage area was within the City of Gahanna, as determined by the Director or the Director's designee. (Ord. 0161-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

**927.12 RULES AND REGULATIONS.**

In order to accomplish the purpose of this chapter to protect the drainage facilities, improvements, and properties owned and maintained by the City of Gahanna, to secure the best results from the construction, operation and maintenance thereof, and to prevent damage and misuse of any of the drainage facilities, improvements or properties within the City of Gahanna, the Utility shall utilize existing rules, regulations or codes and may make and enforce additional rules and regulations that are approved by Council. The purpose of the rules and regulations shall be:

- (a) To prescribe the manner in which storm sewers, watercourses, public stormwater open channels, and other stormwater facilities are to be designed, installed, adjusted, used, altered or otherwise changed;
  - (b) To recommend inspection and certain other fees permitted by this chapter;
  - (c) To prescribe the manner in which such facilities are operated;
  - (d) To facilitate the enforcement of this chapter;
  - (e) To prescribe the collection procedures and timing of service charge bills;
  - (f) To protect the City of Gahanna stormwater management system, improvements, and properties controlled by the Utility, and to prescribe the manner of their use by any public or private person;
  - (g) To protect the public health, safety and welfare.
- (Ord. 0161-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

**927.13 RIGHT OF ENTRY FOR SURVEY, EXAMINATION AND MAINTENANCE.**

After presenting proper credentials and securing permission, the Director or the Director's designees, including contractors and their employees or consultants and their employees, may enter upon lands within the City of Gahanna to make surveys and examinations to accomplish the necessary findings to establish a Master Plan, for detailed analysis to prepare final plans and specifications for proposed improvements or for inspection or maintenance of stormwater facilities.

(Ord. 0161-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

**927.14 FUNDING.**

Funding for the Utility shall include, but not be limited to:

- (a) Stormwater Management Service Charges;
- (b) Direct Charges. This charge will be collected from owners, developers and other responsible parties for the cost of designing and constructing stormwater facilities, and for administrative costs and related expenses where the utility designs and/or constructs or contracts for the construction of such facilities, including costs associated with abatement procedures undertaken by the Utility;
- (c) Direct Assessment. This charge will be collected from owners in localized areas that desire stormwater drainage facilities not considered a part of the regional development or where an improvement is desired ahead of the priority status;
- (d) Other income obtained from federal, state, local and private grants, or revolving funds. (Ord. 0161-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

**927.15 STORMWATER UTILITY FUND.**

All revenues generated by or on behalf of the Utility including stormwater management service charges and direct charges shall be deposited in the Stormwater Management Fund and used exclusively for Utility purposes. (Ord. 0161-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

**927.16 STORMWATER MANAGEMENT SERVICE CHARGE.**

A stormwater management service charge is imposed on each lot and/or parcel of land within the City of Gahanna, and the owner thereof, excepting only streets, boulevards, sidewalks, curbing, street crossings, grade separations, and other public ways and easements, and highway structures belonging to the City of Gahanna, state and federal government. If individual adjacent lot(s) or parcel(s) are all owned by the same owner, they shall be considered to be a single parcel for determination of service charges.

- (a) Public road and freeway rights-of-way shall be exempt from the stormwater management service charge because they function as part of the stormwater collection and conveyance system. Private rights-of-way will be charged as described herein.
- (b) Properties that have existing stormwater detention facilities may have their stormwater management service charges reduced as determined by the Utility, in accordance with generally accepted engineering standards and practices to more accurately reflect the contribution to runoff from the property and the level of service provided to such property. The detention facilities must be in accord with the hydrologic, hydraulic, and structural design requirements of the rules and regulations. Facilities of a temporary nature will not be allowed a decrease in their charges.
- (c) The Utility may reduce or waive requirements for an individual detention/retention basin if a common or regional basin of adequate design is available or if the Utility is reasonably certain one will be constructed and if the major drainage system from the project area to such common or regional basin is such that the public health, safety and welfare will not be in jeopardy. (Ord. 0161-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

**927.17 CLASSIFICATION OF PROPERTY AND ERU ASSIGNMENT AND RATE.**

All properties having impervious area within the City of Gahanna shall be assigned an equivalent residential unit (ERU) or a multiple thereof, which will be at a minimum one ERU. There shall be two classifications of property for determination of the stormwater management service charge-variable charge:

- (a) Class R. Single family residential properties assigned one ERU. The annual stormwater management service charge for Class R lot(s) shall be in accordance with the following schedule:
  - 2012: Class R: \$12.00 per quarter less any applicable credits.
  - Beginning 2013: Class R: \$13.00 per quarter less any applicable credits.
- (b) Class C. All properties having an impervious area which are not single family residential properties assigned by the Director an ERU multiple based upon the properties estimated impervious area (in square feet) divided by 3064 square feet (one ERU) calculated to the second decimal place. The annual stormwater management charge for Class C lots and parcels shall be calculated as follows:
  - 2012: Class C: \$12.00 per ERU per quarter less any applicable credits.
  - Beginning 2013: Class C: \$13.00 per ERU per quarter less any applicable credits.
- (c) Quarters shall consist of three-month periods with billings commencing on a schedule to be determined by the Director of Public Service. The quarter bill, including all penalties, shall be due and payable thirty days from the date of mailing. A ten percent (10%) penalty shall be assessed to all accounts paying after the due date. The Director of Public Service or the Director's designee has the authority under this chapter to waive the above ten percent (10%) penalty after review of the facts presented. (Ord. 0161-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

**927.18 COLLECTION OF STORMWATER MANAGEMENT SERVICE CHARGE.**

The stormwater management service charge shall be paid, by the owner of each lot or parcel which is subject to this charge, on a periodic basis. Partial payments may be accepted. In accepting such partial payments, the amount owing shall be considered delinquent and the moneys paid shall be applied in the following order:

- (a) Refuse;
  - (b) Penalty/miscellaneous;
  - (c) Stormwater management;
  - (d) Sewer improvement;
  - (e) Water improvement;
  - (f) Columbus Consent Order;
  - (g) Sewer; and
  - (h) Water.
- (Ord. 0161-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

**927.19 ADJUSTMENT CHARGE; APPEAL.**

Anytime the runoff situation on a parcel of property changes, the Stormwater Utility reserves the right to correspondingly adjust the stormwater management service charge.

Owners who consider the charges applicable to their lot or parcel to be unjust or inequitable may apply, within 30 days after receipt of the charge, to the Water and Sewer Internal Review Board for adjustment thereof, stating in writing the grounds of the complaint.

The Water and Sewer Internal Review Board shall cause appropriate investigation thereof and determine whether an adjustment of the charges for any such lot or parcel is necessary to provide for the just and equitable application of the stormwater management service charge, and adjust such charge if appropriate. (Ord. 0161-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

**927.20 DELINQUENT CHARGES.**

(a) All delinquent fees shall be assessed as provided by the Utility, or as provided by the Utility's contract billing agent, if any.

(b) Each stormwater service charge rendered under or pursuant to this chapter is hereby made a lien upon the corresponding lots, parcels of land, buildings or premises that are tributary directly or indirectly to the stormwater system of the City of Gahanna. If the same is not paid within sixty (60) days after said stormwater charges become due and payable, in addition to any other remedies available to the City of Gahanna, said stormwater charges may be certified to the auditor of the county in which the property is located, who shall place the certified amount on the real property tax list and duplicate of the property served. Certified amount to include the interest and penalties allowed by law and shall be collected as other taxes are collected.

(c) It shall be the responsibility of the buyer and seller, where property is sold or transferred, to assure that all storm-water utility charges have been paid in full or provisions agreed to for payment; otherwise, the responsibility for payment for any storm-water charges whatsoever shall reside with the current owner of such property.  
(Ord. 0161-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

**927.21 APPEALS BOARD.**

(a) The Water and Sewer Internal Review Board may serve as the Appeals Board to hear and determine any appeal filed under Section 927.23.

(b) The Appeals Board shall, in harmony with the general purpose of this chapter and to secure the public health, safety and welfare, have the power to affirm, modify or revoke any notice or order and may grant an extension of time for the performance of any act required by this chapter where there is practical difficulty or undue hardship connected with the performance of such notice or order, and its decision shall be final. (Ord. 0161-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

**927.22 APPEALS.**

Any owner may appeal decisions or interpretations of the Director or the Director's designee, issued in connection with the enforcement of any provisions of this chapter provided that such owner shall file in the office of the Director a written request to the Appeals Board as provided below.

(a) The Director shall upon receipt of a request set a time and place for a public hearing and shall give the owner written notice thereof. At the hearing, the owner shall be given an opportunity to be heard and show cause why any decision, interpretation or any item appearing on a notice or order should be modified.

After a hearing, the Appeals Board shall sustain, modify or deny any item appealed by majority vote, depending on its findings as to whether the provisions of this chapter have been complied with, and the owner and the Director shall be notified in writing of such findings.

The proceedings at such hearings, including the findings and decision of the Appeals Board and reasons therefor, shall be summarized and reduced to writing and entered as a matter of public record in the office of the Director. The record shall also include a copy of every notice or order issued in connection with the matter.

(b) The failure of the owner or his representative to appear and state his case at any hearing shall constitute a denial of the appeal.

(c) Filing fees as required shall be in addition to the payment of the permits and inspection fees and any other fee which thereafter may occur, and no portion of such filing fee shall be refunded whatever the outcome of the appeal.  
(Ord. 0161-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

**927.23 CONTENTS OF APPEAL REQUEST.**

The owner shall set forth in the request for appeal, the interpretation, ruling or order appealed from, and the related provisions of this chapter or related laws or ordinances, and shall state wherein the interpretation, ruling, or order is erroneous.

Requests to the Appeals Board, in appeals filed in accordance with Section 927.22(a), may only be based on whatever the interpretation, ruling or order is erroneous or constitutes an erroneous application of the particular provisions of this chapter or other related laws or ordinances pertaining to stormwater management and finance, or is otherwise contrary to law. (Ord. 0161-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

**927.24 ILLICIT NON-STORMWATER DISCHARGE AND ILLEGAL CONNECTION TO THE STORM SEWER SYSTEM.**

(a) Purpose and Scope. The purpose of this regulation is to provide for the health, safety, and general welfare of the citizens of the City of Gahanna through the regulation of illicit discharges to the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4). This regulation establishes methods for controlling the introduction of pollutants into the MS4 in order to comply with requirements of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit process as required by the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA). The objectives of this regulation are:

- (1) To prohibit illicit discharges and illegal connections to the MS4.
- (2) To establish legal authority to carry out inspections, monitoring procedures, and enforcement actions necessary to ensure compliance with this regulation.

(b) Applicability. This regulation shall apply to all residential, commercial, industrial, or institutional facilities responsible for discharges to the MS4 and on any lands in the City of Gahanna, except for those discharges generated by the activities detailed in Section 927.24 (g)(1)A. to (1)C. of this regulation.

(c) Definitions. The words and terms used in this regulation, unless otherwise expressly stated, shall have the following meaning:

- (1) **BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMPS):** means schedules of activities, prohibitions of practices, general good house keeping practices, pollution prevention and educational practices, maintenance procedures, and other management practices to prevent or reduce the discharge of pollutants to storm water. BMPs also include treatment practices, operating procedures, and practices to control site runoff, spillage or leaks, sludge or water disposal, or drainage from raw materials storage.
- (2) **COMMUNITY:** means the City of Gahanna, its designated representatives, boards, or commissions.
- (3) **ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY OR UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (USEPA):** means the United States Environmental Protection Agency, including but not limited to the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA), or any duly authorized official of said agency.
- (4) **FLOATABLE MATERIAL:** in general this term means any foreign matter that may float or remain suspended in the water column, and includes but is not limited to, plastic, aluminum cans, wood products, bottles, and paper products.

- (5) **HAZARDOUS MATERIAL:** means any material including any substance, waste, or combination thereof, which because of its quantity, concentration, or physical, chemical, or infectious characteristics may cause, or significantly contribute to, a substantial present or potential hazard to human health, safety, property, or the environment when improperly treated, stored, transported, disposed of, or otherwise managed.
- (6) **ILLICIT DISCHARGE:** as defined in the Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.) at 40 C.F.R. 122.26 (B)(2) means any discharge to an MS4 that is not composed entirely of storm water, except for those discharges to an MS4 pursuant to a NPDES permit or noted in Section 927.24 of this regulation.
- (7) **ILLEGAL CONNECTION:** means any drain or conveyance, whether on the surface or subsurface, that allows an illicit discharge to enter the MS4.
- (8) **MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEM (MS4):** as defined at 40 C.F.R. 122.26 (B)(8), municipal separate storm sewer system means a conveyance or system of conveyances (including roads with drainage systems, municipal streets, catch basins, curbs, gutters, ditches, man-made channels, or storm drains):
- A. Owned or operated by a state, city, town, borough, county, parish, district, municipality, township, county, district, association, or other public body (created by or pursuant to state law) having jurisdiction over sewage, industrial wastes, including special districts under state law such as a sewer district, or similar entity, or an Indian tribe or an authorized Indian tribal organization, or a designated and approved management agency under Section 208 of the Clean Water Act that discharges to waters of the United States;
  - B. Designed or used for collecting or conveying storm-water;
  - C. Which is not a combined sewer; and
  - D. Which is not part of a Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW) as defined at 40 C.F.R. 122.2.
- (9) **NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) STORM-WATER DISCHARGE PERMIT:** means a permit issued by the EPA (or by a state under authority delegated pursuant to 33 United States Constitution (USC) § 1342(B)) that authorizes the discharge of pollutants to waters of the United States, whether the permit is applicable on an individual, group, or general area-wide basis.
- (10) **OFF-LOT DISCHARGING HOME SEWAGE TREATMENT SYSTEM:** means a system designed to treat home sewage on-site and discharges treated wastewater effluent off the property into a storm-water or surface water conveyance or system.
- (11) **OWNER/OPERATOR:** means any individual, association, organization, partnership, firm, corporation or other entity recognized by law and acting as either the owner or on the owner's behalf.
- (12) **POLLUTANT:** means anything that causes or contributes to pollution. Pollutants may include, but are not limited to, paints, varnishes, solvents, oil and other automotive fluids, non-hazardous liquid and solid wastes, yard wastes, refuse, rubbish, garbage, litter or other discarded or abandoned objects, floatable materials, pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers, hazardous materials, wastes, sewage, dissolved and particulate metals, animal wastes, residues that result from constructing a structure, and noxious or offensive matter of any kind.

- (13) STORM-WATER: any surface flow, runoff, and drainage consisting entirely of water from any form of natural precipitation, and resulting from such precipitation.
- (14) WASTEWATER: the spent water of a community. From the standpoint of a source, it may be a combination of the liquid and water-carried wastes from residences, commercial buildings, industrial plants, and institutions.

(d) Disclaimer of Liability. Compliance with the provisions of this regulation shall not relieve any person from responsibility for damage to any person otherwise imposed by law. The provisions of this regulation are promulgated to promote the health, safety, and welfare of the public and are not designed for the benefit of any individual or for the benefit of any particular parcel of property.

(e) Conflicts, Severability, Nuisances & Responsibility.

- (1) Where this regulation is in conflict with other provisions of law or ordinance, the most restrictive provisions, as determined by the City of Gahanna, shall prevail.
- (2) If any clause, section, or provision of this regulation is declared invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, the validity of the remainder shall not be affected thereby.
- (3) This regulation shall not be construed as authorizing any person to maintain a nuisance on their property, and compliance with the provisions of this regulation shall not be a defense in any action to abate such a nuisance.
- (4) Failure of the City of Gahanna to observe or recognize hazardous or unsightly conditions or to recommend corrective measures shall not relieve the site owner from the responsibility for the condition or damage resulting there from, and shall not result in the City of Gahanna, its officers, employees, or agents being responsible for any condition or damage resulting there from.

(f) Responsibility for Administration. The City of Gahanna shall administer, implement, and enforce the provisions of this regulation. The City of Gahanna may contract with other agencies to conduct inspections and monitoring and to assist with enforcement actions.

(g) Discharge and Connection Prohibitions.

- (1) Prohibition of Illicit Discharges. No person shall discharge, or cause to be discharged, an illicit discharge into the MS4. The commencement, conduct, or continuance of any illicit discharge to the MS4 is prohibited except as described below:
  - A. Line flushing; landscape irrigation; diverted stream flows; rising water ground waters; uncontaminated ground water infiltration; uncontaminated pumped ground water; discharges from potable water sources; foundation drains; air conditioning condensate; irrigation water; springs; water from crawl space pumps; footing drains; lawn watering; individual residential car washing; small charity car washes; flows from riparian habitats and wetlands; dechlorinated swimming pool discharges; street wash water; and discharges or flows from firefighting activities. These discharges are exempt until such time as they are determined by the City of Gahanna to be significant contributors of pollutants to the MS4. Additional, other water sources not containing pollutants may be considered at the discretion of the City Engineer.

- B. Discharges specified in writing by the City of Gahanna as being necessary to protect public health and safety.
  - C. Discharges from off-lot household sewage treatment systems permitted by the Franklin County Public Health District for the purpose of discharging treated sewage effluent unless such discharges are deemed to be creating a public health nuisance by the Franklin County Public Health District. In compliance with the City of Gahanna Storm-water Management Program, discharges from all off-lot household sewage treatment systems must either be eliminated or have coverage under an appropriate NPDES permit issued and approved by the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency. When such permit coverage is available, discharges from household sewage treatment systems will no longer be exempt from the requirements of this regulation.
- (2) Prohibition of Illegal Connections. The construction, use, maintenance, or continued existence of illegal connections to the MS4 is prohibited.
- A. This prohibition expressly includes, without limitation, illegal connections made in the past, regardless of whether the connection was permissible under law or practices applicable or prevailing at the time of connection.
  - B. A person is considered to be in violation of this regulation if the person connects a line conveying illicit discharges to the MS4, or allows such a connection to continue.
- (h) Industrial or Construction Activity Discharge.
- (1) Industrial or Construction Activity Discharge. Any person subject to an industrial or construction activity NPDES Stormwater Discharge Permit shall comply with all provisions of such permit. Proof of compliance with said permit may be required in a form acceptable to the City of Gahanna prior to allowing discharges to the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System.
- (2) Portable Toilets.
- A. Property owners, occupants, managers or other persons in charge of any premises, office, business establishment, institution, industry, or similar facility, including construction or demolition sites, shall be responsible for the placement and sanitary maintenance of portable toilets.
  - B. Portable toilets shall be installed in a level position and be easily accessible to users.
  - C. Where possible, portable toilets shall not be located upon any street or public right-of-way. Portable toilets shall not be located on, or within twenty (20) feet of a storm drain, or within one hundred (100) feet from any body of water including but not limited to project ponds with over flow devices. Portable toilets shall not be located within eleven (11) feet of a curb and / or gutter. If portable toilet placement is for a period of time lasting longer than one week, and is determined by the City of Gahanna to be vulnerable to tipping from wind, or vandalism, the portable toilet shall be secured by staking or cabling.

- D. Where possible, portable toilets shall be located upon natural ground and not on an impervious surface such as concrete or asphalt.
  - E. Portable toilets shall not be located whereby a spill or runoff will directly enter into storm drains or any water system.
  - F. Portable toilets are not to be washed down whereby allowing contamination runoff to pollute soil and water resources and create potential human health issues and/or aquatic degradation. However, washing the outside of the unit is allowed as long as no contaminants are present there.
  - G. Portable toilets must be cleaned and serviced by a licensed service company at least once per week or when needed to maintain sanitary conditions. Cleaning and sanitizing shall include the use of a sanitizing solution for cleaning urinals and toilet seats, removing waste from containers, recharging containers with an odor-controlling solution and installing an adequate supply of toilet paper. Removal of waste shall be handled in a clean and sanitary manner by means of a vacuum hose and received by a leak proof tank truck. All ports on the tank shall be valved and capped.
  - H. Special events: City of Gahanna or privately sponsored special events may be required to submit a plan showing the location of the portable toilets to the City of Gahanna Service Department for review and approval. These portable toilets for the event shall be considered temporary for a duration no longer than five (5) days after which time they must be removed and the location plan shall be considered expired.
- (i) Monitoring of Illicit Discharges and Illegal Connections.
- (1) Establishment of an Illicit Discharge and Illegal Connection Monitoring Program: The City of Gahanna Service Department or its designee shall establish a program to detect and eliminate illicit discharges and illegal connections to the MS4 in compliance with general permitting requirements of the OEPA.
  - (2) Inspection of Residential, Commercial, Industrial, or Institutional Facilities.
    - A. The City of Gahanna Service Department or its designee shall be permitted without prior notice to enter and inspect facilities subject to this regulation as often as may be necessary to determine compliance with this regulation.
    - B. The City of Gahanna Service Department or its designee shall have the authority to set up at facilities subject to this regulation such devices as are necessary to conduct monitoring and/or sampling of the facility's storm water discharge, as determined by the City of Gahanna.
    - C. The City of Gahanna Service Department or its designee shall have the authority to require the facility owner/operator to install monitoring equipment as necessary. This sampling and monitoring equipment shall be maintained at all times in safe and proper operating condition by the facility owner/operator at the owner/operator's expense. The City of Gahanna Service Department or its designee shall have the authority to calibrate said devices used to measure storm water flow and quality to ensure their accuracy.

- D. Any temporary or permanent obstruction to safe and reasonable access to the facility to be inspected and/or sampled shall be promptly removed by the facility's owner/operator at the written or oral request of the City of Gahanna and shall not be replaced. The costs of clearing such access shall be borne by the facility owner/operator.
  - E. Unreasonable delays in allowing the City of Gahanna access to a facility subject to this regulation for the purposes of illicit discharge inspection is a violation of this regulation.
  - F. If the City of Gahanna is refused access to any part of the facility from which storm water is discharged, and the City of Gahanna demonstrates probable cause to believe that there may be a violation of this regulation, or that there is a need to inspect and/or sample as part of an inspection and sampling program designed to verify compliance with this regulation or any order issued hereunder, or to protect the public health, safety, and welfare, the City of Gahanna may seek issuance of a search warrant, civil remedies including but not limited to injunctive relief, and/or criminal remedies from any court of appropriate jurisdiction.
  - G. Any costs associated with these inspections shall be assessed to the facility owner/operator.
- (j) Notification of Accidental Discharges and Spills.
- (1) Notwithstanding other requirements of law, as soon as any person responsible for a facility, activity or operation, or responsible for emergency response for a facility, activity or operation has information of any known or suspected release of pollutants or non-stormwater discharges from that facility or operation which are resulting or may result in illicit discharges or pollutants discharging into stormwater, the MS4, state waters, or waters of the United States, said person shall take all necessary steps to ensure the discovery, containment, and cleanup of such release so as to minimize the effects of the discharge.
  - (2) Said responsible person shall notify the authorized enforcement agency in person, by phone, or other method no later than twenty-four (24) hours of the nature, quantity and time of occurrence of the discharge. Notifications shall be confirmed by written notice addressed and mailed to the City of Gahanna within three (3) business days. If the discharge of prohibited materials emanates from a commercial or industrial establishment, the owner or operator of such establishment shall also retain an on-site written record of the discharge and the actions taken to prevent its recurrence. Such records shall be retained for at least three (3) years. Said person shall also take immediate steps to ensure no recurrence of the discharge or spill.
  - (3) In the event of such a release of hazardous materials, emergency response agencies and/or other appropriate agencies shall be immediately notified. Failure to provide notification of a release as provided above is a violation of this chapter.

(k) Enforcement.

- (1) Notice of Violation. When the City of Gahanna finds that a person has violated a prohibition or failed to meet a requirement of this regulation, the City of Gahanna may order compliance by written notice of violation. Such notice must specify the violation and shall be hand delivered, and/or sent by registered mail, to the owner/operator of the facility. Such notice shall require one or more of the following actions:
- A. The performance of monitoring, analyses, and reporting;
  - B. The elimination of illicit discharges or illegal connections;
  - C. That violating discharges, practices, or operations cease and desist;
  - D. The abatement or remediation of storm-water pollution or contamination hazards and the restoration of any affected property; or
  - E. The implementation of source control or treatment BMPs.
- (2) If abatement of a violation and/or restoration of affected property is required, the notice of violation shall set forth a deadline within which such remediation or restoration must be completed. Said notice shall further advise that, should the facility owner/operator fail to remediate or restore within the established deadline, a legal action for enforcement may be initiated.
- (3) Any person receiving a notice of violation must meet compliance standards within the time established in the notice of violation.
- (4) Appeal: If the violation has not been corrected pursuant to the requirements set forth in the notice of violation, the City of Gahanna shall schedule an appeal before the Board of Zoning and Building Appeals to determine reasons for non-compliance and to determine the next enforcement activity. Notice of the appeal shall be hand delivered to the owner/operator of the facility and/or sent registered mail.
- (5) Injunctive Relief: It shall be unlawful for any owner/operator to violate any provision or fail to comply with any of the requirements of this regulation pursuant to Ohio R.C. 3709.211. If an owner/operator has violated or continues to violate the provisions of this regulation, the City of Gahanna may petition for a preliminary or permanent injunction restraining the owner/operator from activities that would create further violations or compelling the owner/operator to perform abatement or remediation of the violation.

(l) Remedies Not Exclusive. The remedies listed in this regulation are not exclusive of any other remedies available under any applicable federal, state or local law and it is in the discretion of the City of Gahanna to seek cumulative remedies.

(m) Violations. Any person violating any provision of this chapter shall be charged with a minor misdemeanor on the first offense and for each subsequent offense shall be charged with a misdemeanor of the fourth degree.

(Ord. 0161-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

**927.25 FLOODING; LIABILITY.**

Floods from stormwater runoff may occasionally occur which exceed the capacity of storm drainage facilities constructed, operated, or maintained by funds made available under this chapter. This chapter does not imply that property subject to the fees and charges established herein will always be free from stormwater flooding or flood damage, or that stormwater systems capable of handling all storm events can be cost effectively constructed, operated or maintained. Nor shall this chapter create a liability on the part of, or cause of action against, the City of Gahanna or any officer or employee thereof for any flood damage that may result from such storms or the runoff thereof. Nor does this chapter purport to reduce the need or the necessity for obtaining flood insurance.

(Ord. 0161-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

**927.26 SEPARABILITY OF PROVISIONS.**

Each section and each part of each section of this chapter is hereby declared to be an independent section or part of a section and, notwithstanding any other evidence of legislative intent that if any such section or part of a section, or any provision thereof, or the application thereof to any person or circumstances, is held to be invalid, the remaining sections or parts of sections and the application of such provisions to any other person or circumstances, other than those as to which it is held invalid, shall not be affected thereby.

It is hereby declared to be the legislative intent that these sections or parts of sections would have been adopted independently of such sections or parts of a section so held to be invalid.

(Ord. 0161-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

**927.99 PENALTY.**

Any person violating any provision of this chapter shall be charged with a minor misdemeanor on the first offense and for each subsequent offense shall be charged with a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. (Ord. 0161-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)



**CHAPTER 928  
Sewer Districts**

- 928.01 Creation.**  
**928.02 Triangle North Sanitary Sewer District.**  
**928.03 Triangle West Sewer District.**  
**928.04 Johnstown Road Hammons Sewer District.**  
**928.05 East Industrial Sanitary Sewer Area.**

CROSS REFERENCES  
 Sewer districts - see Ohio R.C. 727.44 et seq.

**928.01 CREATION.**

Council may, from time to time, designate areas within the service area of the City's sanitary sewer system as special sewer districts. The regulations, rates, and fees applicable to all customers of the sanitary sewer system as set out in the Codified Ordinances shall apply to the sewer districts created by Council unless Council shall otherwise provide.  
 (Ord. 990493. Passed 11-1-99.)

**928.02 TRIANGLE NORTH SANITARY SEWER DISTRICT.**

There is hereby created an area known as the Triangle North Sanitary Sewer District for the purpose of constructing a subtrunk sewer to serve the district, and to recover the cost of said sewer by means of a per acre fee, as described herein, with said Triangle North Sanitary Sewer District more particularly described in Exhibit A and map as shown on Exhibit B, with both exhibits attached to the original Ordinance 216-97, passed October 21, 1997.

- (a) Fees. The properties enclosed by the boundaries of Exhibits A and B of original Ordinance 216-97, passed October 21, 1997, which connect to the subtrunk sewer or tributaries and are developed in a commercial zoning, a multi-family zoning, or are platted subdivisions shall be assessed an acreage fee. This fee shall be based on the actual cost of the sewer finances over a seven-year period with an interest rate of eight percent (8%). Engineering economical analysis, assuming seven equal payments, yields a factor of 1.3447. The capital recovery cost calculated is to be divided by the 142 acres in this district. Fees are to be paid upon acceptance of connecting sewer or connection of service.
- (b) Waivers. The subtrunk footage fee defined in Section 921.05(b) shall be waived for properties connecting to the North Triangle Subtrunk Sewer.
- (c) Exceptions.
- (1) Existing single family residences of land zoned in the ER-1 or ER-2 Districts are subject to the statutory front footage fees.
  - (2) Properties abating the subtrunk sewer may be exempted from the front footage fees as required in Section 921.05(a) in exchange for granting of easements for said sewer.
  - (3) Exempted properties shall be subject to the fee if rezoned or redeveloped as specified herein.
- (Ord. 990493. Passed 11-1-99.)

**928.03 TRIANGLE WEST SEWER DISTRICT.**

There is hereby created an area known as the Triangle West Sewer District for the purpose of constructing a subtrunk sewer to serve this district, and to recover the cost of said sewer by means of a per acre fee, as described herein, with said Triangle West Sewer District more particularly described in Exhibit C and map as shown on Exhibit D, attached to original Ordinance 990493 and made a part herein.

- (a) Fees. The properties enclosed by the boundaries of Exhibit C and Exhibit D, attached to original Ordinance 990493, which connect to the subtrunk sewer or tributaries and are developed in a commercial zoning, a multi-family zoning, or are platted subdivisions shall be assessed an acreage fee. This fee shall be based on the actual cost of the sewer finances over a seven-year period with an interest rate of eight percent (8%). Engineering economical analysis, assuming seven equal payments, yields a factor of 1.3447. The capital recovery cost calculated is to be divided by the sixty-six acres in this district. Fees are to be paid upon acceptance of connecting sewer or connection of service.
  - (b) Waivers. The subtrunk footage fee defined in Section 921.05(b) shall be waived for properties connecting to the Triangle West Sewer District.
  - (c) Exceptions.
    - (1) Existing single family residences of lands zoned in the ER-1 or ER-1 are subject to the statutory front footage fees.
    - (2) Properties abating the subtrunk sewer may be exempted from the front footage fees as required in Section 921.05(a) in exchange for granting of easements for said sewer.
    - (3) Exempted properties shall be subject to the fee if rezoned or redeveloped as specified herein.
- (Ord. 990493. Passed 11-1-99.)

**928.04 JOHNSTOWN ROAD HAMMONS SEWER DISTRICT.**

There is hereby created an area known as Johnstown Road Hammons Sewer District for the purpose of constructing a collector sewer to serve the district, and to recover the cost of said sewer by means of a per acre fee, as described herein, with said sewer district more particularly described in Exhibit A, attached to original Ordinance 990493, and consisting of the following three properties:

660 Johnstown Road	1.236 acres	Instrument No. 99709180096699
680 Johnstown Road	1.25 acres	D.B. 2645, page 140
698 Johnstown Road	1 acre	D.B. 3414, page 978

- (a) Fees. The properties enclosed by the boundaries of Exhibit A attached to original Ordinance 990493, which connect to the sewer and are developed in a commercial zoning, a multi-family zoning, are platted subdivisions, are sold, or the dwelling is rebuilt, shall be assessed an acreage fee. This fee shall be based on the actual cost of the sewer financed over a five-year period with an interest rate of eight percent (8%). Engineering economical analysis, assuming a lump sum payment, yields a factor of 1.469. The capital recovery cost calculated is to be divided by the 3.486 acres in this district. Fees are to be paid upon connection of service.

The subtrunk footage fee defined in Section 921.05(b) shall not be applied to properties connecting to the Johnstown Road Hammons Sewer.

The district fee shall be applied in lieu of the statutory front footage fee, except as provided herein.

- (b) Exceptions.
- (1) Existing single family residences of lands are subject to the statutory front footage fee.
  - (2) Exempted properties shall be subject to the balance of the fee herein, allowing credit for front footage fees already paid if rezoned or redeveloped as specified.
  - (3) Existing single family residences of lands which are connected to the sewer within six months of completion may pay the entire district fee, calculated using the actual cost per acre of the sewer without applying the five-year interest rate.  
(Ord. 990493. Passed 11-1-99.)

**928.05 EAST INDUSTRIAL SANITARY SEWER DISTRICT.**

There is hereby created an area known as the East Industrial Sanitary Sewer District for the purpose of constructing a subtrunk sewer to serve the district, and to recover the cost of said sewer by means of a per acre fee, as described herein, with said East Industrial Sanitary Sewer District more particularly described in Exhibit A and map as shown on Exhibit B, attached to the original Ordinance 0104-2003 and made a part herein.

- (a) Fees. The properties enclosed by the boundaries of Exhibits A and B of original Ordinance 0104-2003, which connect to the subtrunk sewer or tributaries and are developed in a commercial zoning, a multi-family zoning, or are platted subdivisions shall be assessed an acreage fee. This fee shall be based on the actual cost of the sewer finances over a five-year period with an interest rate of five percent (5%). Engineering economical analysis, assuming five equal payments, yields a factor of 1.276. The capital recovery cost calculated is to be divided by the 211.7 acres in this service area of the district. Fees are to be paid upon acceptance of connecting sewer or connection of service.
- (b) Waivers. The subtrunk footage fee defined in Section 921.05(b) shall be waived for properties connecting to the North Triangle Subtrunk Sewer.
- (c) Exceptions.
- (1) Existing single family residences of land zoned in the ER-1 or ER-2 Districts are subject to the statutory front footage fees.
  - (2) Exempted properties shall be subject to the fee if rezoned or redeveloped as specified herein.  
(Ord. 0104-2003. Passed 6-16-03.)



**CHAPTER 929**  
**Water Connections and Rates**

<b>929.01</b>	<b>Definitions.</b>	<b>929.11</b>	<b>Prohibitions.</b>
<b>929.02</b>	<b>Permit required; multiple use connections prohibited.</b>	<b>929.12</b>	<b>Water rates (In USD).</b>
<b>929.03</b>	<b>Water tap charge.</b>	<b>929.13</b>	<b>Unpaid bills.</b>
<b>929.04</b>	<b>Water main extension.</b>	<b>929.14</b>	<b>System capacity rates.</b>
<b>929.05</b>	<b>Charge for extension of water mains.</b>	<b>929.15</b>	<b>Private fire protection service.</b>
<b>929.06</b>	<b>Installer's license.</b>	<b>929.16</b>	<b>Separability of provisions.</b>
<b>929.07</b>	<b>Inspections.</b>	<b>929.17</b>	<b>Special charges (In USD).</b>
<b>929.08</b>	<b>Meter service fee.</b>	<b>929.18</b>	<b>Charge for renewal of service.</b>
<b>929.09</b>	<b>Materials and construction.</b>	<b>929.19</b>	<b>Partial payment.</b>
<b>929.10</b>	<b>General provisions.</b>	<b>929.99</b>	<b>Violations.</b>

**CROSS REFERENCES**

Compulsory water connections - see Ohio R.C. 729.06, 743.23  
 Management and control of water works - see Ohio R.C. 743.02 et seq.  
 Weekly deposit of water works money collected - see Ohio R.C. 743.06  
 Unauthorized connections - see Ohio R.C. 4933.22

**929.01 DEFINITIONS.**

For the purposes of this chapter:

- (a) "Water service connection" means the water pipe extending from the water main to the connection with the plumbing at the building served.
- (b) "Water main" means the water pipe located in a street, alley or easement from which the domestic water supply is delivered to the service pipe leading to the water service connection.
- (c) "Water system" means all City of Gahanna facilities for supplying, treating, storing, pumping and distributing potable water.

- (d) "Owner" means any person, group of persons, corporation, partnership or firm which holds title to a lot or parcel of land adjacent to the water system, or desires to purchase water from the City of Gahanna.
- (e) "Fixture" means any valve, valve box, hydrant, meter, curb stop, curb box, tank, building or any other physical article owned or operated by, or essential to the operation of the water system.
- (f) "Front footage" means the frontage which abuts on the street right of way. On corner parcels, it shall be the shortest frontage so abutting. Front footage shall be measured at the building line where lots are irregular in shape. When the property to be served does not abut upon a street right of way, front footage means the smaller of the parcel dimensions, but in no event shall be less than the required frontage for the zoning of that parcel. (Ord. 0159-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

**929.02 PERMIT REQUIRED; MULTIPLE USE CONNECTIONS PROHIBITED.**

(a) No connection with any part of the City of Gahanna water system, nor the repair or removal thereof, nor any excavation thereof shall be started without first securing a permit from the Department of Public Service. Such permit must be on the premises where such water service connection is being constructed, prior to beginning such work and during the continuation thereof. A charge of eighty U. S. dollars (\$80.00) shall be made for such permit, to cover the cost of issuance and inspections. Such amount shall be deposited in the Treasury Water Fund. The charge for such permit is non-refundable.

(b) No permit shall be issued which contemplates the construction or installation of any multiple use connections. Each commercial, industrial, residential, occupied structure, etc., shall have a separate water service connection to the water system, whether or not such facilities are owned by one person. Multiple structures shall have separate connections for each unit, except where this would create a manifest hardship, in which case the Director of Public Service may grant special written permission to the owner to use a single connection. Where such permission is granted for double units to use a single connection, it must provide that such connection shall not be less than one inch in diameter, and that separate curb stops and boxes, and separate meters are installed.

(c) The Director of Public Service shall review these permit fees annually and submit a written report to Council, recommending that this fee either be maintained or modified. (Ord. 0159-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

**929.03 WATER TAP CHARGE.**

(a) The Division of Water shall maintain the water tap which shall remain the property of the City of Gahanna. The tap charges shall be paid in advance as follows:

DIAMETER OF TAP (in inches)	TAP CHARGE (IN USD) (effective January 1, 2006)
3/4 or less	\$ 770.00
1	\$ 900.00
1-1/2	\$ 1,155.00
2	\$ 1,540.00

(b) The water tap charges, set forth above, shall be reviewed each year by the Director of Public Service, who shall submit a written report to Council, recommending needed adjustments based upon actual cost.

(c) All water taps in subdivisions or developments must be installed at the time the water mains are installed.

(d) Every property owner shall be required to install a tap for each lot or parcel immediately prior to the paving of any street when ordered by the Director.

(e) Taps may be installed by a contractor licensed by the City of Gahanna upon issuance of a permit by the Division of Water. Such installation must conform to the standards and specifications of the Division of Engineering and must be approved by the Division of Water.

(f) Before issuing any permit to tap, as set forth in this chapter, a charge of thirty U. S. dollars (\$30.00) per front foot of the property to be served shall be made and collected, provided that such property has not been specially assessed for the cost of construction of the water main to be tapped, or provided that such water main is not constructed under a private water line agreement. Lots or parcels of ground which have the same width at the front and rear, and the same depth on each side shall be charged on the basis of actual frontage, except where the depth of such lot or parcel of ground abuts on a street or other public way and the owner elects to construct a building fronting on the street or public way abutting such depth, the fee shall be exacted for such depth.

(g) All amounts so collected for front footage shall be deposited in the Water System Capital Improvements Fund.

(h) The Director shall review these water tap charges and front footage fees annually and submit a written report to Council, recommending that these fees either be maintained or modified. (Ord. 0159-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

#### **929.04 WATER MAIN EXTENSION.**

The Director of Public Service is authorized to provide water service to new consumers when the Director determines that the water main extension is feasible both economically and from an engineering standpoint and will not be detrimental to the best interest of the City of Gahanna having given consideration to the overall effect on the total water system and to the long term plans and probable future growth of the water system of the City of Gahanna. (Ord. 0159-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

#### **929.05 CHARGE FOR EXTENSION OF WATER MAINS.**

(a) All water main extensions in the City of Gahanna shall be paid for by the applicants or developer requesting such extension. Water main extensions will be of the same diameter as the existing main being extended unless otherwise required by the City of Gahanna.

(b) The Director of Public Service shall determine from the Division of Engineering records, or other sources, the cost of the pipe, fittings and valves and this determination shall be final.

(c) The Director of Public Service may authorize water main extensions to be installed by a qualified developer and the Director shall determine whether the water main shall be installed by the City of Gahanna or by the applicant or developer.

(d) For each water main extension requested and installed by the City of Gahanna, the Division of Engineering shall make an estimate of the total costs involved and the applicants or developer shall make a deposit to the City of Gahanna that is sufficient to cover the estimated cost of the water main extension. If the actual cost of the extension is higher or lower than the deposit, the applicants or developer will be refunded the amount of any excess deposit or shall pay the City of Gahanna any deficit that may exist in the deposit, as the case may be.

(e) When water main extensions are installed by the City of Gahanna, the cost may be assessed against the abutting property owners, with the approval of Council. Such assessment shall be in an amount equal to the total installation cost unless the line is required by the City of Gahanna to be larger than eight inches. When the water main is required by the City of Gahanna to be installed larger than eight inches, the amount assessed shall be the total installation cost less 110 percent (110%) of the difference in the cost of the pipes, fittings and valves between the installation of an eight-inch water main and the water main installed. The costs shall be determined as prescribed in subsection (b) hereof.

(f) The specifications and standards of construction for all water main extensions shall be prepared by the City Engineer. Plans and installation shall be subject to approval by the Division of Engineering.

(g) The size of all water mains shall be determined by the Director of Public Service and shall be large enough not only to serve the areas under immediate consideration but also to serve areas which are likely to be developed and which should be served by the water main under consideration. Unless otherwise required by the Director of Public Service, no water main shall be smaller than eight inches nominal diameter.

(h) All extensions of water mains shall include the installation of all taps, valves and fire hydrants. The number and location of fire hydrants shall be in accordance with the requirements of the City of Gahanna. The number and location of all taps and valves shall be as required by the Director of Public Service.

(i) All water mains and appurtenances shall be owned, operated and maintained by the City of Gahanna, with title to be vested in the City of Gahanna upon completion and written acceptance of the water main.

(j) No water mains shall be installed except by the City of Gahanna, unless authorized by an agreement between the City of Gahanna and the developer or applicants. Where water mains are installed by a developer or applicant and abut on parcels not owned by the developer or applicant not included in the agreement, the developer or applicant shall be entitled to reimbursement when such parcels are connected to the water main within ten years after the completion of the water main from the funds collected by the City of Gahanna for such connections pursuant to Section 929.03(f).

(k) To be eligible for this reimbursement, the developer or applicant must file with the Division of Water within ninety days after the completion of the water main or such further time as may be authorized by the Director of Public Service in accordance with the standards and specifications, receipts for all labor and material used in connection with the construction of the water main, together with final, as-built plans, properly referenced for future location of the work. (Ord. 0159-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

#### **929.06 INSTALLER'S LICENSE.**

Any person, firm or corporation desiring to engage in the business of installing water service connections shall make application to the Department of Public Service for an installer's license, as set forth in Section 921.06. The license issued under such section shall authorize the person to whom granted to install both sewer and water service connections. All pertinent parts of Section 921.06 are incorporated by reference in this section, as if fully written herein. (Ord. 0159-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

#### **929.07 INSPECTIONS.**

Each water service connection must be inspected, in its entirety and before being backfilled, by a duly authorized representative of the Department of Public Service, serving as Water Inspector. Twenty-four hours notice must be given the Department before starting construction of the water service connection. The water service connection must be constructed in accordance with the City of Gahanna specifications. (Ord. 0159-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

#### **929.08 METER SERVICE FEE.**

(a) When a permit is issued for a water service connection or a change in meter size, the meter shall be installed by the City of Gahanna, and a fee equal to the cost of the meter and remote plus ten percent (10%) shall be paid.

(b) Where the meter is one and one-half inches or larger in nominal diameter, the fee shall be equal to the cost of the meter and remote plus ten percent (10%) with installation of meter to be made by the applicant under the inspection and approval of the Division of Water. Remote reading devices will be required on all meters and installed by the Division of Water.

(c) After the meter is procured and before the curb stop is opened, the meter shall be set and installed in an easily-accessible position in a manner approved by the City of Gahanna, and shall not thereafter be moved, removed or otherwise tampered with, except upon express written approval of a duly authorized agent of the City of Gahanna.

(d) The meter service fee as set forth, shall be reviewed each year by the Director of Public Service, who shall recommend to Council any needed adjustments based upon actual cost.

(e) All water meters exclusive of deducting meters, shall be maintained by and remain the property of the City of Gahanna.

(f) The installation of a meter transceiving unit will be required where such readers are deemed necessary by the Director of Public Service.

(g) Sewer adjustment meters for the purpose of deducting water not entering the sanitary sewer system from the sewer portion of the bill shall be permitted. Such meters shall be purchased from the City of Gahanna at a rate of cost plus 10%. Additionally, a transmitter shall be purchased from the City of Gahanna at a rate of cost plus 10%. All deducting meters must meet the specifications established by the City of Gahanna and shall be owned and maintained by the property owner. The meters shall be installed in such manner as to register water that does not enter the sanitary sewer system in any way. Such installation shall meet with the standards of the Division of Water and Sewer and shall be inspected by its representative upon completion. Sewer adjustment credits will only be allowed after inspection and approval of the meter by the City of Gahanna. Any usage from the date of installation to the date of inspection and approval will not be subject to a reduction. The fee for said inspection shall be forty dollars (\$40.00). (Ord. 0159-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

#### **929.09 MATERIALS AND CONSTRUCTION.**

All material used and work performed in making water service connections must conform with regulations and standard drawings approved by the City Engineer and issued by the Department of Public Service. Substitutions shall not be made without the specific written approval of the Director of Public Service.  
(Ord. 0147-2013. Passed 12-2-13.)

#### **929.10 GENERAL PROVISIONS.**

(a) It shall be the responsibility of the owner to properly install the water service connection. Inspection shall not, in any way, relieve the owner of maintaining, operating and repairing the connection, nor shall the City of Gahanna or its agents or employees be liable for any damage arising from the installation or use of the water service connection.

(b) The owner shall maintain the service pipe from the curb stop to the meter, the meter and transmitter in good condition and shall permit inspection and testing of the same at any reasonable time by a duly authorized representative of the Division of Water. In the event such service pipe is determined to be defective and leaking, service may be discontinued immediately until repair or replacement of such pipe is made.

(c) Within five (5) calendar days after inspection by the agent of the City of Gahanna, the stone, brick, earth, concrete, asphalt or other material which may have been excavated or disturbed, shall be replaced by the water installer as nearly as possible to the same condition in which it was found. All rubbish and excess material shall be immediately removed, and the restored area shall be maintained by the water installer until all possible trench settlement has taken place.

(d) The water installer shall use care not to damage or break any other pipe, drain tile or conduit encountered during construction. In case any such pipes, conduit or tiles are damaged, they shall be restored or replaced in as good condition as originally found, at the expense of the water installer.

(e) The owner and the water installer shall at all times have the sole responsibility of protecting each opening or excavation made by the installer in the public streets, roads or alleys, with sufficient barriers and caution lights to effectually guard the public from accidents and damages.

(f) Plumbing for all buildings having water service connections to the water system shall be installed strictly in accordance with the City of Gahanna and State Building and Plumbing Codes.  
(Ord. 0159-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

#### **929.11 PROHIBITIONS.**

(a) Except as otherwise provided herein, no person, group of persons, firm or corporation shall connect or cause to be connected to the water system any pipe, hose, conduit or fixture for the purpose of using water from the system without the use of a properly installed and approved meter. All water so used for any purpose whatsoever shall be billed at the rate hereinafter established. Failure to comply with this regulation in all respects shall subject the violator to loss of water service and other penalties prescribed herein.

(b) No cross connections shall be installed or maintained between the water system and any private water supply. Any premises using both the water system and a private water supply shall be subject to periodic inspection to ascertain whether or not such cross connections are being or have been maintained.

(c) No person, other than the Director of Public Service or the Director's authorized agent, shall operate, manipulate or tamper with any fixture of the water system.

(d) No persons shall install a private water supply system for domestic use within the City of Gahanna, except where the City of Gahanna water system is not available. All existing buildings, other than residential, accessible to the water system, upon recommendation of the Director of Public Service, shall be required to connect to the City of Gahanna water system, and have the private water supply disconnected from the City of Gahanna water system in such building. All existing residential buildings shall be exempted from the requirements of this section for so long as the existing private water supply is safe and potable and in sufficient quantity to meet the reasonable needs of the residents without supplementation.  
(Ord. 0159-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

**929.12 WATER RATES (IN USD).**

(a) The following rates (in USD) shall apply to water service within the City of Gahanna:

<b>EFFECTIVE DATE</b>	<b>BASE RATE PER THOUSAND GALLONS</b>	<b>PLUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PER THOUSAND GALLONS</b>	<b>BILLING RATE PER THOUSAND GALLONS</b>
<b>JANUARY 1, 2014</b>	\$ 6.68	\$ 0.89	\$ 7.57
<b>JANUARY 1, 2015</b>	\$ 6.68	\$ 0.89	\$ 7.57

- (1) The “billing rate per thousand gallons” in the above table shall be applied to the first nine million gallons of water purchased per user per quarter. Quantities beyond nine million gallons purchased per user per quarter shall be charged an amount equal to the supply cost.
- (2) Minimum base rate water charges per quarter (in USD).

<b>Meter Diameter</b>	<b>2014 January 1</b>	<b>2015 January 1</b>
(inches) Less than 3	\$ 22.71	\$ 22.71
3	\$ 104.97	\$ 136.26
4	\$ 215.41	\$ 174.48
6	\$ 325.35	\$ 272.52
8	\$ 436.90	\$ 363.36
10	\$ 498.31	\$ 454.20

(b) The City of Gahanna adopts the Columbus Low Income Discount Program and the Director of Public Service is authorized to create regulations for administering said program. So long as the City of Columbus offers the Low Income Discount Program, or similar programs, to master meter communities, the City of Gahanna may offer the program to its qualified users.

(c) The Water Fund shall be used for the payment of bonds and notes issued for the purpose of financing water system capital improvements, and no moneys therein shall be used for any other purpose until and unless the Finance Director of the City of Gahanna certifies that there are sufficient moneys within the fund to make all payments necessary to pay the bonds and notes. In the event the Finance Director so certifies, then the excess funds may be used for capital improvements and maintenance of the water system.

(d) Quarters shall consist of three-month periods with billings commencing on a schedule to be determined by the Director of Public Service. The quarter bill, including all penalties, shall be due and payable thirty days from the date of mailing. A ten percent (10%) penalty shall be assessed to all accounts paying after the due date. A delinquent notice granting an additional fourteen days before discontinuance of service shall be mailed to those accounts not paid in the thirty day period. The Director of Public Service or the Director's designee has the authority under this chapter to waive the above ten percent (10%) penalty after review of the facts presented.

(e) Final bills shall be due and payable within fourteen (14) days from the date of mailing.

(f) Bills shall be sent on a time schedule to be determined by the Director of Public Service, but no less frequently than a quarterly basis to the address given by the owner, who shall be responsible for promptly notifying the Division of Water of any change of address, and no consideration shall be given for failure to so do.

(g) The Director of Public Service shall review these water rates annually and shall submit a written report to Council, recommending either that this rate schedule be maintained or modified. (Ord. 0159-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

#### **929.13 UNPAID BILLS.**

(a) Each water charge rendered under or pursuant to this chapter is hereby made a lien upon the corresponding lot, parcel of land, building or premises served by a connection to the water system of the City of Gahanna. If the same is not paid within sixty (60) days after said water charge becomes due and payable, in addition to any other remedies available to the City of Gahanna, said water charge may be certified to the auditor of the county in which the property is located, who shall place the certified amount on the real property tax list and duplicate of the property served by the connection. This amount shall include the interest and penalties allowed by law and shall be collected as other taxes are collected.

(b) It shall be the responsibility of the buyer and seller, when property is sold or transferred, to assure that a final reading of water consumption is made and provisions agreed to for payment; otherwise, the responsibility for payment for any water usage whatsoever shall reside with the current owner of such property.  
(Ord. 0159-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

#### **929.14 SYSTEM CAPACITY RATES.**

(a) The following rates shall be charged for each water service connection made to any property and shall be paid at the time a permit is issued for the water service connection. No person shall make a water service connection or any part thereof, unless he has been issued a permit by the Director of Public Service. In the event a tap is subsequently enlarged, the difference between the charges for the two sizes shall be paid. In no instance shall a refund be paid.

<b>Tap Diameter (Inches)</b>	<b>Tap Charge (in USD) Effective Date (January 1, 2006)</b>
3/4	\$ 1,593
1	\$ 3,312
1-1/2	\$ 8,568
2	\$ 14,699
3	\$ 30,624
4	\$ 47,775
6	\$ 108,529
8	\$ 191,100

(b) For all taps used to supply fire protection only, the rate shall be one-half the rate specified in this section.

(c) The Director of Public Service shall review these system capacity rates annually and submit a written report to Council, recommending either that this rate schedule be maintained or modified. (Ord. 0159-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

**929.15 PRIVATE FIRE PROTECTION SERVICE.**

(a) For all fire protection service installations made after the effective date of Ordinance 70-73, requiring a separate fire service line, the consumer shall install at his expense, subject to the inspection and approval of the City of Gahanna, all of the piping system necessary to extend from the consumer's system and connect to the City of Gahanna's existing water main.

(b) All separate fire service lines shall have installed, before service is established, an approved meter installation. Such meter and the installation shall meet the specifications and approval of the City of Gahanna and the entire installation shall be at the expense of the consumer. The applicable rates as prescribed in Section 929.12 shall be paid for metered fire service lines.

(c) The City of Gahanna reserves the right to order the installation of a meter on an existing fire protection line upon violation of applicable ordinances and the rules and regulations of the Director of Public Service.

(d) No charge except the minimum charge will be made for any measured water flow resulting from the use of water for fire fighting purposes when such fire has been reported to the fire department serving the area involved.

(e) Where an unmetered tap for a fire service line exists, the following charge shall be paid per quarter as prescribed below:

<b>Fire Tap Diameter (Inches)</b>	<b>2014 CHARGE (IN USD) PER QUARTER (METER SIZE MINIMUM PLUS 10%)</b>	<b>2015 CHARGE (IN USD) PER QUARTER (METER SIZE MINIMUM PLUS 10%)</b>
4	\$236.98	\$174.48
6	\$357.89	\$272.52
8	\$480.59	\$363.36
10	\$548.14	\$454.20

(f) When a property is served with both an unmetered fire protection service and water service, the amount to be paid for the combined service shall be the charge computed by using the applicable commodity rate established in Section 929.12 in addition to the table above.

(g) When a property is served by more than one fire protection service and such service provides water to a common interconnected fire protection system, the services shall be considered a single fire protection service with the rates or charges to be based on the largest tap or meter.

(h) When a property is served with one or more fire protection services and one or more water services, the owner or contract holder may notify the Utility Billing Division at the time of application for service or as of January 1, of each year, which commodity service shall be combined with which of the fire protection services for billing purposes. In the event no such notice is received, the Utility Billing Division shall make such determination.

(i) All outlets, except sprinkler heads, on unmetered fire protection service shall be sealed under the supervision of the Division of Water. No person shall break a seal, or withdraw water from any unmetered fire protection system, except in the case of fire, without prior approval of the Director of Public Service.

(j) The Director of Public Service shall review these water rates annually and submit a written report to Council, recommending either that this rate schedule be maintained or modified. (Ord. 0159-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

**929.16 SEPARABILITY OF PROVISIONS.**

Each section and each part of each section of this chapter is hereby declared to be an independent section or part of a section and, notwithstanding any other evidence of legislative intent that if any such section or part of a section, or any provision thereof, or the application thereof to any person or circumstances, is held to be invalid, the remaining sections or parts of sections and the application of such provisions to any other person or circumstances, other than those as to which it is held invalid, shall not be affected thereby.

It is hereby declared to be the legislative intent that these sections or parts of sections would have been adopted independently of such sections or parts of a section so held to be invalid. (Ord. 0147-2013. Passed 12-2-13.)

**929.17 SPECIAL CHARGES (IN USD).**

The following charges may be imposed for the specified special services furnished by the City of Gahanna:

- |     |   |                                 |
|-----|---|---------------------------------|
| (a) | Trip to place door hanger notifying of turn off if account not paid:  | \$ 12.00                        |
| (b) | Trip to turn off service for nonpayment of account during regular work hours:   | \$ 36.00                        |
| (c) | Trip to turn on or off service at curb at request of customer during regular work hours:  | \$ 36.00                        |
| (d) | Trip to turn on service after turn-off for nonpayment during regular work hours:  | \$ 36.00                        |
| (e) | Trip to turn on or off service at curb box at request of customer after regular working hours:  | \$ 125.00                       |
| (f) | Trip to service meter and/or transmitter damaged by negligence, vandalism, freezing, or hot water or to service transmitter due to negligence or vandalism:   | \$ 50.00                        |
|     |   | Plus cost to repair or replace. |
| (g) | Trip to turn off service as a result of fraud or illegal diversion of water, unauthorized turn on of water meter tampering, bypass of meter, or other violation of the rules and regulations of the Director of Public Service: | \$ 250.00                       |
| (h) | Testing of meter at the request of consumer:  |                                 |
|     | (1) Where meter tests Outside the American Water Works Association Standard, which is 98.5% to 101.5%:  | \$ 0.00                         |

- |     |  |   |
|-----|--|---|
| (2) | Where meter tests within<br>The American Water<br>Works Association<br>Standard, which is<br>98.5% to 101.5%:  | \$ 80.00  |
| (3) | Where meter is 1-1/2 inch or larger<br>in diameter, the meter shall be<br>removed, transported to and from a<br>meter shop, and reinstalled by the<br>consumer, with permission, under the<br>inspection and approval of the<br>Division of Water: | \$ 75.00<br>Plus cost to test, repair<br>or replace.              |
| (i) | Permit to use water from fire hydrant:   | \$ 25.00<br>Plus water used, charged at regular<br>rate plus 15%. |

The Director of Public Service shall review these water rates annually and submit a written report to Council, recommending either that this rate schedule be maintained or modified. (Ord. 0159-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

#### **929.18 CHARGE FOR RENEWAL OF SERVICE.**

In all cases where the Director of Public Service has ordered a discontinuance of water service for a violation of any rule or regulation there shall be charged the fees prescribed in Section 929.17 for renewal of the water service. (Ord. 0147-2013. Passed 12-2-13.)

#### **929.19 PARTIAL PAYMENT.**

Partial payments may be accepted. In accepting such partial payments, the amount owing shall be considered delinquent and the moneys paid shall be applied in the following order:

- (a) Refuse;
- (b) Penalty/miscellaneous;
- (c) Storm water management;
- (d) Sewer improvement;
- (e) Water improvement;
- (f) Columbus consent order;
- (g) Sewer; and
- (h) Water.

(Ord. 0147-2013. Passed 12-2-13.)

#### **929.99 VIOLATIONS.**

Any person violating any provision of this chapter shall be charged with a minor misdemeanor on the first offense and for each subsequent offense shall be charged with a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. (Ord. 0147-2013. Passed 12-2-13.)



**CHAPTER 931**  
**Comprehensive Rights of Way Ordinance**

<p><b>931.01 Declaration of findings and purpose, scope, definitions.</b></p> <p><b>931.02 Rights of way administration.</b></p> <p><b>931.03 Discontinuance of operations, abandoned and unused facilities.</b></p> <p><b>931.04 Nature of issuance.</b></p> <p><b>931.05 Other approvals, permits and agreements.</b></p> <p><b>931.06 Certificate of registration applications.</b></p> <p><b>931.07 Reporting requirements.</b></p> <p><b>931.08 Compensation for certificate of registration.</b></p> <p><b>931.09 Oversight and regulation.</b></p> <p><b>931.10 Registration term.</b></p> <p><b>931.11 Adoption of rules and regulations.</b></p> <p><b>931.12 Liquidated damages.</b></p>	<p><b>931.13 Termination of certificate of registration.</b></p> <p><b>931.14 Unauthorized use of public rights of way.</b></p> <p><b>931.15 PEG requirements for open video systems.</b></p> <p><b>931.16 Assignment or transfer of ownership and renewal.</b></p> <p><b>931.17 Construction permits.</b></p> <p><b>931.18 Construction, relocation and restoration.</b></p> <p><b>931.19 Minor maintenance permits.</b></p> <p><b>931.20 Enforcement of permit obligation.</b></p> <p><b>931.21 Construction and removal bonds.</b></p> <p><b>931.22 Indemnification and liability.</b></p> <p><b>931.23 General provisions.</b></p> <p><b>931.99 Penalty.</b></p>
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**931.01 DECLARATION OF FINDINGS AND PURPOSE, SCOPE, DEFINITIONS.**

(a) Findings and Purpose.

- (1) The City of Gahanna, Ohio (the "City") is vitally concerned with the use of all Rights of Way in the City as such Rights of Way are a valuable and limited resource which must be utilized to promote the public health, safety, and welfare including the economic development of the City.
- (2) Changes in the public utilities and communication industries have increased the demand and need for access to Rights of Way and placement of facilities and structures therein.
- (3) It is necessary to comprehensively plan and manage access to, and structures and facilities in, the Rights of Way to promote efficiency, discourage uneconomic duplication of facilities, lessen the public inconvenience of uncoordinated work in the Rights of Way, and promote the public health, safety, and welfare.
- (4) The City has authority under the Laws and Constitution of the State of Ohio, including but not limited to Article 18, Sections 3, 4, and 7, to regulate public and private entities which use the Rights of Way.

(b) Scope. The provisions of this Chapter shall apply to all users of the Rights of Way as provided herein except as provided in Chapter 903. To the extent that anything in this Chapter 931 conflicts with Chapter 903, the provisions of this Chapter 931 shall control.

(c) Definitions. For the purposes of Chapter 931, the following terms, phrases, words, and their derivations have the meanings set forth herein. When not inconsistent with the context, words in the present tense include the future tense, words in the plural number include the singular number, and words in the singular number include the plural number. The words "shall" and "will" are mandatory and "may" is permissive. Words not defined shall be given their common and ordinary meaning. References hereafter to "Sections" are, unless otherwise specified, references to Sections in this Chapter. Defined terms remain defined terms whether or not capitalized.

- (1) Applicant means any Person who seeks to obtain or renew a Certificate of Registration or Permit.
- (2) Application means the process and format by which an Applicant submits a request to obtain a Certificate of Registration or Permit.
- (3) Bankruptcy Act means the regulations promulgated by Title 11 of The United States Code.
- (4) Best Efforts means the best reasonable efforts under the circumstances, taking into consideration, among other appropriate matters, all applicable Laws, regulations, safety, engineering and operational codes, available technology, human resources, and cost.
- (5) Board of Zoning and Building Appeals ("BZBA") means the Board of Zoning and Building Appeals of the City of Gahanna, Ohio.
- (6) Certificate of Registration means the document issued to each Provider and its unique System to occupy the Rights of Way within the City and outlines the terms of that occupancy of the Rights of Way.
- (7) City means the City of Gahanna, Ohio.
- (8) City Council means the legislative governing body of the City.
- (9) Clerk of Council means the duly appointed Clerk of the City Council of Gahanna, Ohio.
- (10) Codified Ordinances means the Codified Ordinances of the City of Gahanna, Ohio.
- (11) Confidential/Proprietary Information means all information that has been either identified or clearly marked as confidential/proprietary by the Provider prior to any submission. Upon receipt of such clearly marked Confidential/Proprietary Information from a Provider, the City shall endeavor, in accordance with the requirements of ORC Chapter 149 (The Ohio Public Records Act), to use all the same reasonable measures and exercise the same degree of care that the City uses to protect its own information of such a nature from disclosure to third parties. In the event that the City receives a request from a third party for disclosure of information a Provider has clearly marked as Confidential/Proprietary Information, then the City shall respond as required by ORC Chapter 149, but will use all reasonable means to notify the Provider as soon as possible.

- (12) Construct means, but shall not be limited to, dig, bore, tunnel, trench, excavate, obstruct, install wires, install conduit, install pipes, install transmission lines, install poles, install signs, or install Facilities, other than landscaping or ornamental plantings, in, on, above, within, over, below, under, or through any part of the Rights of Way. Construct shall also include the act of opening and/or cutting into the surface of any paved or improved surface that is any part of the Right of Way.
- (13) Construction means, but shall not be limited to, the act or process of digging, boring, tunneling, trenching, excavating, obstructing, installing wires, installing conduit, installing pipes, installing transmission lines, installing poles, installing signs, or installing Facilities, other than landscaping or ornamental plantings, in, on, above, within, over, below, under, or through any part of the Rights of Way. Construction shall also include the act of opening and/or cutting into the surface of any paved or improved surface that is part of the Right of Way.
- (14) Construction Bond means a bond posted to ensure proper and complete Construction, replacement and/or repair of a Facility and/or the affected Rights of Way pursuant to a Permit.
- (15) Construction Permit means the Permit as specified in § 931.17 et seq. of the Codified Ordinances which must be obtained before a Person may Construct in, locate in, occupy, maintain, move, or remove Facilities from, in, or on a Right of Way.
- (16) Construction and Major Maintenance Plan means a written plan including maps of the expected location, design, other related equipment and Facilities of a Provider which describes in full the Construction intended to be accomplished by the Provider in the Rights of Way over the next calendar year.
- (17) County means Franklin County, Ohio.
- (18) Credible means worthy of being believed.
- (19) Department of Public Service and Engineering means the Department of Public Service and Engineering of the City of Gahanna, Ohio.
- (20) Director of Law means the Law Director of the City of Gahanna, Ohio.
- (21) Director of Public Service means the Director of the Department of Public Service and Engineering of the City of Gahanna, Ohio, or his or her designee.
- (22) Emergency means a condition that poses a clear and immediate danger to life, health, or safety of a Person, or of a significant loss of real or personal property.
- (23) Facilities means any tangible thing located in any Rights of Way within the City; but shall not include mailboxes, boulevard plantings, ornamental plantings, or gardens planted or maintained in the Rights of Way between a Person's property and the street edge of pavement.
- (24) FCC means the Federal Communications Commission, or any successor thereto.
- (25) Full means unable to accommodate any additional Facilities in light of applicable standards and using standard engineering practices as determined by the Director of Public Service; or, without negatively impacting public health and safety; or, without violating any applicable Laws or Rules and Regulations.
- (26) In, when used in conjunction with Rights of Way, means in, on, above, within, over, below, under or through a Right of Way.

- (27) Inspector means any Person authorized by the Director of Public Service to carry out inspections related to the provisions of this Chapter.
- (28) Law(s) means any local, state, or federal legislative, judicial or administrative order, certificate, decision, statute, constitution, ordinance, resolution, regulation, rule, tariff, or other requirement in effect either at the time of execution of this Chapter or at any time during the location of, and/or while a Provider's Facilities are located in the public Rights of Way.
- (29) Major Facilities means those Facilities defined as such in the Rules and Regulations adopted by the Director of Public Service pursuant to Section 931.11 herein.
- (30) Minor Maintenance Permit means a permit as specified in Section 931.19 et seq. which must be obtained before a Person can perform Minor Maintenance, as set forth in Section 931.19 et seq., in or on the Rights of Way.
- (31) Ohio Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices means the uniform system of traffic control devices promulgated by the Ohio Department of Transportation pursuant to O.R.C. §4511.09.
- (32) O.R.C. means the Ohio Revised Code.
- (33) Ohio Utility Protection Service means the utility protection service as defined in O.R.C. §§ 153.64 and 3781.26 or its statutory successor.
- (34) Open Video Service means any video programming services provided by a Person through use of Rights of Way, which Provider is certified by the FCC to operate an Open Video System pursuant to Sections 651 et seq. of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (codified at 47 U.S.C. Title VI, Part V), regardless of the facilities used.
- (35) Permit means a Construction Permit and/or a Minor Maintenance Permit unless otherwise specified.
- (36) Permit Cost(s) means, as allowed by Law, all costs borne by the City for Permit issuance.
- (37) Permit Fee(s) means money paid to the City for a Permit to Construct and do Minor Maintenance in the Rights of Way.
- (38) Permittee means any Person to whom a Construction Permit and/or a Minor Maintenance Permit has been granted by the City and not revoked.
- (39) Person means any natural or corporate person, business association, or other business entity including, but not limited to, a partnership, a sole proprietorship, a political subdivision, a public or private agency of any kind, a utility, a successor or assign of any of the foregoing, or any other legal entity, whether for profit or not for profit.
- (40) Provider means a Person who owns or operates a System. The City or County, and cable television operators operating pursuant to a valid cable franchise shall also be considered Providers.
- (41) PUCO means the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio as defined in O.R.C. § 4901.02.
- (42) Registration Maintenance Fee means the money paid to the City to maintain a Certificate of Registration and compensate the City for costs associated with Rights of Way management and administration.

- (43) Removal Bond means a bond posted to ensure the availability of sufficient funds to properly remove a Provider's Facilities upon abandonment, disuse, or discontinuance of a Provider's use or occupation of the Rights of Way.
- (44) Restoration means the process and the resultant effects by which Rights of Way are returned to a condition at least as good, using the same materials (or other similar materials approved by the Director of Public Service), as its condition immediately prior to Construction. Restoration shall occur in accordance with the Rules and Regulations established by the Director of Public Service and as amended from time to time.
- (45) Right(s) of Way means the surface and space in, on, above, within, over, below, under or through any real property in which the City has an interest in Law or equity, whether held in fee, or other estate or interest, or as a trustee for the public, including, but not limited to any public street, boulevard, road, highway, freeway, lane, alley, court, sidewalk, parkway, river, tunnel, viaduct, bridge, conduit or any other place, area, or real property owned by or under the legal or equitable control of the City, now or hereafter, that consistent with the purposes for which it was dedicated, may be used for the purposes of constructing, operating, repairing or replacing a System. Rights of Way shall not include buildings, parks, or other public property or easements that have not been dedicated to compatible uses, except to the extent the use or occupation of such property is specifically granted in a Permit or by Law. Rights of Way shall not include private easements or public property, except to the extent the use or occupation of public property is specifically granted in a Certificate of Registration or by Rules and Regulations.
- (46) Right(s) of Way Cost means all direct, incidental and indirect costs borne by the City for the management, administration and regulation of the Rights of Way and this Chapter.
- (47) Rule(s) and Regulation(s) means any rule and/or regulation adopted by the Director of Public Service pursuant to Law.
- (48) Service(s) means the offering of any service or Utility for a fee directly to the public, or to such classes of users as to be effectively available directly to the public, or alternatively, the provision of any service or Utility between two or more points for a proprietary purpose to a class of users other than the general public that in the opinion of the Director constitutes a Service.
- (49) Service Agreement means a valid service agreement, franchise agreement, or operating agreement issued by the City pursuant to Law and accepted by a Person, which allows such Person to operate or provide Utility service within the geographic limits of the City.
- (50) Supplementary Application means any application made to Construct on or in more of the Rights of Way than previously allowed, or to extend, a Permit that had already been issued.
- (51) Surety Fund means a formal pledge made to secure against loss, damage, or default.

- (52) System means any system of conduit, ducts, cables, pipes, wires, lines, towers, antennae wave guides, optic fiber, microwave, or laser beams, and any associated converters, equipment, or Facilities or Utilities designed and constructed for the purpose of producing, receiving, amplifying, delivering or distributing Service within the City.
- (53) System Representative(s) means the specifically identified agent(s)/employee(s) of a Provider who are authorized to direct field activities of that Provider and serve as official notice agent(s) for System related information. Provider shall be required to make sure at least one (1) of its System Representatives is available at all times to receive notice of, and immediately direct response to, System related emergencies or situations.
- (54) Transfer means the disposal by the Provider, directly or indirectly, by gift, assignment, voluntary sale, merger, consolidation, or otherwise, of fifty-one percent (51%) or more at one time of the ownership or controlling interest in the System, or fifty-one percent (51%) cumulatively over the term of a Certificate of Registration of such interests to a corporation, partnership, limited partnership, trust, or association, or person or group of persons acting in concert.
- (55) Trenchless Technology means, but shall not be limited to, the use of directional boring, horizontal drilling, microtunneling and other techniques in the Construction of underground portions of Facilities which result in the least amount of disruption and damage to Rights of Way as possible.
- (56) Underground Facilities means all lines, cables, conduits, pipes, posts, tanks, vaults, wires and any other Facilities which are located wholly or partially underneath Rights of Way.
- (57) Unused Facilities means Facilities located in the Rights of Way which have remained unused for twelve (12) months and for which the Provider is unable to provide the City with a plan detailing the procedure by which the Provider intends to begin actively using such Facilities within the next twelve (12) months, or that it has a potential purchaser or user of the Facilities who will be actively using the Facilities within the next twelve (12) months, or, that the availability of such Facilities is required by the Provider to adequately and efficiently operate its System.
- (58) Utility(ies) means any water, sewer, gas, drainage, or culvert pipe and any electric power, telecommunication, signal, communication, or cable television conduit, fiber, wire, cable, or operator thereof.
- (59) Utility Corridor(s) means those specific areas of the Rights of Way designated as such by the Director of Public Service pursuant to Section 931.06(e) herein.
- (60) Working Day means any Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday excluding legal holidays observed by the City.  
(Ord. 94-2001. Passed 5-7-01.)

### **931.02 RIGHTS OF WAY ADMINISTRATION.**

(a) Administration. The Director of Public Service shall be the principal City official responsible for the administration of this Chapter except as otherwise provided herein. The Director of Public Service may delegate any or all of the duties hereunder to a designee of his or her choice.

(b) **Rights of Way Occupancy.** Each Person who occupies, uses, or seeks to occupy or use the Rights of Way to operate a System located in the Rights of Way, or who has or seeks to have, a System located in any Rights of Way, unless specifically exempted by Law, shall apply for and obtain a Certificate of Registration pursuant to this Chapter. Any Person owning, operating or maintaining a System without a Certificate of Registration, including Persons operating under a permit, license or franchise issued by the City prior to the effective date of this Chapter, shall apply for and obtain a Certificate of Registration from the City within ninety (90) days of July 1, 2001, unless exempted by Section 931.02(d). Applications will consist of providing the application information set forth in Section 931.06 et seq. and as reasonably required by the Director of Public Service.

(c) **No Construction Without Certificate of Registration.** Following the effective date of this Chapter, unless exempted by Section 931.02(d), no Person shall Construct or perform any work on, or use any System or any part thereof, located in, on, above, within, over, below, under, or through any Rights of Way without first obtaining a Certificate of Registration. For the purposes of this Section only, a Person with a System in place at the time of the effective date of this Chapter shall not be considered immediately in violation of this Section, but shall have up to six (6) months from the effective date of this Chapter to obtain a Certificate of Registration.

(d) **Exceptions.** The following entities are not obligated to obtain a Certificate of Registration: the City; the County; cable television operators for the limited purpose of providing only cable television service and operating pursuant to a valid cable television franchise; resellers of Services that do not own any System or Facilities in the Rights of Way; a Person that possesses a Service Agreement. Such exception shall only be allowed for the limited specific purpose and term provided for in the Service Agreement document.

(e) **Systems in Place Without a Certificate of Registration.** Beginning one year after the effective date of this Chapter, any System or part of a System found in a Right of Way for which a Certificate of Registration is required but has not been obtained, unless specifically exempted by Law, shall be deemed to be a nuisance and an unauthorized use of the Rights of Way. The City may exercise any remedies or rights it has at Law or in equity, including, but not limited to abating the nuisance; taking possession of the Facilities and/or non-complying portion of such System; and/or prosecuting the violator.

(f) **Future Uses.** In allowing Facilities to be placed in the Rights of Way, the City is not liable for any damages caused thereby to any Provider's Facilities that are already in place. All providers are hereby advised that any information or maps provided by the City that have been compiled in accordance with the requirements of this Chapter are for reference only and are not intended to replace or supplement the requirements of the Ohio Utility Protection Service system. Additionally, no Provider is entitled to rely on the provisions of this Chapter as creating a special duty to any Provider.  
(Ord. 94-2001. Passed 5-7-01.)

**931.03 DISCONTINUANCE OF OPERATIONS, ABANDONED AND UNUSED FACILITIES.**

(a) A Provider who has discontinued or is discontinuing operation of any System in the City shall:

- (1) Provide information satisfactory to the City that the Provider's obligations for its System in the Rights of Way under this chapter and any other chapters in the Codified Ordinances or other Laws have been lawfully assumed by another Applicant and/or Provider; or
- (2) Submit a written proposal to re-use its Facilities in a manner that promotes the City's goals of providing innovative and economic solutions to efficiently and economically utilize limited Rights of Way capacity; or
- (3) Submit a written proposal for abandonment of Facilities in place indicating why good engineering practice would support this type of solution. Said proposal must be approved by the Director of Public Service; or
- (4) Remove its entire System within a reasonable amount of time and in a manner acceptable to the City; or
- (5) Submit to the City, in good faith and within a reasonable amount of time, and in accordance with O.R.C. Sections 4905.20 and 4905.21, a proposal for transferring ownership of its Facilities to the City. If a Provider proceeds under this clause, the City may, at its option:
  - A. Purchase the Facilities; or
  - B. Unless a valid Removal Bond has already been provided pursuant to 931.21(b), require the Provider to post a bond in an amount sufficient to reimburse the City for its reasonably anticipated costs to be incurred in removing the Facilities.

(b) Facilities of a Provider who fails to comply with this Section and which remain Unused Facilities shall be deemed to be abandoned. Abandoned Facilities are deemed to be a nuisance. The City may exercise any remedies or rights it has at Law or in equity, including, but not limited to: abating the nuisance; or taking possession of the Facilities and restoring them to a useable condition subject to the finding of the PUCO pursuant to the requirements of O.R.C. Section 4905.20 and 4905.21; or requiring removal of the Facilities by the Provider or by the Provider's surety. If the City determines to require a Provider to remove Unused Facilities in any Rights of Way, the City shall use reasonable efforts to direct that this removal occur in conjunction with other scheduled excavation of the Rights of Way. If the City abates the nuisance it may take all action necessary to recover its costs to abate said nuisance, including but not limited to, those methods set forth in O.R.C. Section 715.261.  
(Ord. 94-2001. Passed 5-7-01.)

**931.04 NATURE OF ISSUANCE.**

A Certificate of Registration shall not convey equitable or legal title in the Rights of Way. A Certificate of Registration is only the nonexclusive, limited right to occupy Rights of Way in the City for the limited purposes and for the limited period stated in the Certificate of Registration and in accordance with Codified Ordinances Chapter 931 and all Laws including any Rules and Regulations adopted by the Director of Public Service. The rights to locate Facilities and/or a System in and the rights to occupy the Right of Way itself may not be subdivided or subleased; provided, however provider may sublease capacity (or other nonmaterial Facility aspects) and two or more Providers may collocate Facilities in the same area of the Rights of Way so long as each such Provider complies with the provisions of this Chapter. Collocating Providers may file a joint application for a Construction Permit. A Certificate of Registration does not excuse a Provider from obtaining appropriate access or pole attachment agreements before collocating its Facilities on Facilities of others, including the City's Facilities. A Certificate of Registration does not prevent a Provider from leasing space in or on the Provider's System, so long as the sharing of Facilities does not cause a violation of Law, including the provisions of this Chapter. A Certificate of Registration does not excuse a Provider from complying with any provisions of this Chapter or other applicable Law. (Ord. 94-2001. Passed 5-7-01.)

**931.05 OTHER APPROVALS, PERMITS AND AGREEMENTS.**

In addition to a Certificate of Registration, Providers shall obtain any and all regulatory approvals, permits, authorizations, or licenses necessary for the offering or provision of such Services from the appropriate federal, state and local authorities and upon the City's reasonable request, shall provide copies of such documents to the City. Further, a Certificate of Registration issued pursuant to this Chapter shall not entitle a Provider to use, alter, convert to, or interfere with, the Facilities, easements, poles, conduits, lines, pipelines, wires, fiber, cable, or any other real or personal property of any kind whatsoever under the management or control of the City. (Ord. 94-2001. Passed 5-7-01.)

**931.06 CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION APPLICATIONS.**

(a) Certificate of Registration Applications. To obtain a Certificate of Registration to Construct, own, or maintain any System within the City, an Application must be filed with the City on the form adopted by the Department of Public Service and Engineering which is hereby incorporated by reference. All Applications shall be accompanied by a nonrefundable Two Thousand Dollar (\$2,000.00) Application fee which will pay for internal processing and administrative costs associated with the Application process.

(b) Application Information. The Applicant shall keep all of the information required in this Section current at all times, provided that Applicant or Provider shall notify the City of any changes and/or additions to the information required by § 931.06(b) within fifteen (15) days following the date on which the Applicant or Provider has knowledge of any such change and shall notify the City of any changes to other information required by § 931.06(b) et seq. within thirty (30) days following the date on which the Applicant or Provider has knowledge of such change. The information provided to the City at the time of Application shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) Each Applicant's name, legal status (i.e. partnership, corporation, etc.), street address, and telephone and facsimile numbers.

- (2) The name, street address, and telephone and facsimile numbers of one (1) or more System Representative(s). At least one (1) System Representative shall be available at all times. Current information regarding how to contact the System Representative(s) in an Emergency shall be provided at the time of Application and shall be updated as necessary to assure accurate contact information is available to the City at all times.
- (3) A certificate of insurance shall be provided to meet the requirements of this Section that shall:
  - A. Verify that an insurance policy has been issued to the Applicant by an insurance company licensed to do business in the State of Ohio that carries a financial rating of not less than "A" in the most recent addition of "Bests Key Rating Guide" published by AM Best (or its equivalent successor);
  - B. Verify that the Applicant is insured on an occurrence basis against claims for personal injury, including death, as well as claims for property damage arising out of the: use and occupancy of the Rights of Way by the Applicant, its officers, agents, employees and contractors; and placement and use of Facilities in the Rights of Way by the Applicant, its officers, agents, employees and contractors, including, but not limited to, protection against liability arising from any and all operations, damage of Underground Facilities, explosion, environmental release, and collapse of property;
  - C. Name the City, its elected officials, officers, employees, agents and volunteers as additional insureds as to whom the comprehensive general liability and completed operation and products liability insurance required herein are in force and applicable and for whom defense will be provided as to all such coverages;
  - D. Require that the City be notified thirty (30) days in advance of cancellation of, or coverage changes in, the policy. The liability insurance policies required by this Section shall contain the following endorsement: "It is hereby understood and agreed that this policy may not be diminished in value, be canceled, nor the intention not to renew be stated, until thirty (30) days after receipt by the City, by registered mail, return receipt requested, of a written notice addressed to the Director of Public Service or her/his designee of such intent to cancel, diminish, or not to renew." Within thirty (30) days after receipt by the City of said notice, and in no event later than five (5) days prior to said cancellation, the Provider (or Applicant) shall obtain and provide to the Director of Public Service a certificate of insurance evidencing appropriate replacement insurance policies.

- E. Satisfy the requirements for comprehensive liability coverage and umbrella coverage as follows:
1. Comprehensive general liability insurance: Comprehensive general liability insurance to cover liability, bodily injury, premises operation, and property damage must be maintained. Coverage must be written on an occurrence basis, with the following minimum limits of liability and provisions, or their equivalent:
    - a. Bodily injury  
Each occurrence: One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000)  
Annual aggregate: Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,000)
    - b. Property damage  
Each occurrence: One Million Dollars (\$ 1,000,000)  
Annual aggregate: Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,000)
    - c. Personal Injury  
Annual aggregate: Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,000)
    - d. State that completed operations and products liability shall be maintained for six (6) months after the termination of or expiration of a Certificate of Registration.
    - e. Include coverage for Property damage liability insurance for the following hazards: E - explosion, C - collapse, U - underground.
  - (4) Comprehensive auto liability insurance: Comprehensive auto liability insurance to cover owned, hired, and non-owned vehicles must be maintained. Applicant may maintain comprehensive auto liability insurance as part of Applicant's comprehensive general liability insurance, however, said insurance is subject to approval by the Director of Public Service or her or his designee. Coverage must be written on an occurrence basis, with the following limits of liability and provisions, or their equivalent:
    - A. Bodily injury  
Each occurrence: One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000)  
Annual aggregate: Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,000)
    - B. Property damage  
Each occurrence: One Million Dollars (\$ 1,000,000)  
Annual aggregate: Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,000)
  - (5) Additional insurance: The City reserves the right in unusual or unique circumstances to require any other insurance coverage it deems reasonably necessary after review of any proposal submitted by Applicant.
  - (6) Self-insurance: Those Applicants maintaining a book value in excess of twenty million dollars (\$20,000,000) may submit a statement requesting to self-insure. If approval to self-insure is granted, Applicant shall assure the City that such self-insurance shall provide the City with no less than would have been afforded to the City by a third party insurer providing Applicant with the types and amounts of coverage detailed in this Section. This statement shall include:
    - A. Audited financial statements for the previous year; and
    - B. A description of the Applicant's self-insurance program; and

C. A Listing of any and all actions against or claims made against Applicant for amounts over One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) or proof of available excess umbrella liability coverage to satisfy all total current claim amounts above Twenty Million Dollars (\$20,000,000.00).

- (7) City's examination of, or failure to request or demand, any evidence of insurance in accordance with this Chapter, shall not constitute a waiver of any requirement of this Section and the existence of any insurance shall not limit Applicant's obligations under this Chapter.
- (8) Documentation that Applicant or Provider maintains standard Workers' Compensation insurance as required by Law. Similarly, Provider shall require any subcontractor to provide Workers' Compensation insurance in amounts required by Law for all of the subcontractor's employees.
- (9) If the Person is a corporation, a copy of the certificate of incorporation (or its legal equivalent), as recorded and certified to by the Secretary of State (or legal equivalent) in the state or country in which incorporated.
- (10) A copy of the Person's certificate of authority (or other acceptable evidence of authority to operate) from the PUCO and/or the FCC and any other approvals, permits, or agreements as set out in Section 931.05.
- (11) Upon request of the City, a narrative (or if applicable PUCO/FCC application information) describing applicant's proposed activities in the City including credible information detailing Applicant's financial, managerial, and technical ability to fulfill Applicant's obligations under this chapter and carry on Applicant's proposed activities.

(c) Criteria For Issuance of a Certificate of Registration. In deciding whether to issue a Certificate of Registration, the City shall consider:

- (1) Whether the issuing of the Certificate of Registration will contribute to the health, safety, and welfare of the City and its citizens; and
- (2) Whether issuing of the Certificate of Registration will be consistent with this Chapter; and
- (3) Whether Applicant has submitted a complete Application and has secured all certificates and other authorizations required by Law in order to Construct and operate a System in the manner proposed by the Applicant; and
- (4) Whether the Applicant is delinquent on any taxes or other obligations owed to the City or Franklin County or State of Ohio; and
- (5) Whether the Applicant has the requisite financial, managerial, and technical liability to fulfill all its obligations under this Ordinance and the issuance of a Certificate of Registration; and
- (6) Any other applicable Law.

(d) Obligations of a Provider upon Receipt of a Certificate of Registration. In addition to the other requirements set forth herein and in the Rules and Regulations each Provider shall

- (1) Use its Best Efforts to cooperate with other Providers and users of the Rights of Way and the City for the best, most efficient, and least obtrusive use of Rights of Way, consistent with safety, and to minimize traffic and other disruptions including street cuts; and
- (2) When possible, participate in joint planning, Construction and advance notification of Rights of Way work, as may be required by the City; and

- (3) Upon reasonable written notice, and at the direction of the Director of Public Service, promptly remove or rearrange Facilities as necessary for public safety; and
- (4) Perform all work, Construction, maintenance or removal of Facilities within the Rights of Way, including tree trimming, in accordance with good engineering, Construction and arboricultural practice including any appropriate state building codes, safety codes and Law and use Best Efforts to repair and replace any street, curb or other portion of the Rights of Way, or Facilities located therein, to a condition to be determined by the Director of Public Service to be adequate under current standards and not less than materially equivalent to its condition prior to such work and to do so in a manner which minimizes any inconvenience to the public, the City and other Providers, all in accordance with all applicable provisions of this Chapter, any Rules and Regulations the City may adopt and The Codified Ordinances of the City; and
- (5) Construct, install, operate and maintain its Facilities and System in a manner consistent with all Laws, ordinances, construction standards and governmental requirements including, but not limited to, The National Electric Safety Code, National Electric Code and applicable FCC or other Federal, State and local regulations; and
- (6) Be on notice that removal of trees within the Rights of Way of the City requires prior written approval by the Director of Public Service. Any such tree that is removed without the Director of Public Service's written permission shall be replaced, at the sole expense of the responsible Person, with a healthy tree of like kind; and
- (7) Warrant that all worker facilities, conditions and procedures that are used during Construction, installation, operation and maintenance of the Provider's Facilities within the Rights of Way shall comply with all applicable standards of the Federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration; and
- (8) Use its Best Efforts to cooperate with the City in any Emergencies involving the Rights of Way; and
- (9) Providers shall field identify their Facilities in the Rights of Way whenever Providers are notified by the City that the City has determined that such identification is reasonably necessary in order for the City to begin planning for the Construction, paving, maintenance, repairing, relocating or in any way altering any street or area in the Rights of Way as defined in this Chapter. The City shall notify the Providers of the City's date to begin the process at least sixty (60) days prior to the commencement of said activities; and
  - A. Providers shall identify all Facilities that are within the affected Rights of Way using customary industry standards and distinct identification.
  - B. Facilities will be so marked as to identify the Provider responsible for said Facilities.
  - C. Should any such marking interfere with the Facilities function, create a safety problem or violate any safety code, alternative methods of marking the Facilities may be approved by the Director of Public Service.

- D. Provider shall, weather permitting, remove all Graffiti within fourteen (14) calendar days of notice. Provider shall remove any and all graffiti on any of the Provider's Facilities located within the City Rights of Way. Should the Provider fail to do so, the City may take whatever action is necessary to remove the graffiti and bill the Provider for the cost thereof.
  - E. All marking should be clearly readable from the ground and include the Provider's name or logo only. No advertising will be permitted.
- (e) Establishment of Utility Corridors.
- (1) The Director of Public Service may assign specific corridors within the Rights of Way, or any particular segment thereof as may be necessary, for each type of Facilities that are, or that the Director of Public Service expects, may someday be, located within the Rights of Way.
  - (2) Any Provider whose Facilities are in the Rights of Way and are in a position at variance with Utility Corridors established by the Director shall at the time of the next Construction of the area, excluding normal maintenance activities, move such Facilities to their assigned position within the Rights of Way. This requirement may be waived by the Director of Public Service for good cause shown including, but not limited to, consideration of such factors as: the remaining economic life of the Facilities, public safety, customer service needs, and hardship to the Provider.
  - (3) The Director of Public Service shall make every good faith attempt to accommodate all existing and potential users of the Rights of Way as set forth in this Chapter.
  - (4) Providers may enter into written agreements to use existing poles and conduits with the owners of same and shall use Best Efforts for installing their Facilities within the Rights of Way.
  - (5) No Facility placed in any Rights of Way shall be placed in such a manner that interferes with normal travel on such Rights of Way.
  - (6) Unless otherwise stated in a Certificate of Registration or Permit, all Facilities within the Rights of Way shall be Constructed and located in accordance with this Chapter and with the following provisions:
    - A. Whenever all existing Facilities that have been traditionally located overhead are located underground in a certain area within the City, a Provider who desires to place its Facilities in the same area must also locate its Facilities underground;
    - B. Whenever a Provider is required to locate or re-locate Facilities underground within a certain area of the City, every Provider with Facilities within the same area of the City shall concurrently re-locate their Facilities underground.
- (Ord. 94-2001. Passed 5-7-01.)

**931.07 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.**

(a) Reporting Obligations of Providers. Each Provider shall at the time of initial Application, and between January 1st and March 31st of each following calendar year, meet with the Director of Public Service to discuss the Provider's upcoming construction activities and planned annual System maintenance. Following such meeting and upon the request of the Director of Public Service, the Provider shall file a Construction and Major Maintenance Plan with the Department of Public Service and Engineering. Such Construction and Major Maintenance Plan shall be filed with the Department of Public Service and Engineering within Sixty (60) days of the request of the Director of Public Service and shall be provided for all geographical areas requested by the Director of Public Service, up to and including the entire geographical area of City. It shall be submitted using a format(s) mutually agreeable to the Provider and the City and shall contain the information determined by the Director of Public Service to be necessary to facilitate the coordination and reduction in the frequency of Construction in the Rights of Way. The Construction and Major Maintenance Plan shall include, but not necessarily be limited to, all currently scheduled and/or anticipated Construction or Major Maintenance projects for the next calendar year; if none are scheduled or anticipated then the Plan should so state. All Confidential/Proprietary Information submitted herein shall be so labeled.

(b) Mapping Data.

- (1) Upon Application for a Certificate of Registration, a Provider shall provide the City, upon the reasonable request of the Director of Public Service, with information regarding the location of its Major Facilities in the Right of Way in a format that is readily available to the Provider. Following that initial provision of information and upon the reasonable request of the Director of Public Service, which request shall not occur more than once annually, every Provider shall provide to the City, in a format that is readily available to the Provider, all location information for all Major Facilities which it owns or over which it has control and which are located in any Rights of Way. All such information as described above shall be provided for the geographical area (up to and including the entire geographic area of the City), with the specificity as requested by the Director of Public Service and in a format(s) mutually acceptable to the Provider and the City. Submission of this information is anticipated to be required beginning June 1, 2001. If the data required to be submitted in this Section is stored in an electronic format then the Provider shall only be required to provide such electronic data that is then currently capable of being readily incorporated into the City's electronic database. All Confidential/Proprietary Information submitted herein shall be so labeled.
- (2) The Director of Public Service may in the future adopt Rules and Regulations and further define the mapping data requirement(s) under this Section. In each instance a Provider shall be served with a copy of the specifications by regular U.S. Mail to the company representative identified in 931.06(b)(2) and in accordance with Section 931.23(d); provided, however, that failure to actually receive such notice shall not in any way affect the validity enforceability of said specifications.  
(Ord. 94-2001. Passed 5-7-01.)

**931.08 COMPENSATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION.**

(a) Compensation. As compensation for the City's costs to administer this Chapter and the Rights of Way and for each Certificate of Registration issued pursuant to this Chapter, every Provider or any Person operating a System shall annually pay to the City Registration Maintenance Fees determined as follows:

- (1) Providers utilizing less than ten (10) miles of the Rights of Way within the City shall pay a fee of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) per year.
- (2) Providers utilizing equal to or greater than ten (10) miles of the Rights of Way within the City shall pay a fee of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) per year.
- (3) Cable companies operating under non-exclusive franchises that are compensating the City under other mechanisms and any Person that possesses a Service Agreement shall not be required to contribute to the recovery of Rights of Way Costs as defined by this Chapter with the exception of Permit Fees. Such non-contribution to the recovery of Rights of Way costs shall be limited to the specific purpose and term provided for in the Person's non-exclusive franchise or Service Agreement.

(b) Timing. Registration Maintenance Fees shall be paid in advance by January 1st of each calendar year. Registration Maintenance Fees shall be paid in full for the first year of the Registration as a condition of the Certificate of Registration becoming effective. Fees may be prorated from the effective date of the Certificate of Registration to the end of the calendar year if less than one (1) full year. Payment of any and all Registration Maintenance Fees shall be waived until July 1, 2001.

(c) Taxes and Assessments. To the extent taxes or other assessments are imposed by taxing authorities on the use of City property as a result of a Provider's use or occupation of the Rights of Way, the Provider shall be responsible for payment of such taxes. Such payments shall be in addition to any other fees payable pursuant to this Chapter and shall not be considered an offset to, or in lieu of, the fees and charges listed in this Chapter. The Registration Maintenance Fee is not in lieu of any tax, fee, or other assessment except as specifically provided in this Chapter, or as required by applicable Law. By way of example, and not limitation, Permit Fees and fees to obtain space on City-owned poles are not waived and remain applicable.

(d) Interest on Late Payments. In the event that any Registration Maintenance Fee is not paid to the City by January 31, a monthly late charge of one percent (1%) of the unpaid balance shall be paid by the Provider for each month or any portion thereof for which payment is not made.

(e) No Accord and Satisfaction. No acceptance by the City of any Registration Maintenance Fee shall be construed as an accord that the amount paid is in fact the correct amount, nor shall such acceptance of such Registration Maintenance Fee payment be construed as a release of any claim the City may have for additional sums payable.

(f) Costs of Publication. A Provider shall assume actual newspaper or other appropriate publication costs of up to One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) associated with its Certificate of Registration that may be required by Law or that may otherwise be required by its application for a Certificate of Registration or other permit as provided for herein.  
(Ord. 94-2001. Passed 5-7-01.)

**931.09 OVERSIGHT AND REGULATION.**

(a) Reports. Upon reasonable request of the Director of Public Service, a Provider shall provide the City with a list of any and all material communications, public reports, petitions, or other filings, either received from or submitted to any municipal, county, state or federal agency or official (and any response thereto submitted by or received by a Provider), and any other information or report reasonably related to a Provider's obligations under this Chapter which in any way materially affects the operation of the System or a Provider's representations and warranties set forth herein, but not including tax returns or other filings which are confidential. Upon request, a Provider shall promptly, but in no case later than fifteen (15) business days following the request, deliver to the City a complete copy of any item on said list. Upon the request of the City, a Provider shall promptly submit to the City any information or report reasonably related to a Provider's obligations under this Chapter, its business and operations with respect to the System or its operation, in such form and containing such information as the City shall specify. Such information or report shall be accurate and complete and supplied within fifteen (15) working days. All Confidential/Proprietary Information submitted herein shall be so labeled.

(b) Confidentiality. All information submitted to the City that is considered trade secret and/or Confidential/Proprietary Information must be clearly marked as such when submitting. Pursuant to 931.01(c)(11), the City shall follow the requirements of O.R.C. 149.43 regarding the disclosure of trade secrets and/or Confidential/Proprietary Information.

(c) Provider's Expense. All reports and records required under this Chapter shall be furnished at the sole expense of a Provider, except as otherwise provided in this Chapter.

(d) Right of Inspection and Audit. If a Provider asserts that the compensation it is required to pay under Section 931.08(a) for a Certificate of Registration should be less, based upon the System usage requirements in Section 931.08(a), than the City is requiring the Provider to pay, or if the City reasonably believes that such Provider should be paying a greater amount of compensation as required under Section 931.08(a), then the City's designated representatives shall have the right to inspect, examine, or audit during normal business hours and upon reasonable notice to a Provider under the circumstances, all documents, records, or other information which pertain to a Provider and its operation of a System or its obligation under this Chapter. All such documents shall be made available during regular business hours and within the City or in such other place that the City and the Provider may mutually agree upon in writing in order to facilitate said inspection, examination, or audit, provided however, that if such documents are located outside of the City, then a Provider shall pay the reasonable expenses incurred by the City's designated representatives in traveling to and from such location. Provider shall also reimburse the City for the total cost incurred by the City if the City finds it necessary to utilize a third party to assist with or conduct an investigation or audit.  
(Ord. 94-2001. Passed 5-7-01.)

**931.10 REGISTRATION TERM.**

Each Certificate of Registration granted under this Chapter shall be valid from the date of issuance until such time as it is revoked, terminated, has lapsed, or is properly amended.  
(Ord. 94-2001. Passed 5-7-01.)

**931.11 ADOPTION OF RULES AND REGULATIONS.**

(a) In accordance with the provisions of this Chapter 931, the Director of Public Service, after providing actual notice to and seeking input from all Providers with Systems in the City Rights of Way, may promulgate administrative Rules and Regulations, as the Director of Public Service deems appropriate, to carry out the express purposes and intents of this Chapter.

- (b) Such Rules and Regulations shall not materially increase the obligation of any Provider hereunder, provided however that:
- (1) The adoption of Rules and Regulations increasing fees; or
  - (2) The requiring of the placement of Facilities in designated portions of the Rights of Way, underground; or,
  - (3) The requiring of:
    - A. The overbuilding of Facilities; or,
    - B. Joint builds
 shall not be construed as materially increasing the obligation of a Provider; and,
  - (4) The Rules and Regulations promulgated by the Director of Public Service under this Section shall be filed with the Clerk of Council for publication.

The proposed Rules and Regulations shall become effective the earliest allowed by law. (Ord. 94-2001. Passed 5-7-01.)

### **931.12 LIQUIDATED DAMAGES.**

In addition to any other penalties set forth in this Chapter, and the remedy of specific performance or other remedies, which may be enforced in a court of competent jurisdiction, the Director of Public Service may assess an additional penalty of civil forfeiture for failure to comply with any provision of this Chapter. Said penalty shall be a monetary sum, payable to the City, in the amount of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) per twenty-four (24) hour day of violation and any subsequent portion of a day less than twenty four (24) hours in length. Prior to assessing said penalty, the Director of Public Service shall provide written notice to the Provider detailing the failure to comply with a specific provision of this Chapter. Said notice shall indicate that said penalty shall be assessed in fifteen (15) calendar days after service of the notice if compliance is not achieved. If a Provider desires to challenge said penalty, Provider shall request a hearing before the BZBA by filing a request for appeal with the Office of the Clerk of Council within ten (10) days of service of the notice. Said hearing shall be held within thirty (30) days of the Provider's request. If Provider requests such hearing before the BZBA, said penalty shall be temporarily suspended. However, if, after the hearing, the BZBA determines that Provider failed to comply with the specific provision of this Chapter referenced in the notice, said penalty shall be assessed starting fifteen (15) calendar days after service of the notice referenced in this Section and continuing for each day thereafter until compliance is achieved. The determination of the BZBA shall be final. (Ord. 94-2001. Passed 5-7-01.)

### **931.13 TERMINATION OF CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION.**

- (a) The Director of Public Service shall give written notice of default to a Provider if it is determined that a Provider has:
- (1) Violated any material provision or requirement of the issuance or acceptance of a Certificate of Registration or any Law of the City, state, or federal government; or
  - (2) Attempted to evade any provision or requirement of the issuance of a Certificate of Registration or the acceptance of it; or
  - (3) Practiced any fraud or deceit upon City; or
  - (4) Made a material misrepresentation of fact in its Application for a Certificate of Registration.

(b) If a Provider fails to cure a default within thirty (30) calendar days after such notice is served by the City then such default shall be a material breach and City may exercise any remedies or rights it has at Law or in equity to terminate the Certificate of Registration. If the Director of Public Service decides there is cause or reason to terminate, the following procedure shall be followed:

- (1) City shall serve a Provider with a written notice of the reason or cause for proposed termination and shall allow a Provider a minimum of fifteen (15) calendar days to cure its breach.
- (2) If the Provider fails to cure within fifteen (15) calendar days, the Director of Public Service may declare the Certificate of Registration terminated.
- (3) The Provider shall have fifteen (15) calendar days to appeal the termination to the BZBA by filing a request for appeal with the Office of the Clerk of Council. All such appeals shall be in writing. If the BZBA determines there was not a breach, then the BZBA shall overturn the decision of the Director of Public Service. Otherwise, the BZBA shall affirm the decision of the Director of Public Service to terminate. The determination of the BZBA shall be final. (Ord. 94-2001. Passed 5-7-01.)

#### **931.14 UNAUTHORIZED USE OF PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY.**

(a) No Person shall use the Rights of Way to operate a System that has not been authorized by the City in accordance with the terms of this Chapter and been issued a Certificate of Registration.

(b) No Provider shall place or have placed any Facilities in, on, above, within, over, below, under, or through the Rights of Way, unless allowed under this Chapter or having been issued a Certificate of Registration.

(c) Each and every unauthorized use shall be deemed to be a violation and a distinct and separate offense. Each and every day any violation of this Chapter continues shall constitute a distinct and separate offense.

(d) No Person shall fail to comply with the provisions of this Chapter. Each and every failure to comply shall be deemed a distinct and separate offense. Each and every day any violation of this Chapter continues shall constitute a distinct and separate offense. (Ord. 94-2001. Passed 5-7-01.)

#### **931.15 PEG REQUIREMENTS FOR OPEN VIDEO SYSTEMS.**

Any Provider that receives a certificate from the FCC to provide Open Video Services in the City shall notify the City of such certification. Any Provider that operates an Open Video System shall comply with all applicable Laws and FCC Rules and Regulations including those regarding support for public, educational, and governmental access ("PEG"). (Ord. 94-2001. Passed 5-7-01.)

**931.16 ASSIGNMENT OR TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP AND RENEWAL.**

(a) Assignment of Transfer Approval Required. A Certificate of Registration shall not be assigned or transferred, either in whole or in part, without requesting, through the Director of Public Service, the consent of the City. Upon the reasonable written request of the Director of Public Service, a Provider requesting an assignment or transfer shall provide the City with a completed copy of any application documents required by the PUCO and/or FCC for such an assignment or transfer. If the City should object to such assignment or transfer without requesting such additional PUCO and/or FCC documents, it shall serve the Provider with notice of the objection within thirty (30) days following receipt of the Provider's initial request. If the City should object to such an assignment or transfer following the request of additional PUCO and/or FCC documents then the City will serve the Provider with notice of any objection within fifteen (15) days following receipt of all copies of the required PUCO and/or FCC application documents. If no objection is served upon the Provider within thirty (30) days of the City's receipt of the initial assignment or transfer request and the City has not requested additional PUCO and/or FCC documents, then the City shall be deemed to have provided its consent to the requested assignment or transfer by operation of Law. If no objection is served upon the Provider within fifteen (15) days of the City's receipt of all the required PUCO and/or FCC documents and the City has requested such additional documents, then the City shall be deemed to have provided its consent to the requested assignment or transfer by operation of Law.

(b) Certificate of Registration and Assignee/Transferee Signature Required. In no event shall a transfer or assignment of ownership or control be ultimately acceptable to the City without transferee or assignee requesting and being issued a replacement Certificate of Registration with ninety (90) days of transfer or assignment.  
(Ord. 94-2001. Passed 5-7-01.)

**931.17 CONSTRUCTION PERMITS.**

(a) Construction Permit Requirement. Except as otherwise provided in the Codified Ordinances and Section 931.20(d)(1) herein, no Person may Construct in any Rights of Way without first having obtained a Construction Permit as set forth in this Chapter. This requirement shall be in addition to any requirement set forth in Codified Ordinances Chapter 903.

- (1) A Construction Permit allows the Permittee to Construct and to obstruct travel, in the specified portion of the Rights of Way as described in the Construction Permit while placing Facilities described therein, to the extent and for the duration specified therein.
- (2) Unless otherwise specified, a Construction Permit is valid for six (6) months from date of issuance for the area of Rights of Way specified in the Permit.
- (3) No Permittee may Construct in the Rights of Way beyond the date or dates specified in the Construction Permit unless such Permittee:
  - A. Makes a Supplementary Application for another Construction Permit before the expiration of the initial Construction Permit; and
  - B. Is granted a new Construction Permit or Construction Permit extension.

- (4) Original Construction Permits issued under this Chapter shall, when possible, be conspicuously displayed at all times at the indicated work site and be available for inspection by Inspectors and authorized City personnel. If the original Construction Permit is not conspicuously displayed at the indicated work site or the project involves work conducted simultaneously at multiple locations, then upon request, the Construction Permit must be produced within twelve (12) business hours.

(b) Construction Permit Applications. Application for a Construction Permit shall be made to the Director of the Department of Public Service and Engineering. In addition to any information required by the Director of Public Service, all Construction Permit Applications shall contain, and will only be considered complete upon compliance with the following provisions:

- (1) Evidence that the Applicant has been issued a Certificate of Registration (if one is required for the Application) or proof that the Applicant has written authority to apply for a Construction Permit on behalf of a party that has been issued a Certificate of Registration; and
- (2) Submission of a completed Construction Permit Application in the form required by the Director of Public Service, including, but not limited to, all required attachments, scaled (or dimensional), and dated drawings (or other information acceptable to the Director of Public Service) showing the location and area of the proposed project, number and location of streetcuts, and the location of all existing and proposed Facilities, accompanied by the certification of a registered professional engineer or prepared by other trained technical personnel acceptable to the Director of Public Service that the drawings, plans and specifications submitted with the Application comply with applicable technical codes, rules and regulations; and
- (3) A City approved traffic control plan demonstrating the protective measures and devices that will be employed, consistent with the Ohio Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices, to prevent injury or damage to Persons or property and to minimize disruptions to efficient pedestrian and vehicular traffic; and
- (4) If the Applicant proposes to replace existing poles with larger poles within the Rights of Way, the Applicant shall, upon the reasonable request of the Director of Public Service, provide:
  - A. Evidence satisfactory to the City that there is no excess capacity on existing poles or in existing underground systems; and
  - B. Evidence to the City that it is not financially and/or technically practicable for the Applicant to make an underground installation or locate its facilities on existing poles; and
  - C. The location, size, height, color, and material of the proposed replacement poles; and
  - D. Evidence satisfactory to the City that the Applicant will adhere to all the applicable Laws concerning the installation of such replacement poles.
- (5) If Applicant is proposing an underground installation in existing ducts or conduits within the Right of Way, the Applicant shall provide credible information satisfactory to the City to sufficiently detail and identify:
  - A. The location, approximate depth, size, and quantity of the existing ducts and conduits.

- (6) If Applicant is proposing an underground installation within new ducts or conduits to be constructed within the Rights of Way, the Applicant must provide credible information satisfactory to the City to sufficiently detail and identify:
    - A. The location, approximate depth, size, and quantity of proposed new ducts or conduits.
  - (7) A preliminary Construction schedule and completion date.
  - (8) Payment of all money due and payable to the City since the effective date of this Chapter for:
    - A. Permit Fees; and
    - B. Any loss, damage, or expense suffered by the City as a result of Applicant's prior Construction in the Rights of Way or any Emergency actions taken by the City; and
    - C. Any Certificate of Registration issued to the Applicant/Person whose Facilities are being Constructed; and
    - D. Any other money due to the City from the Applicant/Person whose Facilities are being Constructed.
  - (9) When a Construction Permit is requested for purposes of installing additional Systems or any part of a System, the posting of a Construction Bond and Removal Bond, acceptable to the City and subject to Section 931.21 of this Chapter for the additional Systems or any part of a System is required.
- (c) Issuance of Construction Permit: Conditions.
- (1) If the Director of Public Service determines that the Applicant has satisfied the requirements of this Chapter and the Construction Permit process, the Director of Public Service shall issue a Construction Permit subject to the provisions of this Chapter.
  - (2) The City may impose reasonable conditions in addition to the Rules and Regulations enacted by the Director of Public Service, upon the issuance of the Construction Permit and the performance of the Permittee thereunder in order to protect the public health, safety and welfare, to insure the structural integrity of the Rights of Way, to protect the property and safety of other users of the Rights of Way, and to minimize the disruption and inconvenience to the traveling public.
- (d) Construction Permit Fees. The Director of Public Service shall, after providing notice to and seeking input from all Providers with Systems in the City Right of Way and other anticipated Applicants, develop and maintain a schedule of Permit Fees in an amount sufficient to recoup all reasonable costs that the City incurs in permit issuance, including Permit Costs and Rights of Way costs, as allowed by Law. No Construction Permit shall be issued without payment of Construction Permit Fees except to the City or County, which shall be exempt. Construction Permit Fees that were paid for a Permit that the City has revoked due to breach are not refundable.
- (e) Joint Applications. Applicants are encouraged to make joint Application for Construction Permits to work in the Rights of Way at the same place and time. Joint Applicants shall have the ability to divide amongst themselves, in proportions the parties find appropriate, any applicable Construction Permit Fees.  
(Ord. 94-2001. Passed 5-7-01.)

**931.18 CONSTRUCTION, RELOCATION AND RESTORATION.**

(a) **Technical Information Required.** Prior to commencement of any initial Construction of Facilities in the Rights of Way a Construction Permittee, upon the reasonable request of the Director of Public Service, shall provide technical information about the proposed route of Construction. The technical information required may consist of completion of the following tasks:

- (1) Secure all available "as-built" plans, plats, and other location data indicating the existence and approximate location of all Facilities along the proposed Construction route.
- (2) Visibly survey and record the location and dimensions of any Facilities along the proposed Construction route, including, but not limited to, manholes, valve boxes, utility boxes, posts, and visible street cut repairs.
- (3) Determine and record the presence of and the approximate horizontal and vertical location of all Underground Facilities the Applicant or Person on whose behalf the Permit was applied for owns or controls in the Rights of Way along the proposed System route. Upon the reasonable request of the Director of Public Service, a Permittee shall also record and identify the general location of all other Facilities in the Rights of Way along the proposed System route. For the purposes of this Section, general location shall mean the alignment of other Facilities in the Rights of Way, but shall not necessarily mean the depth of other Facilities in the Rights of Way.
- (4) If a Provider records the information requested above in an electronic format, the Provider shall provide the City with an electronic copy of the data obtained from completion of the tasks described in this section. Incorporation of the data required herein (931.18(a)(4)) by electronic means shall include only data for new Facilities that can be readily incorporated into the City's database.
- (5) Where the proposed location of Facilities and the location of existing Underground Facilities appear to conflict with the plans as drafted, Construction Permittee has the option of either utilizing non-destructive digging methods, such as vacuum excavation, at the critical points identified to determine as precisely as possible, the horizontal, vertical and spatial position, composition, size and other specifications of the conflicting Underground Facilities, or re-designing the Construction plans to eliminate the apparent conflict. A Construction Permittee shall not excavate more than a three (3) foot by three (3) foot square hole in the Rights of Way to complete this task.
- (6) Based on all of the data collected upon completion of the tasks described in this Section, adjust the proposed System design to avoid the need to relocate other Underground Facilities.
- (7) All Confidential/Proprietary Information submitted herein shall be so labeled.

(b) **Qualified Firm.** All utility engineering studies conducted pursuant to this Section 931.18 shall be performed by a firm specializing in utility engineering or may be performed by the Construction Permittee if the Construction Permittee is qualified to complete the project itself.

(c) **Cost of Study.** The Construction Permittee shall bear the cost of compliance with Sections 931.18(a) through 931.18(c) of this Chapter.

(d) **Construction Schedule.** Unless otherwise provided for in this Chapter, or unless the Director of Public Service waives any of the requirements of this Section due to unique or unusual circumstances, a Construction Permittee shall be required to submit a written Construction schedule to the City ten (10) Working Days before commencing any work in or about the Rights of Way and, shall further notify the City not less than two (2) Working Days in advance of any excavation in the Rights of Way. This Section shall apply to all situations with the exception of circumstances under Section 931.20(d)(1) (Emergency Situations).

(e) **Location of Facilities.**

(1) The placement of new Facilities and replacement of old Facilities, either above ground or underground, shall be completed in conformity with applicable Laws.

(2) The City shall have the power to prohibit or limit the placement of new or additional Facilities within the Rights of Way if the Right of Way is Full. In making such decisions, the City shall strive to the extent possible to accommodate all existing and potential users of the Rights of Way, but shall be guided primarily by considerations of the public health, safety, and welfare, the condition of the Rights of Way, the time of year, the protection of existing Facilities in the Rights of Way, future City and County plans for public improvements, development projects which have been determined to be in the public interest, and the nondiscriminatory and competitively neutral treatment of providers.

(3) Upon the concurrence of the City, or if it is determined by the Construction Permittee and such determination is reasonably based upon any appropriate local, state, or federal agency (or other entity with jurisdictional authority) that any existing poles in the Rights of Way are Full, then those poles may be replaced with bigger and/or taller poles in order to accommodate additional Facilities or Systems only after the Construction Permittee has made reasonable attempts to reach an acceptable solution without replacement with bigger and/or taller poles. This paragraph shall not apply to replacement of any existing pole(s) with identically sized pole(s) which results from the destruction of or hazardous condition of the existing pole(s) as long as no new Facilities or additional Facilities are attached.

(f) **Least Disruptive Technology.** All Construction or maintenance of Facilities shall be accomplished in the manner resulting in the least amount of damage and disruption of the Rights of Way. In addition, all cable, wire or fiber optic cable installed in the subsurface Rights of Way under this Chapter may be required, unless technologically impracticable, to be installed in conduit, and if so required, no cable, wire or fiber optic cable may be installed under this Chapter using "direct bury" techniques.

(g) Relocation of Facilities.

- (1) A Provider shall, at its own expense, permanently remove and relocate its Facilities in the Rights of Way whenever the City finds it necessary to request such removal and relocation. In instances where the City requests removal and/or relocation, the City shall waive all applicable Construction Permit Fees. Upon removal and/or relocation, the Provider shall restore the Rights of Way to a condition at least as good as its condition immediately prior to said removal or relocation. If existing poles are required to be removed and/or relocated, then the existing poles will be replaced with reasonably obtainable poles of the same or similar size unless otherwise permitted by the City. The Director of Public Service may request relocation and/or removal in order to prevent unreasonable interference by the Provider's Facilities with:
  - A. A public improvement undertaken or approved by the City or County;
  - B. When the public health, safety, and welfare requires it, or when necessary to prevent interference with the safety and convenience of ordinary travel over the Rights of Way.
- (2) Notwithstanding the foregoing, a Provider who has Facilities in the Right of Way subject to a vacation or narrowing that is not required for the purposes of the City, shall have a permanent easement in such vacated portion or excess portion in conformity with O.R.C. §723.04.01.
- (3) If, in the reasonable judgment of the City, a Provider fails to commence the removal process and/or relocation of its Facilities as designated by the City, within thirty (30) days after the City's removal order is served upon Provider, or if a Provider fails to substantially complete such removal, including all associated repair of the Rights of Way of the City, within twelve (12) months thereafter, then, to the extent not inconsistent with applicable Law, the City shall have the right to:
  - A. Declare that all rights, title and interest to the Facilities belong to the City with all rights of ownership, including, but not limited to, the right to connect and use the Facilities or to effect a transfer of all right, title and interest in the Facilities to another Person for operation; or
  - B. Authorize removal of the Facilities installed by the Provider in, on, over or under the Rights of Way of the City at Provider's cost and expense, by another Person, however the City shall have no liability for any damage caused by such action and the Provider shall be liable to the City for all reasonable costs incurred by the City in such action; and
  - C. To the extent consistent with applicable Law, any portion of the Provider's Facilities in, on, over or under the Rights of Way of the City designated by the City for removal and not timely removed by the Provider shall belong to and become the property of the City without payment to the Provider, and the Provider shall execute and deliver such documents, as the City shall request, in form and substance acceptable to the City, to evidence such ownership by the City.

(h) Pre-Excavation Facilities Location. Before the start date of any Rights of Way excavation, each Provider who has Facilities located in the area to be excavated shall be responsible to mark the horizontal and make every reasonable attempt using Best Efforts, to mark the approximate vertical placement of all its Facilities. All Providers shall notify and work closely with the excavation contractor in an effort to establish the exact location of its Facilities and the best procedure for excavation.

(i) Rights of Way Restoration.

- (1) The work to be done under the Permit, and the Restoration of the Rights of Way as required herein, must be completed within the dates specified in the Permit. In addition to its own work, the Permittee must restore the general area of the work, and the surrounding areas, including trench backfill, paving and its foundations in accordance with the standards established by the Director of Public Service, subject to any applicable Laws. The Permittee must also inspect the area of the work and use reasonable care to maintain the same condition for twelve (12) months thereafter.
- (2) In approving an Application for a Permit, the City may choose either to have the Permittee restore the Rights of Way or the City may restore the Rights of Way itself at the expense of the Permittee.
- (3) If the City chooses to allow Permittee to restore the Rights of Way, Construction Permittee shall at the time of Application of a Construction Permit post a Construction Bond in an amount determined by the City to be sufficient to cover the cost of restoring the Rights of Way to condition at least as good as its condition immediately prior to Construction. If, twelve (12) months after completion of the Restoration of the Rights of Way, the City determines that the Rights of Way have been properly restored, the surety on the Construction Bond shall be released.
- (4) The Permittee shall perform the work according to the standards and with the materials specified and approved by the City.
- (5) By restoring the Rights of Way itself, the Permittee guarantees its work and shall maintain it for twelve (12) months following its completion. During this twelve (12) month period, it shall, upon notification from the Department of Public Service and Engineering, correct all Restoration work to the extent necessary using the method required by the Department of Public Service and Engineering. Weather permitting, said work shall be completed within five (5) calendar days of the receipt of the notice from the Department of Public Service and Engineering.
- (6) If the Permittee fails to restore the Rights of Way in the manner and to the condition required by the City, or fails to satisfactorily and timely complete all repairs required by the City, the City, at its option, with notice to Provider and a reasonable time to cure, may do such work. In that event, the permittee shall pay to the City, within thirty (30) days of billing, the cost of restoring the Rights of Way and any other costs incurred by the City. Upon Failure to pay, the City may call upon any bond or letter of credit posted by Permittee and/or pursue any and all legal and equitable remedies.

- (j) Damage to Provider's Facilities and to Other Facilities.
- (1) In the case of an Emergency, and if possible after reasonable efforts to contact the Provider seeking a timely response, when the City performs work in the Rights of Way and finds it necessary to maintain, support, or move a Provider's Facilities to protect those Facilities, the costs associated therewith will be billed to that Provider and shall be paid within thirty (30) days from the date of billing. Upon failure to pay, the City may pursue all legal and equitable remedies in the event a Provider does not pay or the City may call upon any bond or letter of credit posted by Permittee and pursue any and all legal or equitable remedies.
  - (2) Each Provider shall be responsible for the cost of repairing any Facilities in the Rights of Way which it or its Facilities damage. Each Provider shall be responsible for the cost of repairing any damage to the Facilities of another Provider caused during the City's response to an Emergency caused by such Provider's Facilities.
- (k) Rights of Way Vacation. If the City vacates a Rights of Way which contains the Facilities of a Provider, such vacation shall be subject to the provisions of O.R.C. § 723.04.1.
- (l) Installation Requirements. The excavation, backfilling, Restoration, and all other work performed in the Rights of Way shall be performed in conformance with all applicable Laws and the standards as promulgated by the Director of Public Service.
- (m) Inspection.
- (1) When the Construction under any Permit hereunder is completed, the Permittee shall notify the Department of Public Service and Engineering.
  - (2) The Permittee shall make the Construction site available to the Inspector and to all others as authorized by Law for inspection at all reasonable times during the execution and upon completion of the Construction.
  - (3) At any time, including the time of inspection, the Inspector may order the immediate cessation of any work which poses a serious threat to the health, safety, or welfare of the public, violates any Law, or which violates the terms and conditions of the Permit and/or this Chapter.
  - (4) The Inspector may issue an order to correct work which does not conform to the Permit and/or applicable standards, conditions or codes. The order shall state that failure to correct the violation will be cause for revocation of the Permit. The order may be served on the Permittee as provided in Section 931.23(d). An order may be appealed to the Director of Public Service. The decision of the Director of Public Service may be appealed to the BZBA whose decision shall be final. If not appealed, within ten (10) days after issuance of the order, the Provider shall present proof to the Director of Public Service that the violation has been corrected. If such proof has not been presented within the required time, the Director of Public Service may revoke the Permit pursuant to Section 931.20(e).
- (n) Other Obligations. Obtaining a Construction Permit does not relieve Permittee of its duty to obtain all other necessary Permits, licenses, and authority and to pay all fees, including on site inspection fees, required by the City, or any other City, county, state, or federal Laws.

- (1) A Permittee shall comply with all requirements of Laws, including the requirements of the Ohio Utility Protection Service (OUPS) and/or its lawful successor.
- (2) A Permittee shall perform all work in conformance with all applicable Laws and standards and is responsible for all work done in the Rights of Way pursuant to its Permit, regardless of who performs the work.
- (3) No rights of Way obstruction or excavation may be performed when seasonally prohibited or when conditions are unreasonable for such work, except in the case of an Emergency as outlined in Section 931.20(d)(1).
- (4) A Permittee shall not so obstruct a Rights of Way that the natural free and clear passage of water through the gutters or other waterways shall be interfered with.
- (5) Private vehicles other than necessary Construction vehicles may not be parked within or adjacent to a Permit area. The loading or unloading of trucks adjacent to a Permit area is prohibited unless specifically authorized by the Permit.

(o) Undergrounding Required. Any owner of property abutting upon a street or alley where Service Facilities are now located underground and where the Service connection is at the property line, shall install or cause others to install underground any Service delivery infrastructure from the property line to the buildings or other structures on such property to which such Service is supplied. (Ord. 94-2001. Passed 5-7-01.)

#### **931.19 MINOR MAINTENANCE PERMITS.**

(a) Minor Maintenance Permit Requirement. No Person shall perform Minor Maintenance of Facilities in the Rights of Way without first having obtained a Minor Maintenance Permit as set forth in this Chapter. Minor Maintenance means: (i) the routine repair or replacement of Facilities with like Facilities not involving Construction and not requiring traffic control for more than two (2) hours at any one location; or (ii) the routine repair or replacement of Facilities with like Facilities not involving Construction and taking place on thoroughfares and arteries between the hours of 9:00 A.M. and 3:00 P.M.; or (iii) the routine repair or replacement of Facilities with like Facilities not involving Construction on all Rights of Ways, other than thoroughfares and arterials, that does not impede traffic and is for a period of less than eight (8) contiguous hours; or (iv) Construction other than on thoroughfares and arterials that takes less than eight (8) contiguous hours to complete, does not impede traffic and does not involve a pavement cut.

- (1) A Minor Maintenance Permit allows the Minor Maintenance Permittee to perform all minor maintenance in any part of the Rights of Way as required.
- (2) A Minor Maintenance Permit is valid from the date of issuance until December 31 of the year in which the Minor Maintenance Permit was issued at which time the Minor Maintenance Permit shall expire.
- (3) A Minor Maintenance Permit must be displayed or upon request produced within twelve (12) business hours.
- (4) A Minor Maintenance Permit by itself shall under no circumstances provide a Permittee with the ability to cut pavement without seeking additional authority from the Director of the Department of Public Service and Engineering.

(b) Minor Maintenance Permit Applications. Application for a Minor Maintenance Permit shall be made to the Director of the Department of Public Service and Engineering. In addition to any information required by the Director of Public Service, all Minor Maintenance Permit Applications shall contain, and will only be considered complete upon compliance with the following provisions:

- (1) Credible evidence that the Applicant has obtained a Certificate of Registration or proof that the Applicant has written authority to apply for a Minor Maintenance Permit on behalf of a party that has been issued a Certificate of Registration;
- (2) Submission of a completed Minor Maintenance Permit Application in the form required by the Director of Public Service.
- (3) A statement that the Applicant will employ protective measures and devices that, consistent with the Ohio Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices, will prevent injury or damage to Persons or property and to minimize disruptions to the efficient movement of pedestrian and vehicular traffic.

(c) Issuance of Minor Maintenance Permits; Conditions.

- (1) If the Director of Public Service determines that the Applicant has satisfied the requirements of this Chapter and the Minor Maintenance Permit process, the Director of Public Service shall issue a Minor Maintenance Permit subject to the provisions of this Chapter.
- (2) The City may impose reasonable conditions, in addition to the Rules and Regulations enacted by the Director of Public Service, upon the issuance of the Minor Maintenance Permit and the performance of the Minor Maintenance Permittee thereunder in order to protect the public health, safety, and welfare, to insure the structural integrity of the Rights of Way, to protect the property and safety of other users of the Rights of Way, and to minimize the disruption and inconvenience to the traveling public.

(d) Minor Maintenance Permit Fees. The Director of Public Service shall, after providing notice to and seeking input from all Providers with Systems in the City Right of Way, develop and maintain a schedule of Permit Fees in an amount sufficient to recoup all reasonable costs associated with processing Minor Maintenance Permits, as allowed by Law. No Minor Maintenance Permit shall be issued without payment of Minor Maintenance Permit Fees except to the City or County, which shall be exempt. Minor Maintenance Permit Fees that were paid for a Minor Maintenance Permit that the City has revoked due to breach are not refundable. The Director of Public Service may revoke the Minor Maintenance Permit as any other Permit may be revoked under this Chapter. (Ord. 94-2001. Passed 5-7-01.)

### **931.20 ENFORCEMENT OF PERMIT OBLIGATION.**

(a) Mandatory Denial of Permit. Except in the case of an Emergency, no Construction Permit will be granted:

- (1) To any Person who has not yet made an Application if such Application is required pursuant to this Chapter or the Codified Ordinances; or
- (2) To any Person or their agent who has outstanding debt owed to the City; or
- (3) To any Person or their agent as to whom there exists grounds for the revocation of a Permit; or

- (4) If, in the discretion of the Director of Public Service, the issuance of a Permit for the particular date and/or time would cause a conflict or interfere with an exhibition, celebration, festival, or any other event. The Director of Public Service, in exercising this discretion, shall be guided by the safety and convenience of ordinary travel of the public over the Rights of Way, and by considerations relating to the public health, safety, and welfare.

(b) Permissive Denial. The Director of Public Service may deny a Permit in order to protect the public health, safety, and welfare, to prevent interference with the safety and convenience of ordinary travel over the Rights of Way, or when necessary to protect the Rights of Way and its users. The Director of Public Service, in his or her discretion, may consider one or more of the following factors: the extent to which Rights of Way space where the Permit is sought is available; the competing demands for the particular space in the Rights of Way; the availability of other locations in the Rights of Way or in other Rights of Way for the proposed Facilities; the applicability of this Chapter or other regulations of the Rights of Way that affect location of Facilities in the Rights of Way; the degree of compliance of the Provider with the terms and conditions of this Chapter and its requirements, and other applicable ordinances and regulations; the degree of disruption to surrounding communities and businesses that will result from the use of that part of the Rights of Way; the condition and age of the Rights of Way, and whether and when it is scheduled for total or partial re-construction; the balancing of the costs of disruption to the public and damage to the Rights of Way, against the benefits to that part of the public served by the expansion into additional parts of the Rights of Way; and whether such Applicant or their agent has failed within the past three (3) years to comply, or is presently not in full compliance, with the requirements of this Chapter or, if applicable, any other Chapters of the Codified Ordinances, or any other applicable Law.

(c) Discretionary Issuance. Notwithstanding the provisions of Section's 931.20(a)(1) and 931.20(a)(2), the Director of Public Service may issue a Permit in any case where the Permit is necessary:

- (1) To prevent substantial economic hardship to a customer of the Permit applicant if established by credible evidence satisfactory to the City;
- (2) To allow such customer to materially improve its Service; or
- (3) To allow a new economic development project. To be granted a Permit under this Section, the Permit Applicant must not have had knowledge of the hardship, the plans for improvement of Service, or the development project at the time it was required to submit its list of next year projects.

(d) Work Done Without a Permit.

- (1) Emergency Situations. Each Provider shall, as soon as reasonably practicable, notify the Director of Public Service of any event regarding its Facilities which it considers to be an Emergency. The Provider may proceed to take whatever actions are necessary in order to respond to the Emergency. Within two (2) business days, unless otherwise extended by the Director of Public Service, after the occurrence or discovery of the Emergency (whichever is later), the Provider shall apply for the necessary Permits, pay the fees associated therewith and fulfill all the requirements necessary to bring itself into compliance with this Chapter for any and all actions taken in response to the Emergency.

In the event that the City becomes aware of an Emergency regarding a Provider 's Facilities, the City may attempt to contact the Provider or System Representative of each Provider affected, or potentially affected, by the Emergency. In any event, the City may take whatever action it deems necessary in order to respond to the Emergency, the cost of which shall be borne by the Provider whose Facilities caused the Emergency.

- (2) Non-Emergency Situations. Except in the case of an Emergency, any Provider who Constructs in, on, above, within, over, below or through a Right of Way without a valid Permit shall subsequently obtain a Permit, pay double the normal fee for said Permit, pay double all the other fees required by the Codified Ordinances, deposit with the City the fees necessary to correct any damage to the Rights of Way and comply with all of the requirements of this Chapter.
- (e) Revocation of Permits.
- (1) Permittees hold Permits issued pursuant to the Codified Ordinances as a privilege and not as a right. The City reserves the right, as provided herein, to revoke any Permit, without refunding any fees, in the event of a substantial breach of the terms and conditions of any Law or any provision or condition of the Permit. A substantial breach by Permittee shall include, but shall not be limited to, the following:
    - A. The violation of any provision or condition of the Permit; or
    - B. An evasion or attempt to evade any provision or condition of the Permit, or the perpetration or attempt to perpetrate any fraud or deceit upon the City or its citizens; or
    - C. Any material misrepresentation of fact in the Application for a Permit; or
    - D. The Failure to obtain and/or maintain required Construction or Removal Bonds and/or insurance; or
    - E. The failure to obtain and/or maintain, when required, a Certificate of Registration; or
    - F. The failure to complete Construction in a timely manner; or
    - G. The failure to correct any nonconformity as ordered pursuant to Section 931.18(m)(4).
  - (2) If the Director of Public Service determines that the Permittee has committed a substantial breach of a term or condition of any Law or any provision or condition of the Permit, the Director of Public Service shall serve a written demand upon the Permittee to remedy such violation. The demand shall state that continued violations may be cause for revocation of the Permit. Upon, a substantial breach, as stated above, the Director of Public Service may place additional or revised conditions on the Permit.
  - (3) By the close of the next business day following receipt of notification of the breach, Permittee shall contact the Director of Public Service with a plan, acceptable to the Director of Public Service, for its correction. Permittee's failure to so contact the Director of Public Service, or the Permittee's failure to submit an acceptable plan, or Permittee's failure to reasonably implement the approved plan, shall be cause for immediate revocation of the Permit.

- (4) From time to time, the Director of Public Service may establish a list of standard conditions for the Permit. A substantial breach of any condition shall also constitute an unauthorized use of the public Rights of Way as defined in Section 931.14.
- (5) If a Permittee commits a second substantial breach as outlined above, Permittee's Permit will automatically be revoked and not be allowed further Permits for one full year, except for Emergency repairs.
- (6) If a Permit is revoked, the Permittee shall also reimburse the City for the City's reasonable costs, including Restoration costs and the costs of collection and reasonable attorneys' fees incurred in connection with such revocation. (Ord. 94-2001. Passed 5-7-01.)

#### **931.21 CONSTRUCTION AND REMOVAL BONDS.**

(a) Construction Bond. Prior to the commencement of any Construction, a Construction Permittee, excluding the County or City, shall deposit with the Director of Public Service, in a form acceptable to the Director of Law, an irrevocable, unconditional letter of credit and/or surety bond in an amount determined by the Director of Public Service to be appropriate, based upon fair and reasonable criteria. Unless a Construction default, problem, or deficiency involves an Emergency or endangers the safety of the general public, the Director of Public Service shall serve the Construction Permittee with notice detailing any Construction default, problem, or deficiency. If the Director of Public Service determines that correction or repair of the Construction default, problem or deficiency has not occurred or has not been substantially initiated within ten (10) calendar days after the date following service of notification and detailing the construction default, problem or deficiency, then the City may attach the letter of credit or surety bond. Upon attachment, written notice shall be served on the Construction Permittee by the Director of Public Service.

(b) Removal Bond. Upon issuance of a Certificate of Registration, and continuously thereafter until One Hundred Twenty (120) days after a Provider's Facilities have been removed from the Rights of Way, (unless the Director of Public Service notifies the Provider that a reasonably longer period shall apply), a Provider shall deposit with the Director of Public Service and maintain, in a form acceptable to the Director of Law, an irrevocable, unconditional letter of credit or a surety bond in an amount equal to or greater than Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00). The Director of Public Service shall make all reasonable efforts to allow Provider a period of five (5) business days after serving notification to correct or repair any default, problem or deficiency prior to Director of Public Service's attachment of letter of credit or surety bond regarding the removal of Facilities. Upon attachment, written notice shall be provided to the Provider by the Director of Public Service.

(c) Blanket Bond. In lieu of the Construction Bond required by Section 931.21(a) and the Removal Bond required by Section 931.21(b), Provider may deposit with the Director of Public Service, in a form acceptable to the Director of Law, an irrevocable, unconditional letter of credit and/or surety bond in the amount of Five Million Dollars (\$5,000,000.00). Unless a Construction default, problem or deficiency involves an Emergency or endangers the safety of the general public, the Director of Public Service shall make all reasonable efforts to allow Permittee a period of five (5) business days after sending notification in writing to the last known business address to correct or repair any Construction default, problem or deficiency prior to Director of Public Service's attachment of letter of credit or surety bond. Upon attachment, written notice shall be provided to the Provider by the Director of Public Service.

(d) **Self Bonding.** In lieu of the Construction Bond required by Section 931.21(a), the Removal Bond required by Section 931.21(b) and the Blanket Bond required by Section 931.21(c), those Providers maintaining a book value in excess of twenty million dollars (\$20,000,000) may submit a statement to the Director of Public Service requesting to self-bond. If approval to self-bond is granted, a Provider shall assure the City that such self-bonding shall provide the City with no less protection and security than would have been afforded to the City by a third party surety providing Provider with the types and amounts bonds detailed in the above named Sections. This statement shall include:

- (1) Audited financial statements for the previous year; and,
- (2) A description of the Applicant's self-bonding program; and,
- (3) Other applicable and pertinent information as reasonably requested by the Director of Public Service.

(e) **Purposes.** The bonds required by this Section, and any self bonding to the extent it has been permitted, shall serve as security for:

- (1) The faithful performance by the Permittee or Provider of all terms, conditions and obligations of this Chapter;
- (2) Any expenditure, damage, or loss incurred by the City occasioned by the Permittee or Provider's violation of this Chapter or its failure to comply with all rules, regulations, orders, Permits and other directives of the City issued pursuant to this Chapter;
- (3) The payment of all compensation due to the City, including Permit Fees;
- (4) The payment of premiums for the liability insurance required pursuant to this Chapter;
- (5) The removal of Facilities from the Rights of Way pursuant to this Chapter;
- (6) The payment to the City of any amounts for which the Permittee or Provider is liable that are not paid by insurance or other surety; and
- (7) The payment of any other amounts which become due to the City pursuant to this Chapter or other Law.

(f) **Form.** The bond documents required by this Section, and any replacement bond documents shall, contain the following endorsement: "It is hereby understood and agreed that this bond may not be canceled or not renewed by the surety nor the intention to cancel or not to renew be stated by the surety until ninety (90) days after completion of Construction of the Facilities and, notwithstanding the foregoing, shall in no case be canceled or not renewed by the surety until at least ninety (90) days' written notice to City of surety's intention to cancel or not renew this bond." (Ord. 94-2001. Passed 5-7-01.)

### **931.22 INDEMNIFICATION AND LIABILITY.**

(a) **City Does Not Accept Liability.** By reason of the acceptance of an Application or the grant of a Permit, the City does not assume any liability:

- (1) For injuries to Persons, damage to property, or loss of Service claims; or
- (2) For claims or penalties of any sort resulting from the installation, presence, maintenance, or operation of Facilities.

(b) Indemnification. By applying for and being issued a Certificate of Registration with the City a Provider agrees, or by accepting a Permit a Permittee is required and agrees, to defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the City's agents, elected officials, officers, employees, volunteers and subcontractors from all costs, liabilities, claims, and suits for damages of any kind arising out of the Construction, presence, installation, maintenance, repair, replacement, Restoration, or operation of its Facilities, or out of any activity undertaken in or near a Right of Way, whether any act or omission complained of is authorized, allowed, or prohibited by a Permit. A Provider or Permittee further agrees that it will not bring, nor cause to be brought, any action, suit or other proceeding claiming damages, or seeking any other relief against the City's agents, elected officials, officers, employees, volunteers and subcontractors for any claim nor for any award arising out of the presence, installation, maintenance or operation of its Facilities, or any activity undertaken in or near a Right of Way, whether the act or omission complained of is authorized, allowed or prohibited by a Permit. This Section is not, as to third parties, a waiver of any defense or immunity otherwise available to the Provider, Permittee, or to the City; and the Provider or Permittee, in defending any action on behalf of the City, if allowable by Law, shall be entitled to assert in any action every defense or immunity that the City could assert in its own behalf. Any and all exercise of the above shall be consistent with, but not limited to, the following:

- (1) To the fullest extent permitted by Law, all Providers and Permittees shall, at their sole cost and expense, fully indemnify, defend and hold harmless the City, its agents, elected officials, officers, employees, volunteers and subcontractors from and against any and all lawsuits, claims (including without limitation Worker's Compensation claims against the City or others), causes of actions, actions, liability, and judgments for injury or damages including but not limited to expenses for reasonable legal fees and disbursements assumed by the City in connection therewith:
  - A. To persons or property, to the extent arising out of or through the acts or omissions of Provider, its subcontractors, agents or employees attributable to the occupation by the Provider or Permittee of the Rights of Way, to which Permittee's or Provider's negligence shall in any way contribute.
  - B. Arising out of any claim for invasion of the right of privacy, for defamation of person, firm or corporation, or the violation or infringement of any copyright, trademark, trade name, service mark or patent or any other right of any person, firm and corporation by the Provider or Permittee, but excluding claims arising out of or related to City programming.
  - C. Arising out of Provider's or Permittee's failure to comply with the provisions of any Law applicable to Provider or Permittee in its business hereunder.
- (2) The foregoing indemnification is conditioned upon the City:
  - A. Giving Provider or Permittee reasonable notice of any claim or the commencement of any action, suit or proceeding for which indemnification is sought;
  - B. Affording the Provider or Permittee the opportunity to participate in any compromise, settlement, or other resolution or disposition of any claim or proceeding subject to indemnification; and
  - C. Cooperating in the defense of such claim and making available to the Provider or Permittee all pertinent information under the City's control.

- (3) The City shall have the right to employ separate counsel in any such action or proceeding and to participate in the investigation and defense thereof, and the Provider or Permittee shall pay all reasonable fees and expense of such separate counsel if employed.  
(Ord. 94-2001. Passed 5-7-01.)

### **931.23 GENERAL PROVISIONS.**

(a) **Non-Exclusive Remedy.** The remedies provided in this Chapter are not exclusive or in lieu of other rights and remedies that the City may have at Law or in equity. The City is hereby authorized at any time to seek legal and equitable relief for actual or threatened injury to the Rights of Way, including damages to the Rights of Way, whether caused by a violation of any of the provisions of this chapter or other provisions of applicable Law.

(b) **Severability.** If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion of this Chapter is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by any court or administrative agency of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct and independent provision and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions thereof. If a regulatory body or a court of competent jurisdiction should determine by a final, nonappealable order that any Permit, right or any portions of this Chapter are illegal or unenforceable, then any such Permit or right granted or deemed to exist hereunder shall be considered as a revocable Permit with a mutual right in either party to terminate without cause upon giving sixty (60) days written notice to the other. The requirements and conditions of such a revocable Permit shall be the same requirements and conditions as set forth in the Permit, right or registration, respectively, except for conditions relating to the term of the Permit and the right of termination. If a Permit or right shall be considered a revocable Permit as provided herein, the Permittee must acknowledge the authority of the City to issue such revocable Permit and the power to revoke it.

(c) **Reservation of Regulatory and Police Powers.** The City by the granting of a Permit, or by issuing a Certificate of Registration under this Chapter, does not surrender or to any extent lose, waive, impair, or lessen the lawful powers and rights, which it has now or may be hereafter vested in the City under the Constitution and Laws of the United States, State of Ohio, and under the Charter of the City of Gahanna to regulate the use of the Rights of Way. The Permittee by its acceptance of a Permit, or Provider by applying for and being issued a Certificate of Registration, agrees that all lawful powers and rights, regulatory power, or police power, or otherwise as are or the same may be from time to time vested in or reserved to the City, shall be in full force and effect and subject to the exercise thereof by the City at any time. A Permittee or Provider is deemed to acknowledge that its rights are subject to the regulatory and police powers of the City to adopt and enforce general ordinances necessary to the safety and welfare of the public and is deemed to agree to comply with all applicable general Laws enacted by the City pursuant to such powers.

(d) **Method of Service.** Any notice or order of the Director of Public Service or BZBA shall be deemed to be properly served if a copy thereof is:

- (1) Delivered personally; or
- (2) Successfully transmitted via facsimile transmission to the last known fax number of the person to be served; or
- (3) Left at the usual place of business of the person to whom it is to be served upon and with someone who is 18 years of age or older; or
- (4) Sent by certified, prepost U.S. mail to the last known address; or

- (5) If the notice is attempted to be served by certified, preposted U.S. mail and then returned showing that the letter was not delivered, or the certified letter is not returned within fourteen (14) days after the date of mailing, then notice may be sent by regular, preposted, first-class U.S.; or
- (6) If the notice is attempted to be served by regular, first class U.S. mail, postage prepaid, and the letter is then returned showing that the letter was not delivered, or is not returned within fourteen (14) days after the date of mailing, then notice shall be posted in a conspicuous place in or about the structure, building, premises or property affected by such notice.

(e) Applies to all Providers. This Chapter shall apply to all Providers and all Permittees unless expressly exempted.

(f) Police Powers. All Person's rights are subject to the police powers of the City to adopt and enforce ordinances necessary to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public. All Persons shall comply with all applicable Laws enacted by City pursuant to its police or other powers. In particular, all Persons shall comply with City zoning and other land use requirements pertaining to the placement and specifications of Facilities.

(g) Compliance. No Person shall be relieved of its obligation to comply with any of the provisions of this Chapter by reason of any failure of City to enforce prompt compliance.

(h) Foreclosure and Receivership.

- (1) Upon the filing of any voluntary or involuntary petition under the Bankruptcy Act by or against any Provider and/or Permittee, or any action for foreclosure or other judicial sale of the Provider and/or Permittee's Facilities located within the Rights of Way, the Provider and/or Permittee shall so notify the Director of Public Service within fourteen (14) calendar days thereof and the Provider and/or Permittee's Certificate of Registration or Permit (as applicable) shall be deemed void and of no further force and effect.
- (2) The City shall have the right to revoke, pursuant to the provisions of this Chapter, any Certificate of Registration or Permit granted pursuant to this Chapter, subject to any applicable provisions of Law, including the Bankruptcy Act, one hundred and twenty (120) days after the appointment of a receiver or trustee to take over and conduct the business of the Provider and/or Permittee, whether in receivership, reorganization, bankruptcy or other action or proceeding, unless such receivership or trusteeship shall have been vacated prior to the expiration of said one hundred and twenty (120) days or unless:
  - A. Within one hundred and twenty (120) days after election or appointment, such receiver or trustee shall have fully complied with all the provisions of the relevant Certificate of Registration, any outstanding Permit and of this Chapter and remedied all defaults thereunder; and,

B. Said receiver or trustee, within said one hundred and twenty (120) days, shall have executed an agreement, duly approved by a court having jurisdiction over the Facilities, whereby such receiver or trustee assumes and agrees to be bound by each and every provisions of the relevant Certificate of Registration, Permit, and this Chapter.

(i) Choice of Law and Forum. This Chapter and the terms and conditions of any Certificate of Registration or Permit shall be construed and enforced in accordance with the substantive Laws of the State of Ohio and the Laws of the United States of America, specifically in that order. All Providers and Permittees as a condition for the grant of any Permit or issuance of any Certificate of Registration agree that all disputes shall be resolved in a court of competent jurisdiction in Franklin County, Ohio.

(j) Force Majeure. In the event any Person's performance of any of the terms, conditions, or obligations required by this Chapter 931 is prevented by a cause or event not within such Person's control, such inability to perform shall be deemed excused and no penalties or sanctions shall be imposed as a result thereof. For the purpose of this Section, causes or events not within the control of a Provider shall include, without limitation, acts of God, strikes, sabotage, riots or civil disturbances, explosions, acts of public enemies, and natural disasters such as floods, earthquakes, landslides, and fires.

(k) No Warranty. The City makes no representation or warranty regarding its right to authorize the Construction of Facilities on any particular Rights of Way. The burden and responsibility for making such determination shall be upon the Person constructing Facilities in the Rights of Way.

(l) Continuing Obligation and Holdover. In the event a Provider continues to operate all or any part of the Facilities after the termination, lapse, or revocation of a Certificate of Registration, such Provider shall continue to comply with all applicable provisions of this Chapter and other laws throughout the period of such continued operation, provided that any such continued operation shall in no way be construed as a renewal or other extension of the Certificate of Registration, nor as a limitation on the remedies, if any, available to the City as a result of such continued operation after the term, including, but not limited to, damages and restitution. Any conflict between the issuance of a Certificate of Registration or of a Permit and any other present or future lawful exercise of the City's regulatory or police powers shall be resolved in favor of the latter.

(m) Appeals. All appeals provided for by this chapter and any notification to the City required by this Chapter shall be in writing and sent via certified mail to the BZBA or Director of Public Service as specified in this Chapter.

(n) City Standards. As part of City required standards, wherever Rights of Way are under Construction, if deemed advisable and practicable by the Director of Public Service, the City may install all such Facilities deemed necessary to accommodate future Provider needs. Any such installed Facilities shall be City property and may be conveyed to any Person under such terms and conditions as are deemed advisable by the Director of Public Service.

(o) Chapter Headings. Chapter headings are for convenience only and shall not be used to interpret any portion of this Chapter.  
(Ord. 94-2001. Passed 5-7-01.)

**931.99 PENALTY.**

In addition to any other penalties set forth in this Chapter, and the remedy of specific performance which may be enforced in a court of competent jurisdiction, the following penalties shall apply:

- (a) Any Person violating the provisions of this Chapter shall be guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth (4th) degree. Each day such violation continues shall be deemed a separate offense.  
(Ord. 94-2001. Passed 5-7-01.)

**CHAPTER 933  
Backflow Prevention**

<p><b>933.01 Backflow prevention-general policy.</b></p> <p><b>933.02 Definitions.</b></p> <p><b>933.03 Water system.</b></p> <p><b>933.04 Cross-connections prohibited.</b></p> <p><b>933.05 Survey and investigations.</b></p>	<p><b>933.06 Where protection is required.</b></p> <p><b>933.07 Type of protection required.</b></p> <p><b>933.08 Backflow prevention devices.</b></p> <p><b>933.09 Installation.</b></p> <p><b>933.10 Inspection and maintenance.</b></p> <p><b>933.11 Violations.</b></p>
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**933.01 BACKFLOW PREVENTION- GENERAL POLICY.**

- A. Purpose. The purpose of these Rules and Regulations is:
1. To protect the public potable water supply from contamination or pollution by isolating within the consumer's water system contaminants or pollutants which could backflow through the service connection into the public potable water system.
  2. To promote the elimination or control of existing cross-connections, actual or potential, between the public or consumer's potable water system and nonpotable water systems, plumbing fixtures and sources or systems containing process fluids.
  3. To provide for the maintenance of continuing program of cross-connection control which will systematically and effectively prevent the contamination or pollution of the public and consumer's potable water systems.
- B. Application. These Rules and Regulations shall apply to all premises served by the public potable water system of the City of Gahanna.
- C. Policy. The Water Resources Engineer shall be responsible for the protection of the public potable water system from contamination due to backflow of contaminants through the water service connection. If, in the judgement of the Water Resources Engineer, an approved backflow prevention device is necessary at the water service connection to any consumer's premises for the safety of the water system, the Water Resources Engineer or his authorized representative shall give notice to the consumer to install such approved backflow prevention device at each service connection at his premises. The consumer shall immediately install such approved device or devices at his own expense, and failure, refusal or inability on the part of the consumer to install such device or devices immediately shall constitute grounds for discontinuing water service to the premises until such device or devices have been installed.  
(Ord. 0152-2000. Passed 7-17-00.)

**933.02 DEFINITIONS.**

A. The following definitions shall apply in the operation and enforcement of these rules and regulations.

1. Air Gap Separation. The unobstructed vertical distance through the free atmosphere between the lowest opening from any pipe or faucet supplying water to a tank, plumbing fixture, or other device and the flood level rim of the receptacle.
2. Approved. That a backflow prevention device or method has been accepted by the supplier of water and the Director as suitable for the proposed use.
3. Auxiliary Water Supply. Any water system on or available to the premises other than the public water system and includes the water supplied by the system. The auxiliary waters may include water from another source such as wells, lakes, or streams; or process fluids, or used water. They may be polluted or contaminated or objectionable or constitute a water source or system over which the supplier of water does not have control.
4. Backflow. The flow of water or other liquids, mixtures, or substances into the distributing pipes of a potable water supply from any source other than the intended source of the potable water supply.
5. Backflow Prevention Device. Any device, method, or type of construction intended to prevent backflow into a potable water system.
6. Consumer. The owner or person in control of any premises supplied by or in any manner connected to a public water system.
7. Consumer's Water System. Any water system, located on the consumer's premises, supplied by or in any manner connected to a public water system. A household plumbing system is considered to be a consumer's water system.
8. Contamination. An impairment of the quality of the water by sewage or process fluid or waste to a degree which could create an actual hazard to the public health through poisoning or through spread of disease by exposure.
9. Cross-connection. Any arrangement whereby backflow can occur.
10. Degree of Hazard. The potential risk to health and the adverse effect upon the potable water system derived from an evaluation of that potential.
11. Director. The Director of the Environmental Protection Agency or his duly authorized representative.
12. Double Check Valve Assembly. An assembly composed of two single, independently acting check valves including tightly closing shutoff valves located at each end of the assembly and suitable connections for testing the water-tightness of each check valve.
13. Health Hazard. Any condition, device, or practice in a water system or its operation that creates, or may create, a danger to the health and well-being of users. The word "severe" as used to qualify "health hazard" means a hazard to the health of the user that could reasonably be expected to result in significant morbidity or death.
14. Interchangeable Connection. An arrangement or device that will allow alternate but not simultaneous use of two sources of water.
15. Non-potable Water. Water not safe for drinking, personal, or culinary use.

16. Person. The State, any political subdivision, public or private corporation, individual, partnership, or other legal entity.
17. Pollution. The presence in water of any foreign substance that tends to degrade its quality so as to constitute a hazard or impair the usefulness or quality of the water to a degree which does not create an actual hazard to the public health but which does adversely and unreasonably affect such waters for domestic use.
18. Potable Water. Water which is satisfactory for drinking, culinary, and domestic purposes and meets the requirements of the Environmental Protection Agency.
19. Process Fluids. Any fluid or solution which may be chemically, and biologically, or otherwise contaminated or polluted in a form or concentration such as would constitute a health, pollutional, or system hazard if introduced into the public or a potable consumer's water system. This includes, but is not limited to:
  - a. Polluted or contaminated water;
  - b. Process waters;
  - c. Used waters originating from the public water system which may have deteriorated in sanitary quality;
  - d. Cooling water;
  - e. Contaminated natural waters taken from wells, lakes, streams, or irrigation systems;
  - f. Chemicals in solution or suspension;
  - g. Oils, gases, acids, alkalis, and other liquid and gaseous fluids used in industrial or other processes, or for fire fighting purposes.
20. Public Water System. That which is ascribed to such term in rule 3745-81-01 of the Administrative Code.
21. Reduced Pressure Principle Backflow Prevention Device. A device containing a minimum of two independently acting check valves together with an automatically operated pressure differential relief valve located between two check valves. During normal flow and at the cessation of normal flow, the pressure between these two checks shall be less than the supply pressure. In case of leakage of either check valve, the differential relief valve, by discharging to the atmosphere, shall operate to maintain the pressure between the check valves at less than the supply pressure. The unit must include tightly closing shutoff valves located at each end of the device, and each device shall be fitted with properly located test cocks.
22. Service Connection. The terminal end of a service line from the public water system. If a meter is installed at the end of the service, then the service connection means the downstream end of the meter.
23. Supplier of Water. The owner or operator of a public water system.
24. System Hazard. A condition posing an actual or potential threat of damage to the physical properties of the public water system or potable consumer's water system.
25. Pollutional Hazard. A condition through which an aesthetically objectionable or degrading material not dangerous to health may enter the public water system or a potable consumer's water system.

26. Used Water. Any water supplied by a supplier of water from a public water system to a consumer's water system after it has passed through the service connection and is no longer under the control of the supplier. (Ord. 0152-2000. Passed 7-17-00.)

**933.03 WATER SYSTEM.**

A. The water system shall be considered as made up of two parts: the public potable water system and the consumer's water system.

B. The public potable water system shall consist of the source facilities and the distribution system, and shall include all those facilities of the potable water system under the control of the Water Resources Engineer up to the point where the consumer's water system begins.

C. The source shall include all components of the facilities utilized in the production, treatment, storage and delivery of water to the public distribution system.

D. The public distribution system shall include the network of conduits used for delivery of water from the source to the consumer's water system.

E. The consumer's water system shall include those parts of the facilities beyond the service connection which are utilized in conveying water from the public distribution system to points of use. (Ord. 0152-2000. Passed 7-17-00.)

**933.04 CROSS-CONNECTIONS PROHIBITED.**

A. No water service connection shall be installed or maintained on any premises where actual or potential cross-connections to the public potable or consumer's water systems may exist unless such actual or potential cross-connections are abated or controlled to the satisfaction of the Water Resources Engineer.

B. No connection shall be installed or maintained whereby water from an auxiliary water system may enter a public potable or consumer's water system unless such auxiliary water system and the method of connection and use of such system shall have been approved by the Water Resources Engineer and by the Director of the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency as required by Section 6109.13 of the Ohio Revised Code. (Ord. 0152-2000. Passed 7-17-00.)

**933.05 SURVEY AND INVESTIGATIONS.**

A. The consumer's premises shall be open at all reasonable times to the Water Resources Engineer, or his authorized representative, for conducting of surveys and investigations of water use practices within the consumer's premises to determine whether there are actual or potential cross-connections to the consumer's water system through which contaminants or pollutants could backflow into the public potable water system.

B. On request by the Water Resources Engineer, or his authorized representative, the consumer shall furnish information on water use practices within his premises.

C. It shall be the responsibility of the water consumer to conduct periodic surveys of water use practices on his premises to determine whether there are actual or potential cross-connections in his water system through which contaminants or pollutants could backflow into his or the public potable water system.  
(Ord. 0152-2000. Passed 7-17-00.)

**933.06 WHERE PROTECTION IS REQUIRED.**

A. An approved backflow prevention device shall be installed on each service line to a consumer's water system, where in the judgement of the Water Resources Engineer and the source is approved by the Director of the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency;

B. An approved backflow prevention device shall be installed on each service line to a consumer's water system serving premises where the following conditions exist:

1. Premises having an auxiliary water system, unless such auxiliary system is accepted as an additional source by the Water Resources Engineer and the source is approved by the Director of the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency;
2. Premises on which any substance is handled in such fashion as to create an actual or potential hazard to the public potable water system. This shall include premises having sources or systems containing process fluids or waters originating from the public potable water system which are no longer under the sanitary control of the Water Resources Engineer;
3. Premises having internal cross-connections that, in the judgement of the Water Resources Engineer, are not correctable, or intricate plumbing arrangements which make it impractical to determine whether or not cross-connections exist;
4. Premises where, because of security requirements or other prohibitions or restrictions, it is impossible or impractical to make a complete cross-connection survey;
5. Premises having a repeated history of cross-connections being established or reestablished;
6. Others specified by the Director of the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency.

C. An approved backflow prevention device shall be installed on each service line to a consumer's water system serving, but not necessarily limited to, the following types of facilities unless the Director of the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency determines that no actual or potential hazard to public potable water systems exists:

1. Hospitals, mortuaries, clinics, nursing homes;
2. Laboratories;
3. Piers, docks, waterfront facilities;
4. Sewage treatment plants, sewage pumping stations or storm water pumping stations;
5. Food or beverage processing plants;
6. Chemical plants;
7. Metal plating industries;
8. Petroleum processing or storage plants;
9. Radioactive material processing plants or nuclear reactors;

10. Carwashes;
11. Others specified by the Water Resources Engineer or the Director of the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency.

D. An approved backflow prevention device shall be installed at any point of connection between the public potable or consumer's water system and an auxiliary water system, unless such auxiliary system is accepted as an additional source by the Water Resources Engineer and the source is approved by the Director of the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency.

(Ord. 0152-2000. Passed 7-17-00.)

### **933.07 TYPE OF PROTECTION REQUIRED.**

A. The type of protection required under Section 933.06A. to C. of these regulations shall depend on the degree of hazard which exists as follows:

1. An approved air gap separation shall be installed where the public water system may be contaminated with substances that could cause a severe health hazard;
2. An approved air gap separation or an approved reduced pressure principle backflow prevention device shall be installed where the public water system may be contaminated with any substance that could cause a system or health hazard;
3. An approved air gap separation or an approved reduced pressure principle backflow prevention device or an approved double check valve assembly shall be installed where the public water system may be polluted with substances that could cause a pollutional hazard not dangerous to health.

B. The type of protection required under Section 933.06D. of these regulations shall be an approved air gap separation or an approved interchangeable connection.

C. Where an auxiliary water system is used as a secondary source or water for a fire protection system, the provisions of Section 933.07B. for an approved air gap separation or an approved interchangeable connection may not be required, provided:

1. At premises where the auxiliary water system may be contaminated by substances that could cause a system or health hazard, the public or consumer's potable water system shall be protected against backflow by installation of an approved reduced pressure principle backflow prevention device;
  2. At all other premises, the public or consumer's potable water system shall be protected against backflow by installation of either an approved reduced pressure principle backflow prevention device or a double check valve assembly;
  3. The public or consumer's potable water system shall be the primary source of water for the fire protection system;
  4. The fire protection system shall be normally filled with water from the public or consumer's potable water system;
  5. The water in the fire protection system shall be used for fire protection only, with no regular use of water from the fire protection system downstream from the approved backflow prevention device;
  6. The water in the fire protection system shall contain no additives.
- (Ord. 0152-2000. Passed 7-17-00.)

**933.08 BACKFLOW PREVENTION DEVICES.**

A. Any backflow prevention device required by these rules and regulations shall be of a model or construction approved by the Water Resources Engineer and the Director of the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency and shall comply with the following:

1. An air gap separation, to be approved, shall be at least twice the diameter of the supply pipe, measured vertically above the top rim of the vessel, but in no case less than one inch.
2. A double check valve assembly or a reduced pressure principle backflow prevention device shall be approved by the Water Resources Engineer, and shall appear on the current list of approved backflow prevention devices of the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency.
3. An interchangeable connection, to be approved, shall be either a swing type connector or a four-way valve of the lubricated plug type that operates through a mechanism which unseats the plug, turns it ninety degrees and reseats the plug. Four-way valves shall not be used as stop valves but must separate stop valves on each pipe connected to the valve. The telltale port on the four-way valve shall have no piping connected and the threads or flange on this port shall be destroyed so that a connection cannot be made.

B. Existing backflow prevention devices approved by the Water Resources Engineer or the Director of the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency at the time of installation and properly maintained shall, except for inspection, testing and maintenance requirements, be excluded from the requirement of Section 933.08A. of this regulation providing the Water Resources Engineer is assured that they will satisfactorily protect the public potable water system. Whenever the existing device is moved from the present location or requires more than minimum maintenance or when the Water Resources Engineer finds that the maintenance of the device constitutes a hazard to health, the device shall be replaced by a backflow prevention device meeting the requirements of these regulations.  
(Ord. 0152-2000. Passed 7-17-00.)

**933.09 INSTALLATION.**

A. Backflow prevention devices required by these rules and regulations shall be installed at a location and in manner approved by the Water Resources Engineer and at the expense of the water consumer. In addition, any backflow prevention device required by Section 933.07B. and C. of these regulations shall be installed at a location and in manner approved by the Director of the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency as required by Section 6109.13 of the Ohio Revised Code.

B. Backflow prevention devices shall be installed on the service line to a consumer's side of the water meter, as close to the meter as is reasonably practical, and prior to any other connection.

C. Pits or vaults shall be of water-tight construction, be so located and constructed as to prevent flooding and shall be maintained free from standing water by means of either a sump pump or a suitable drain. Such sump pump or drain shall not connect to a sanitary sewer nor permit flooding of the pit or vault by reverse flow from its point of discharge. An access ladder and adequate natural or artificial lighting shall be provided to permit maintenance, inspection and testing of the backflow prevention device.

D. Reduced pressure principle backflow prevention devices must be installed above ground level or floor level, whichever is higher.  
(Ord. 0152-2000. Passed 7-17-00.)

### **933.10 INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE.**

A. It shall be the duty of the consumer at any premises on which backflow prevention devices required by these regulations are installed to have inspections, tests, and overhauls made in accordance with the following schedule, or more often where inspections indicate a need:

1. Air gap separations shall be inspected at the time of installation and at least every twelve months thereafter.
2. Double check valve assemblies shall be inspected and tested for tightness at the time of installation and at least every twelve months thereafter; They should be dismantled, inspected internally, cleaned and repaired whenever needed and at least every thirty months.
3. Reduced Pressure principle backflow prevention devices shall be inspected and tested for tightness at the time of installation and at least every twelve months thereafter.  
They should be dismantled, inspected internally, cleaned and repaired whenever needed and at least every five years.
4. Interchangeable connections shall be inspected at the time of installation and at least every twelve months thereafter.

B. Inspections, tests, and overhauls of backflow prevention devices shall be made at the expense of the water consumer and shall be performed by the Water Resources Engineer, or his authorized representative, as qualified to inspect, test and overhaul backflow prevention devices.

C. Whenever backflow prevention devices required by these regulations are found to be defective, they shall be repaired, overhauled or replaced at the expense of the consumer without delay.

D. The water consumer must maintain a complete record of each backflow prevention device from purchase to retirement. This shall include a comprehensive listing that includes a record of all tests, inspections, repairs and overhauls. Records of inspections, tests, repairs and overhaul shall be submitted to the Water Resources Engineer.

E. Backflow prevention devices shall not be bypassed, made inoperative, removed or otherwise made ineffective without specific authorization of the Water Resources Engineer.  
(Ord. 0152-2000. Passed 7-17-00.)

### **933.11 VIOLATIONS.**

A. The Water Resources Engineer shall deny or discontinue, after reasonable notice to the occupants thereof, the water service to any premises wherein any backflow prevention device required by these regulations is not installed, tested and maintained in a manner acceptable to the Water Resources Engineer, or if it is found that the backflow prevention device has been removed or by-passed, or if an unprotected cross-connection exists on the premises.

B. Water service to such premises shall not be restored until the consumer has corrected or eliminated such conditions or defects in conformance with these regulations and to the satisfaction of the Water Resources Engineer.  
(Ord. 0152-2000. Passed 7-17-00.)

**CHAPTER 935  
Public Water System**

<b>935.01</b>	<b>Backflow prevention device.</b>	<b>935.04</b>	<b>Service discontinued.</b>
<b>935.02</b>	<b>Surveys and investigations.</b>	<b>935.05</b>	<b>Rules and regulations.</b>
<b>935.03</b>	<b>Inspection of piping system.</b>	<b>935.99</b>	<b>Penalty.</b>

**CROSS REFERENCES**

Compulsory water connections - see Ohio R.C. 729.06, 743.23  
 Management and control of water works - see Ohio R.C. 743.02 et seq.  
 Weekly deposit of water works money collected - see Ohio R.C. 743.06  
 Unauthorized connections - see Ohio R.C. 4933.22

**935.01 BACKFLOW PREVENTION DEVICE.**

If the Water Resources Engineer determines an approved backflow prevention device is necessary for the safety of the public water system, the Water Resources Engineer shall give notice to the water consumer to install such an approved device. The water consumer shall, at his own expense, install such an approved device at a location and in a manner approved by the Water Resources Engineer and shall have inspections and tests made of such approved devices as required by the Water Resources Engineer.  
 (Ord. 0151-2000. Passed 7-17-00.)

**935.02 SURVEYS AND INVESTIGATIONS.**

It shall be the duty of the Water Resources Engineer to cause surveys and investigations to be made of industrial and other properties served by the public water supply where actual or potential hazards to the public water supply may exist. Such surveys and investigations shall be made a matter of public record and shall be repeated as often as the Water Resources Engineer shall deem necessary.  
 (Ord. 0151-2000. Passed 7-17-00.)

**935.03 INSPECTION OF PIPING SYSTEM.**

The Water Resources Engineer or his or its duly authorized representative shall have the right to enter at any reasonable time any property served by a connection to the public water supply or distribution system of Gahanna for the purpose of inspecting the piping system or systems thereof. On demand the owner, lessees or occupants of any property so served shall furnish to the Water Resources Engineer any information which he may request regarding the piping system or systems of water use on such property. The refusal of such information, when demanded, shall, with the discretion of the Water Resources Engineer, be deemed evidence of the presence of improper connections as provided in this chapter.  
 (Ord. 0151-2000. Passed 7-17-00.)

**935.04 SERVICE DISCONTINUED.**

The Water Resources Engineer is hereby authorized and directed to discontinue, after reasonable notice to the occupant thereof, the water service to any property wherein any connection in violation of the provisions of this chapter is known to exist, and to take such precautionary measures as he may deem necessary to eliminate any danger of contamination of the public water supply distribution mains. Water service to such property shall not be restored until such conditions shall have been eliminated or corrected in compliance with provisions of this chapter.

(Ord. 0151-2000. Passed 7-17-00.)

**935.05 RULES AND REGULATIONS.**

The Water Resources Engineer has established rules and regulations in Chapter 933 to govern the application of the backflow prevention program.

(Ord. 0151-2000. Passed 7-17-00.)

**935.99 PENALTY.**

No person, firm or corporation shall establish or permit to be established or maintain or permit to be maintained any connection whereby a private, auxiliary or emergency water supply other than the regular public water supply of Gahanna may enter the supply or distributing system of said municipality, unless such private, auxiliary or emergency water supply and the method of connection and use of such supply shall have been approved by the Water Resources Engineer of Gahanna and by the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency.

Any person, or any officer of any firm or corporation who violates any provision of this chapter shall be fined not more than fifty dollars (\$50.00) per day, per violation.

(Ord. 0151-2000. Passed 7-17-00.)

**TITLE FIVE - Other Public Services**

- Chap. 941. Garbage and Rubbish Collection.  
 Chap. 943. Sanitary Regulations.  
 Chap. 945. Weeds and Grass.  
 Chap. 947. Building Contractors' Responsibilities.

**CHAPTER 941  
 Garbage and Rubbish Collection**

<b>941.01</b>	<b>Definitions.</b>	<b>941.14</b>	<b>Return to County Auditor.</b>
<b>941.02</b>	<b>Garbage receptacles required.</b>	<b>941.15</b>	<b>Pickup and disposal fees.</b>
<b>941.03</b>	<b>Placement of garbage, rubbish and receptacles.</b>	<b>941.16</b>	<b>Payment schedule.</b>
<b>941.11</b>	<b>Service of notice.</b>	<b>941.17</b>	<b>Partial payment.</b>
<b>941.12</b>	<b>Failure to comply; remedy.</b>	<b>941.18</b>	<b>Unpaid bills.</b>
<b>941.13</b>	<b>Report of costs to Council.</b>	<b>941.19</b>	<b>Separability of provisions.</b>
		<b>941.99</b>	<b>Violations.</b>

**CROSS REFERENCES**

- Collection and disposal of garbage - see Ohio R.C. 715.43, 717.01  
 Disposal and transportation upon public ways - see Ohio R.C. 3767.20 et seq.  
 Employment of scavengers - see Ohio R.C. 3707.39  
 Littering and deposit of garbage and rubbish - see GEN. OFF. 517.08

**941.01 DEFINITIONS.**

For the purposes of this chapter:

- (a) "Director" means the City of Gahanna's Director of Public Service.
- (b) "Garbage" means any household waste, putrescible animal or vegetable waste, including kitchen refuse, vegetable discard, and animal offal and refuse resulting from the handling, preparation, cooking and consumption of food. All waste materials accumulated in the construction, remodeling or repairing of buildings is excluded in this definition.
- (c) "Receptacle" means a watertight, rust-resistant container with a fitted lid which shall be so maintained in position at all times as to prevent the contents of such receptacle from becoming wet, from escaping therefrom, and to prevent the ingress and egress of flies, rodents and other animals. Such receptacles shall be of such size as to permit the proper containment of all waste materials between collections.
- (d) "Recyclable material" means plastic bottles and jugs, glass bottles and jars, cartons, aluminum and steel cans, paperboard, cardboard, paper, printed matter and newspaper.
- (e) "Yard waste" means grass clippings, leaves, weeds, twigs, brush or branch clippings, small limbs and shrubbery.  
 (Ord. 0160-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

**941.02 GARBAGE RECEPTACLES REQUIRED.**

It shall be the duty of every owner, tenant, agent, lessee, occupant and person in charge of any and every building, premises or place of business in the City of Gahanna forthwith to provide or cause to be provided, and at all times thereafter to keep or cause to be kept and provided for the exclusive use of such building, premises or place of business, receptacles for receiving and holding without leakage, all garbage, so long as such garbage remains upon or in such building, premises or places of business, or the portion thereof of which such person may be owner, tenant, lessee or occupant in charge.  
(Ord. 0160-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

**941.03 PLACEMENT OF GARBAGE, RUBBISH AND RECEPTACLES.**

(a) When the premises abut on any alley, a rear alley entrance must be provided and receptacles placed on the side of the rear lot line, directly adjacent to such entrance. When it is impractical to make collections from such locations, receptacles shall be placed at such a point as may be designated by the Director of Public Service. All containers shall be as close to the collection point as possible.

(b) No person shall throw, place, or deposit any garbage whatsoever in any trash burner.

(c) No person shall throw or deposit any rubbish whatsoever in or upon any street, alley, or public place, or place or maintain any receptacle for rubbish in or upon any street, alley, or other public place.

(d) Garbage or rubbish shall be placed at the point of collection by the time and in the proper manner as defined and agreed upon in the refuse contract.

(e) No person shall place any garbage or rubbish at the curb point of collection prior to 5:00 p.m. of the day preceding the regular collection day.

(f) All refuse customers shall be required to participate in the city-wide recycling program and shall place recyclables in a bin provided, to be collected by the refuse/recycling hauler. Refusal to participate in the recycling program shall constitute a violation and be subject to penalties prescribed in Section 941.99. (Ord. 0160-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Sections 941.04 to 941.10 are reserved for future legislation.)

**941.11 SERVICE OF NOTICE.**

Property owners, lessees, agents or tenants may request such services, or the Director of Public Service shall cause written notice to be served upon the owners, lessees, agents or tenants having charge of such lots and lands referred to in Section 945.01, notifying them that garbage and rubbish gathered on such lots, lands and/or upon or in such buildings must be eliminated, removed and disposed of within one calendar week after the service of such notice.

If such owner, or other person having charge of such lands or buildings is a nonresident whose address is known, such notice shall be sent to his address by certified mail. If the address of such owner, whether a resident or a nonresident is unknown, it shall be sufficient to publish such notice once in a local newspaper. After completion of notice, the Director shall make due return thereon, setting forth the cost of service.  
(Ord. 0199-2012. Passed 11-5-12.)

**941.12 FAILURE TO COMPLY; REMEDY.**

Upon failure of any owner, lessee, agent or tenant having charge of the lots, land, and/or upon or in such buildings under the provisions of Section 945.01 to comply with the notice within the period of time stipulated under the provisions of Section 945.02, the Director of Public Service shall cause such garbage and rubbish to be eliminated, removed and disposed of by the direct employment of labor, or authorize some person to eliminate, remove or dispose of such garbage or rubbish on behalf of the City of Gahanna.  
(Ord. 0160-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

**941.13 REPORT OF COSTS TO COUNCIL.**

Upon the performance of the labor under the provisions of Section 941.12, the Director of Public Service shall report to Council the cost thereof with respect to each lot or parcel of land and/or building, including the cost of investigation, handling of garbage and rubbish complaints and costs of service and notification.  
(Ord. 0199-2012. Passed 11-5-12.)

**941.14 RETURN TO COUNTY AUDITOR.**

Upon receipt of the report under the provisions of Section 941.13, and approval thereof by Council, the Auditor shall make a return in writing to the Auditor of Franklin County of such charges which shall be entered upon the tax duplicate of the County, all in accordance with Ohio R.C. 731.54.  
(Ord. 0199-2012. Passed 11-5-12.)

**941.15 PICKUP AND DISPOSAL FEES.**

(a) The Director of Public Service shall charge and every household or the owner or tenant of such household shall pay for weekly garbage and rubbish pickup at the following monthly rates:

	<b>Monthly (In USD)</b>	<b>Quarterly (In USD)</b>
<b>Effective January 1, 2013:</b>		
Curb pickup	\$17.39	\$52.17
Carryout service	25.34	76.02
<b>Effective January 1, 2015:</b>		
Curb pickup	\$16.73	\$50.19
Carryout service	36.73	110.19

(b) The City of Gahanna adopts the refuse hauler's Low Income and Senior Discount programs and the Director of Public Service is authorized to create regulations for administering said programs. So long as the refuse hauler offers the Low Income and Senior Discount Programs, or similar programs, the City of Gahanna may offer the programs to its qualified users.

(c) In cases other than normal weekly pickup where household pickup is necessary or pursuant to Section 941.12 the Director shall charge, and every household or the owner or tenant of such household shall pay, fifty dollars (\$50.00) per one-half hour minimum and a charge of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) per hour.

(d) If included as a part of the City of Gahanna's refuse agreement, there may be a fuel price adjustment to the base rate. (Ord. 0160-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

#### **941.16 PAYMENT SCHEDULE.**

Each household or the owner or tenant of such household shall pay in advance in installments as determined by the Director of Public Service the fees imposed pursuant to Section 941.15. Billings shall be mailed on a schedule to be determined by the Director and may be included as part of the water and sewer billings. The bill, including all penalties shall be due and payable thirty (30) days from the date of mailing. A ten percent (10%) penalty shall be assessed to all accounts paying after the due date. The Director of Public Service or the Director's designee has the authority under this chapter to waive the above ten percent (10%) penalty after review of the facts presented. (Ord. 0160-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

#### **941.17 PARTIAL PAYMENT.**

Partial payments may be accepted. In accepting such partial payments, the amount owing shall be considered delinquent and the moneys paid shall be applied in the following order:

- (a) Refuse;
- (b) Penalty/Miscellaneous;
- (c) Stormwater management;
- (d) Sewer improvement;
- (e) Water improvement;
- (f) Columbus Consent Order;
- (g) Sewer; and
- (h) Water.

(Ord. 0160-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

#### **941.18 UNPAID BILLS.**

(a) Each refuse charge rendered under or pursuant to this chapter is hereby made a lien upon the corresponding lot, parcel of land, building or premises served by the City of Gahanna. If the same is not paid within sixty (60) days after said refuse charge becomes due and payable, in addition to any other remedies available to the City of Gahanna, said refuse charge may be certified to the auditor of the county in which the property is located, who shall place the certified amount on the real property tax list and duplicate of the property served. Certified amount to include the interest and penalties allowed by law and shall be collected as other taxes are collected.

(b) It shall be the responsibility of the buyer and seller, where property is sold or transferred, to assure that all refuse charges have been paid in full or provisions agreed to for payment; otherwise, the responsibility for payment for any refuse charges whatsoever shall reside with the current owner of such property.

(Ord. 0160-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

**941.19 SEPARABILITY OF PROVISIONS.**

Each section and each part of each section of this chapter is hereby declared to be an independent section or part of a section and, notwithstanding any other evidence of legislative intent that if any such section or part of a section, or any provision thereof, or the application thereof to any person or circumstances, is held to be invalid, the remaining sections or parts of sections and the application of such provisions to any other person or circumstances, other than those as to which it is held invalid, shall not be affected thereby.

It is hereby declared to be the legislative intent that these sections or parts of sections would have been adopted independently of such sections or parts of a section so held to be invalid.

(Ord. 0160-2014. Passed 11-17-14.)

**941.99 VIOLATIONS.**

Any person violating any provision of this chapter shall be charged with a minor misdemeanor on the first offense and for each subsequent offense shall be charged with a misdemeanor of the fourth degree.

(Ord. 0199-2012. Passed 11-5-12.)

**CHAPTER 943**  
**Sanitary Regulations**

<b>943.01</b>	<b>Adopted.</b>	<b>943.04</b>	<b>Enforcement.</b>
<b>943.02</b>	<b>Disposition of sanitary sewage.</b>	<b>943.05</b>	<b>Copies.</b>
<b>943.03</b>	<b>Traps.</b>		

**943.01 ADOPTED.**

The Sanitary Regulations, Regulations 701 through 719, and 800 passed by Franklin County District Board of Health with all amendments thereto, are hereby incorporated by reference and adopted in this chapter.  
(Ord. 59-2001. Passed 4-2-01.)

**943.02 DISPOSITION OF SANITARY SEWAGE.**

(a) Sewage, including wastes from water closets, urinals, lavatories, sinks, bathtubs, showers, laundries, cellar floor drains, garage floor drains, bars, soda foundations, cuspidors, refrigerator drips, drinking fountains, stable floor drains and other objectionable wastes shall be discharged into a sanitary or combined sewer and in no case into a storm water sewer.

(b) Industrial waste shall not be discharged into a storm waste sewer but may be discharged into a sanitary sewer if the waste is of such character as not to be detrimental to the sewer system or to the Sewage Treatment Works. Where such waste is detrimental to the sewer system or Sewage Treatment Works, it shall be otherwise disposed of in a satisfactory manner or so improved in character as not to be detrimental to the sewer system or Sewage Treatment Works. (Ord. 59-2001. Passed 4-2-01.)

**943.03 TRAPS.**

(a) A trap for the interception of grease, oil and mud shall be provided on a connection from a hotel, restaurant, club, food and bakery preparation establishment, commercial or institutional kitchen and from a public garage, automobile washing station, slaughter or packing house. Such trap shall be installed to the satisfaction of the Director of Public Service or his designee.

(b) Grease, oil and mud interceptors and traps shall be inspected frequently and pumped and cleaned as often as necessary to retain the waste. The materials collected during cleaning shall be removed from the premises for disposal and not deposited in the plumbing or sewage systems. A confirming report shall be forwarded by the business operator to the Director of Public Service every six months. (Ord. 59-2001. Passed 4-2-01.)

**943.04 ENFORCEMENT.**

Such Sanitary Regulations shall also be the Gahanna Sanitary Regulations, but shall be enforced by the Franklin County District Board of Health.  
(Ord. 59-2001. Passed 4-2-01.)

**943.05 COPIES.**

The Clerk of the Municipality is hereby directed to keep one copy of such Sanitary Regulations and all amendments thereto, in the office of the Municipality.  
(Ord. 59-2001. Passed 4-2-01.)

**CHAPTER 945**  
**Weeds and Grass**

<b>945.01</b>	<b>Definitions.</b>	<b>945.05</b>	<b>Return to County Auditor.</b>
<b>945.02</b>	<b>Determination of nuisance; abatement.</b>	<b>945.06</b>	<b>Noxious weeds or grass.</b>
<b>945.03</b>	<b>Service of notice.</b>	<b>945.07</b>	<b>Mowing fees.</b>
<b>945.04</b>	<b>Failure to comply; remedy.</b>	<b>945.08</b>	<b>Exemptions.</b>
		<b>945.99</b>	<b>Penalty.</b>

**CROSS REFERENCES**

Notice to cut noxious weeds - see Ohio R.C. 731.51 et seq.

Destruction of weeds - see Ohio R.C. 971.33 et seq.

**945.01 DEFINITIONS.**

As used in this chapter:

- (a) "Grass" means any of a large family (gramineae) of monocotyledonous, mostly herbaceous plants with hollow, jointed stems, slender sheathing leaves, and flowers borne in spikelets of bracts.
- (b) "Noxious" means injurious to physical health.
- (c) "Noxious weeds" means any type or species that have been included on the official list of noxious plants for the State.
- (d) "Weed" means a plant that is considered undesirable, unattractive or troublesome. A plant that is not valued where it is growing and tends to overgrow more desirable plants.  
(Ord. 0156-2003. Passed 8-4-03.)

**945.02 DETERMINATION OF NUISANCE; ABATEMENT.**

When determined by the Director of Development through the Zoning Administrator that weeds and other undesirable vegetation exceeding the height specified in Section 945.06 exist upon any lots and lands within the City, and constitute a nuisance or endanger the public health, it shall be the duty of the Director of Development through the Zoning Administrator to see that such noxious weeds and grass are removed or such nuisance abated. The City or its designee shall have the right to enter any property in order to carry out such nuisance abatement.  
(Ord. 0156-2003. Passed 8-4-03.)

**945.03 SERVICE OF NOTICE.**

The Director of Development through the Zoning Administrator shall cause written notice to be served upon the owners and lessees, agents or tenants having charge of such lots and lands referred to in Section 945.02, notifying them that noxious weeds or weeds and grass of profuse and unmanageable growth growing eight inches or more tall are growing on such lots and lands, and that they must be cut or destroyed within five days after the service of such notice. The notice shall be either handed to the occupant or placed on the front of the house in clear view from the street. The property shall be re-inspected on the sixth day after the service of such notice. If the violation still exists, a citation shall be issued and the grass cut by the City's designee.

(Ord. 0156-2003. Passed 8-4-03.)

**945.04 FAILURE TO COMPLY; REMEDY.**

Upon failure of any owner, lessee, agent or tenant having charge of the lots and lands under the provisions of Section 945.02, to comply with the notice within the period of time stipulated under the provisions of Section 945.03, the Zoning Administrator shall authorize a lawn maintenance contractor to cut the weeds or grass on behalf of the City.

(Ord. 0156-2003. Passed 8-4-03.)

**945.05 RETURN TO COUNTY AUDITOR.**

Upon the performance of the labor under the provisions of Section 945.04, the Director of Finance shall make a return in writing to the Auditor of Franklin County of such charges, which shall be entered upon the tax duplicate of the County, all in accordance with Ohio R.C. 731.54.

(Ord. 0156-2003. Passed 8-4-03.)

**945.06 NOXIOUS WEEDS OR GRASS.**

Every person owning, leasing, renting, having charge of or being in possession of land within this City shall keep such property, and adjacent right of way between such property, and the curb, or edge of pavement where there is no curb, free and clear from all noxious weeds, such as thistle, burdock, jimson weed, ragweed, milkweed, mullein, poison ivy, poison oak and other vegetation of profuse and unmanageable growth. Noxious weeds and grass grown on such property and adjacent right of way shall be maintained in such a manner so as not to exceed eight inches in height.

(Ord. 0156-2003. Passed 8-4-03.)

**945.07 MOWING FEES.**

The fee charged by the lawn maintenance company, contracted by the City to cut the grass, shall be presented to the Franklin County Auditor per Section 945.05. In addition, a seventy-five dollar (\$75.00) administrative processing fee shall be charged by the City and added to the tax duplicate of the County.

(Ord. 0156-2003. Passed 8-4-03.)

**945.08 EXEMPTIONS.**

Areas cultivated specifically as a wildflower area, vegetable garden, natural area for birds and other wildlife, or other areas determined by the City's designee. Also exempted is land currently used for agricultural purposes, existing naturalized areas along drainage channels on designated scenic roads, and areas posted by the City as do not mow.

(Ord. 0156-2003. Passed 8-4-03.)

**945.99 PENALTY.**

Whoever violates any provision of this chapter is guilty of a minor misdemeanor.

(Ord. 0156-2003. Passed 8-4-03.)

**CHAPTER 947**  
**Building Contractors' Responsibilities**

**947.01 Building contractors' responsibilities.**

**947.02 Inspection.**

**947.99 Penalty.**

**947.01 BUILDING CONTRACTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES.**

(a) All builders (contractors) shall use care to ensure that any type of debris (rocks, gravel, silt, building materials, etc.) does not find its way into the City of Gahanna sewer system.

(b) All builders (contractors) shall use care when the landscaping phase of the construction is being accomplished to insure that any manhole cover in the vicinity of the construction site is fully visible and installed at the proper level consistent with the contour of the ground. Any manhole cover found to be below the ground must be raised to the proper level and necessary ring (risers) installed by the contractor.  
(Ord. 227-2001. Passed 11-19-01.)

**947.02 INSPECTION.**

Prior to allowing the builder (contractor) to install any water meters or leave a job site, an inspection must be conducted by a duly authorized representative of the Department of Public Service and Engineering, serving as a sewer inspector. The purpose of the inspection is to ascertain that the builder did not leave any foreign matter (rocks, gravel, debris, silt, and other items) in the sewer lines while the buildings were under construction. Any such items detected in the sewer lines must be removed by the builder.

The inspector shall check all manhole covers in the vicinity of the building site to insure that the covers are fully visible and are installed at the proper level consistent with the contour of the ground. (Ord. 227-2001. Passed 11-19-01.)

**947.99 PENALTY.**

Any person or any officer of any firm or corporation who violates the provisions of this chapter shall be fined not more than one hundred dollars (\$100.00). Each day the violation continues or occurs may be considered a separate and new offense.  
(Ord. 227-2001. Passed 11-19-01.)

