

CHAPTER 21: SANITARY SEWERAGE

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Section 21-101 Definitions

Unless the context specifically indicates otherwise, the meaning of certain terms and words used in this chapter shall be as follows:

1. Sewerage works. All facilities for collecting, pumping, treating, and disposing of sewage.
2. Superintendent. The superintendent or director of public works of the municipality, or his authorized deputy, agent or representative, as designated by the Mayor and Council.
3. Sewage. A combination of the water-carried wastes from residences, business buildings, institutions, and industrial establishments, together with such ground, surface, and storm waters as may be present.
4. Sewer. A pipe or conduit for carrying sewage.
5. Public Sewer. A sewer in which all owners of abutting properties have equal rights and which is controlled by public authority.
6. Sanitary Sewer. A sewer which carries sewage and to which storm, surface, and ground waters are not intentionally admitted.
7. Storm Sewer or Storm Drain - a sewer which carries storm and surface waters and drainage, but excludes sewage and polluted industrial wastes.
8. Sewage Treatment Plant. Any arrangement of devices and structures or lagoons used for treating sewage presently owned or afterward acquired by this municipality.
9. Industrial Wastes. The liquid wastes from industrial processes as distinct from sanitary sewage.
10. Garbage. Solid wastes from the preparation, cooking and disposing of food, and from the handling, storage and sale of produce.
11. Properly Shredded Garbage. The wastes from the preparation, cooking, and dispensing of food that have been shredded to such degree that all particles will be carried freely under the flow conditions normally prevailing in public sewers, with no particle greater than one-half inch in any dimension.

12. Building Drain. That part of the lowest horizontal piping of drainage system which receives the discharge from soil, waste, and other drainage pipes inside the walls of the building and conveys it to the building sewer, beginning five feet outside the inner face of the building wall.
13. Building Sewer. The extension from the building drain to the public sewer or other place of disposal.
14. B.O.D. (Denoting Biochemical Oxygen Demand). The quantity of oxygen utilized in the biochemical oxidation of organic matter under standard laboratory procedure in five (5) days at twenty degrees (20°) Centigrade, expressed in milligrams per liter.
15. PH. The logarithm of the reciprocal of the hydrogen ion concentration in moles per liter.
16. Suspended Solids. Solids that either float on the surface of, or are in suspension in water, sewage, or other liquid; and which are removable by laboratory filtering.
17. Natural Outlet. Any outlet into a watercourse, pond, ditch, lake, or other body of surface or ground water.
18. Watercourse. A channel in which a flow of water occurs, either continuously or intermittently.
19. Person. Any individual, firm company, association, society, corporation, or group.

Section 21-102 General Regulations

1. It shall be unlawful for any person to place, deposit, or permit to be deposited in an unsanitary manner upon public or private property within this municipality, or in any area under the Jurisdiction of said municipality, any human or animal excrement, garbage, or other objectionable waste.
2. It shall be unlawful for any person to discharge or cause to be discharged to any natural outlet within this municipality, or in any area under the jurisdiction of said municipality, any sanitary sewage, industrial wastes, or other polluted waters, except where suitable treatment has been provided in accordance with subsequent provisions of this chapter.
3. Except as hereinafter provided, it shall be unlawful for any person to construct or maintain or cause to be constructed or maintained any privy, privy vault, septic tank, cesspool, or other facility intended or used for the disposal of sewage.
4. It shall be unlawful for any person to maliciously, wilfully, or negligently break, damage, destroy, uncover, deface, or tamper with any structure, appurtenance, or equipment which is part of the municipal sewerage works.

Section 21-103 Connection to Public Sewers

The owner of all houses, buildings, or properties used for human occupancy, employment, recreation, or other purposes within the corporate limits of this municipality and located within 250 feet of a line of public sanitary sewer now in existence or after constructed to which such house, building, or property may be connected so that sewage will flow therefrom and into such sewer line by gravity - is hereby required at his own expense to install suitable toilet facilities therein and to connect such facilities directly with said line of public sanitary sewer in accordance with the provisions of this chapter within sixty (60) days after date of official notice so to do.

Section 21-104 Private Sewage Disposal

1. Where a public sanitary sewer is not available under the provisions of Section 21-103, the building sewer shall be connected to a private sewage disposal system complying with the provisions of this section.

2. Before commencement of construction of a private sewage disposal system, the owner shall first obtain a written permit signed by the superintendent. The application for such permit shall be made on a form furnished by the municipality, which the applicant shall supplement by any plans, specification, and other information as are deemed necessary by the superintendent. A permit and the inspection fee of Five Dollars (\$5.00) shall be paid to the municipality at the time the application is filed.
3. A permit for a private sewage disposal system shall not become effective until the installation is completed to the satisfaction of the superintendent. He shall be allowed to inspect the work at any stage of construction and, in any event, the applicant for the permit shall notify the superintendent when the work is ready for final inspection and before any underground portions are covered. The inspection shall be made within 48 hours of the receipt of notice by the superintendent.
4. The type, capacities, location, and layout of a private sewage disposal system shall comply with all recommendations of the Department of Natural Resources of the State of Georgia. No permit shall be issued for any private sewage disposal system employing sub-surface soil absorption facilities where the area of the lot is less than 15,000 square feet. No septic tank or cesspool shall be permitted to discharge to any public sewer or nature outlet.
5. At such time a public sewer becomes available to a property served by a private sewage disposal system, as provided in Section 21-103, a direct connection shall be made to the public sewer in compliance with this chapter, and any septic tanks, cesspools, and similar private sewage disposal facilities shall be abandoned and filled with suitable material.
6. The owner shall operate and maintain the private sewage disposal facilities in a sanitary manner at all times at no expense to the municipality.
7. No statement contained in this section shall be construed to interfere with any additional requirements that may be imposed by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources.

Section 21-105**Building Sewers and Connections**

- amended - see attached pages ✓ ORD # 132

1. No unauthorized person shall uncover, make any connections with or opening into, use, alter, or disturb any public sewer or appurtenances thereof without first obtaining a written permit from the superintendent.
2. There shall be two classes of building sewer permits: (1) for residential and commercial service, and (2) for service to establishments producing industrial wastes. In either case, the owner or his agent shall make application on a special form furnished by the municipality. The permit application shall be supplemented by any plans, specifications, or other information considered pertinent in the judgment of the superintendent. A permit and inspection fee of Five Dollars (\$5.00) for residential or commercial building sewer permit and Fifteen Dollars (\$15.00) for an industrial building sewer permit shall be paid to the municipality at the time the application is filed.
3. All cost and expense incident to the connection of the building sewer from the owner's building to the municipal property line shall be borne by the owner. The owner shall indemnify the municipality from any loss or damage that may be directly or indirectly occasioned by the connection of the building sewer. Any connection from the municipal property line into the public sewer shall be made by the municipality, for which the owner shall pay the municipality a standard sewer tap fee of Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00) for residential and commercial taps and Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) for industrial taps.
4. A separate and independent building sewer shall be provided for every building; except where one building stands at the rear of another or on an interior lot, and no private sewer is available or can be constructed to the rear building through an adjoining alley, court, yard, or driveway, the building sewer from the front building may be extended to the rear building and the whole considered as one building sewer.
5. Old building sewers may be used in connection with new buildings when they are found, on examination and test by the superintendent, to meet all requirements of this chapter.

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE BUILDING SEWERS AND CONNECTIONS
REQUIREMENT OF THE SANITARY SEWERAGE CODE OF THE CITY OF DANIELSVILLE

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DANIELSVILLE
HEREBY ORDAINS THAT:

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council have determined that it is in the best interests of and consistent with the convenience and necessity of the City of Danielsville to amend its city code, the following action is taken:

THEREFORE, the Mayor and City Council ordain as follows:

SECTION 1. THE CODE OF THE CITY OF DANIELSVILLE, GEORGIA, IS HEREBY AMENDED BY DELETING SUBSECTION 21-105.3 AND BY ADDING A NEW SECTION 21-105.3, TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

3. All cost and expense incident to the connection of the building sewer from the owner's building to the municipal property line shall be borne by the owner. The owner shall indemnify the municipality from any loss or damage that may be directly or indirectly occasioned by the connection of the building sewer. Any connection from the municipal property line into the public sewer shall be made by the municipality, for which the owner shall pay the municipality a standard sewer tap fee and other connection costs as set forth in the Rate Schedule and provisions of Section 21-101.

Section 2 Liability

1. Neither the approval of any action under the provisions of this ordinance, nor the compliance with provisions of this ordinance, shall relieve any person from the responsibility for damage to any person or property otherwise imposed by law nor impose any liability upon the Mayor or City Council for damage to any person or property.

Section 3 Conflicts between Specific and General Provisions.

Where there is an apparent conflict in this Ordinance between specific and general provisions, it is the intention hereof that the specific shall control.

Section 4 Severability.

If any section, provision, or clause of any part of this Ordinance shall be declared invalid or unconstitutional, or if the provisions of any part of this Ordinance as applied to any particular situation or set of circumstances shall be declared invalid or unconstitutional, such invalidity shall not be construed to affect the portions of this Ordinance not so held to be invalid, or the application of this Ordinance to other circumstances not so held to be invalid. It is hereby declared as the intent that this Ordinance would have been adopted had such invalid portion not been included herein.

Section 5 Repeal of Conflicting Provisions.

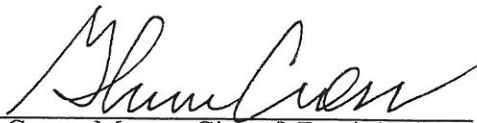
All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with this ordinance, and not preserved hereby, are hereby repealed.

Section 6 Effective Date


This Ordinance shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval in the manner prescribed by law.

(Continued next page)


Passed and approved this 30th day of July, 2002, at a meeting of the Mayor and Council of the City of Danielsville, Georgia.


Glenn Cross, Mayor, City of Danielsville

Attest:


Michelle Dills, City Clerk

Approved as to Legal Form:


Victor Y. Johnson, City Attorney

6. The building sewer shall be schedule 40 PVC pipe. Joints shall be tight and gastight and watertight. If installed in filled or unstable ground, the building sewer shall be of cast iron soil pipe, except that non-metallic material may be accepted if laid on a suitable concrete bed or cradle as approved by the superintendent.
7. The size and slope of the building sewer shall be subject to the approval of the superintendent, but in no event shall the diameter be less than four inches. The slope of such four-inch pipe shall not be less than one-eighth ($\frac{1}{8}$) inch per foot.
8. Whenever possible the building sewer shall be brought to the building at an elevation below the basement floor. No building sewer shall be laid parallel to or within three (3) feet of any bearing well, which might thereby be weakened. The building sewer shall be laid at uniform grade and in straight alignment insofar as possible. Changes in direction shall be made only with properly curved pipes and fittings.
9. In all buildings in which any building drain is too low to permit gravity flow to the public sewer, sanitary sewage carried by such drain shall be lifted by approved artificial means and discharged to the building sewer.
10. All excavations required for the installation of a building sewer shall be open trench work unless otherwise approved by the superintendent. Pipe laying and back fill shall be performed in accordance with city Specifications; except that no back fill shall be placed until the work has been inspected.
11. All joints and connections shall be made gastight and watertight. Jointing materials and methods may be used only by approval of the superintendent.
12. The connection of the building sewer into the public sewer shall be made at the tap, if such tap is available at a suitable location. If the public sewer is 12 inches in diameter or less, and no properly located tap is available, the municipality shall install a tap in the public sewer at the location specified by the superintendent. Where the public sewer is greater than 12 inches in diameter, and no properly located tap is available, a neat hole may be cut into the public sewer to receive the building sewer, with entry in the downstream direction at an angle of about 45 degrees. A 45 degree L may be used to make such connection, with the spigot and cut so as not to extend past the inner surface of the public sewer. The invert of the building sewer at the point of connection shall be at the same or at a higher elevation than the invert of the public sewer. A smooth, neat joint shall be made, and the connection made secure and watertight by encasement in concrete. Special fittings may be used for the connection only when approved by the superintendent.
13. The applicant for the building sewer permit shall notify the superintendent when the building sewer is ready for inspection and connection to the public sewer.
14. All excavations for building sewer installation shall be adequately guarded with barricades and lights so as to protect the public from hazard. Streets, sidewalks, parkways, and other public property disturbed in the course of the work shall be restored in a manner satisfactory to the municipality.

Section 21-106 Regulation of Discharges Into Public Sewers

1. No person shall discharge, or cause to be discharged, any storm water, surface water, ground water, roof runoff, subsurface drainage, cooling water, or unpolluted industrial process waters to any sanitary sewer.
2. Storm water and all other unpolluted drainage shall be discharged to such sewers as are specifically designated as storm sewers, or to a natural outlet approved by the superintendent. Industrial cooling water, or unpolluted process waters may be discharged upon approval of the superintendent, to a storm sewer or natural outlet.
3. Except as hereinafter provided, no person shall discharge, or cause to be discharged, any of the following described waters or wastes to any public sewer:
 - A. Any liquid or vapor having a temperature higher than 150 degrees Fahrenheit.

- B. Any water or waste which may contain more than 100 milligrams per liter of fat, oil, or grease.
- C. Any gasoline, benzene, naphtha, fuel oil, or other flammable or explosive liquid, solid, or gas.
- D. Any garbage that has not been properly shredded.
- E. Any ashes, cinders, sand, mud, straw, shavings, metal, glass, rags, feathers, tar plastics, wood paunch, manure, or any other solid or viscous substance capable of causing obstruction to the flow in sewers or other interference with the proper operation of the sewage works.
- F. Any waters or wastes having a pH lower than 5.5 or higher than 9.0, or having any other corrosive property capable of causing damage or hazard to structures, equipment, and personnel of the sewage works.
- G. Any waters or wastes containing a toxic or poisonous substance in sufficient quantity to injure or interfere with any sewage treatment process, constitute a hazard in the receiving waters of the sewage treatment plant. The fixed upper limits for the constituents listed below, in parts per million, shall be:

(1)	Cadmium	0.02	(6)	Silver	1.0
(2)	Chromium	1.0	(7)	Lead	0.1
(3)	Copper	1.0	(8)	Zinc	3.0
(4)	Cyanide	0.2	(9)	Phenol	0.05
(5)	Nickel	1.0	(10)	Arsenic	0.05

- H. Any waters or wastes containing suspended solids of such character and quantity that unusual attention or expense is required to handle such materials at the sewage treatment plant.
- I. Any noxious or malodorous gas or substance capable of creating a public nuisance.

- 4. Grease, oil, and said interceptors shall be provided when, in the opinion of the superintendent, they are necessary for the proper handling of liquid wastes containing grease in excessive amounts, or any flammable wastes, sand, and other harmful ingredients; except that such interceptors shall not be required for private living quarters or dwelling units. All interceptors shall be of a type and capacity approved by the superintendent and shall be located as to be readily and easily accessible for cleaning and inspection.

Grease and oil interceptors shall be constructed of impervious materials capable of withstanding abrupt and extreme changes in temperature. They shall be of substantial construction, watertight, and equipped with easily removable covers which, when bolted in place, shall be gastight and watertight.

- 5. When installed, all grease, oil, and sand interceptors shall be maintained by the owner, at his expense, in continuously efficient operation at all times.

6. The admission into the public sewers of any water or wastes having (a) a five-day biochemical oxygen demand greater than 200 milligrams per liter, or (b) containing more than 200 milligrams per liter of suspended solids, or (c) containing any quantity of substance having the characteristics described in Subsection 3 above, or (d) having an average daily flow greater than two percent (2%) of the average daily sewage flow of the municipality, shall be subject to the review and approval of the superintendent. Where necessary in the opinion of the superintendent, the owner shall provide at his expense such preliminary treatment as may be necessary to (a) reduce the biochemical oxygen demand to 200 milligrams per liter and the suspended solids to 200 milligrams per liter, or (b) reduce objectionable characteristics or constituents to within the maximum limits provided for in subsection 3 above, or (c) control the quantities and rates of discharge of such water or wastes. Plans, specifications, and any other pertinent information relating to proposed preliminary treatment facilities shall be submitted for the approval of the superintendent, and no construction of such facilities shall be commenced until aid approval is obtained in writing. In the event that after construction the system does not work properly or does not meet all State requirements, then and in that event the system will be required to be modified to work properly and meet State requirements at the expense of the owner.
7. Where preliminary treatment facilities are provided for any waters or wastes, they shall be maintained continuously in satisfactory and effective operation by the owner at his expense.
8. When required by the superintendent, the owner of any property served by a building sewer carrying industrial wastes shall install a suitable control manhole in the building sewer to facilitate observation, sampling, and measurement of the wastes. Such manhole, when required, shall be accessible and safely located, and shall be constructed in accordance with plans approved by the superintendent. The manhole shall be installed by the owner at his expense, and the owner at his expense shall maintain the same so the manhole shall be safe and accessible at all times.
9. All measurements, tests, and analyses of the characteristics of waters and wastes to which reference is made in subsection 3 and 6 above shall be determined in accordance with "Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Sewage," at the control manhole provided in subsection 8 above, or upon suitable samples taken at such control manhole. In the event that no special manhole has been required, the control manhole shall be considered to be the nearest downstream manhole in the public sewer to the point at which the building sewer is connected.
10. No statement contained in this section shall be construed as preventing any special agreement or arrangement between the municipality and any industrial concern whereby an industrial waste of unusual strength or character may be accepted by the municipality for treatment, subject to payment therefor by the industrial concern.

Section 21-107 Power and Authority of Inspectors

The superintendent and other duly authorized employee of the municipality bearing proper credentials and identification shall be permitted to enter upon all properties for the purpose of inspection, observation, measurement, sampling, and testing, in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.

Section 21-108 Rates

The rates for such service shall be one and one-half (1½) times the water rate as now in effect or hereinafter modified, amended or increased. The rate schedule set contemplates a single user, such as a one-family dwelling or one commercial operation. Extraordinary circumstances such as multi-family dwelling units and industrial users shall be governed by a special contract agreement made by the Mayor and City Council on recommendation of the city's Engineer.

Section 21-109 Changes of Occupancy

Not less than three (3) days notice must be given in person or in writing, at the City Hall office, to discontinue sewer service or to change occupancy. The outgoing party shall be responsible for all service up to the time of departure or the time specified for departure, whichever period is longer. The new occupant shall apply for service within 48 hours after occupying the premises and failure to do so will make such person liable for paying for the service since the last bill was rendered.

Section 21-110 Billings and Collecting

Bills to customers for service shall be mailed out on such day or days of each month as may be determined as desirable by the city. Bills shall be paid at the City Hall office and failure to receive bills or notices shall not prevent such bills from becoming delinquent or relieve the consumer from payment of same. The failure of sewer users to pay charges duly imposed shall result in the automatic imposition of the following penalties:

1. Non-payment within twenty (20) days from the due date will be subject to a penalty of ten percent (10%) of the delinquent account;
2. Non-payment within forty (40) days from the due date will result in usage being discontinued;

Service discontinued for non-payment of bills will be restored only after all bills are paid in full and a security deposit of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) is paid and a service charge of Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00) is paid before service is restored.

Section 21-111 Suspension of Service

When sewer service is discontinued and all bills are paid, any security deposit shall be refunded to the consumer by the city.

1. Upon discontinuance of service for non-payment of bills, the security deposit will be applied by the City of Danielsville toward the settlement of the account. Any balance will be refunded to the consumer; however, if the security deposit is insufficient to cover the bill, the city may proceed to collect the balance in the usual way by law for collection of debts.
2. The city reserves a right to discontinue its service without notice for the following additional reasons:
 - A. To prevent fraud or abuse.
 - B. Consumer's wilful disregard of the city's rules.
 - C. Emergency repairs.
 - D. Insufficiency of water supply due to circumstances beyond the city's control.
 - E. Legal processes.
 - F. Direction of public authorities.
 - G. Strike, riot, fire, flood or unavoidable accident.

Section 21-112 Adjustments

If the consumer believes his bill to be in error, he shall present his claim, in person, at the City Hall office before the bill becomes delinquent. Such claim, if made after the bill has become delinquent, shall not be effective in preventing discontinuance of service as heretofore provided. The consumer may pay such bill under protest and said payment shall not prejudice his claim. Since the bill is related to water consumption, the process for adjusting this bill shall be as set forth in the water ordinance for the City of Danielsville as the same is now enacted or hereinafter amended.

Section 21-113 Penalties

1. Any person found to be violating any provision of this ordinance, except Subsection 4 of Section 21-102, shall be served by the municipality with written notice stating the nature of the violation and providing a reasonable time limit for satisfactory correction thereof. A satisfactory time shall be thirty (30) days under this ordinance. The offender shall, within the period of time stated in such notice, permanently cease all violations.
2. Any person who shall violate the provision of Subchapter 4 of Section 21-102 of this ordinance or who shall continue any violation hereof beyond the time limit provided for in Section 21-103 hereof, or who shall continue any other violation hereof beyond the time limit provided for in subsection 1 above, shall be deemed guilty of a municipal offense and upon conviction therefor shall be punished by a fine of not more than Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00), or by imprisonment for not more than ten (10) days, or by both such fine and imprisonment for each violation. A separate offense shall be deemed committed upon each day during or on which a violation occurs or continues.

(Effective 2/4/85)