



BYLAW

Public Sewer Bylaw

No. 112, 1990

Consolidated for convenience only January 2023

This Consolidation includes the following Bylaw Amendments:

112-1, 1994	112-6, 2013
112-2, 1995	112-7, 2017
112-4, 2011	112-8, 2023
112-5, 2012	

Note: 112-3, 1996 was not proceeded with.

This version of this bylaw is a consolidation of amendments to the original bylaw as of the date specified. This consolidation is done for the convenience of users and accurately reflects the status of this bylaw as of the specified date but must not be construed as the original bylaw and is not admissible in Court unless specifically certified by the Corporate Officer for the District of Sechelt. Persons interested in the definitive wording of this bylaw and its amendments should view the original bylaws at the District of Sechelt.

DISCLAIMER

Unless an image, photograph or diagram is explicitly referred to in the text of the Bylaw as being part of a bylaw, any image, photographs or diagrams do not form part of the Bylaw and are provided as supplementary materials for convenience only.

AMENDMENTS

Number	Date	Amendment

DISTRICT OF SEHELTT

BYLAW NO. 112, 1990

A bylaw for the administration and regulation of public sewers

WHEREAS the *Community Charter* provides for the establishment of public sewer systems and the operation thereof:

NOW THEREFORE, the Council of the Corporation of the District of Sechelt in open meeting assembled hereby enacts as follows:

TITLE

1. This bylaw may be cited as the "District of Sechelt Public Sewer Bylaw No. 112, 1990".

DEFINITIONS

- 2.(1) In this bylaw, the following terms and expressions shall have the meanings hereinafter assigned to them, that is to say:
 - (a) **B.O.D.** (denoting biochemical oxygen demand) means the quantity of oxygen utilized in the biochemical exodation of organic matter under standard laboratory procedure in five (5) days at 20° Celsius, expressed in milligrams perlitre;
 - (b) **BUILDING SANITARY SEWER** means the section of sewer piping from the sanitary sewer connection to the building it serves and is intended to receive only sanitary sewage;
 - (c) **BUILDING STORM SEWER** means the section of sewer piping from the storm sewer connection to the building it serves and is intended to receive only storm water;
 - (d) **COMBINED SEWER** means a sewer intended to receive both storm water and sewage;
 - (e) **ENGINEER** means the Director of Engineering and Public Works for the Municipality or duly authorized assistant or agent.
 - (f) **FOOD SECTOR ESTABLISHMENT** means any premises, except premises used solely as a private residence, where food is prepared, packaged, served, sold, or otherwise handled in a manner that results in the formation of fats, oils and grease, including restaurants, delicatessens, fast- food premises, cafeterias, hospitals, bars, grocery stores, bakeries, butcher shops, and other similar premises where food is handled.

- (g) **GARBAGE** means solid wastes from the domestic or commercial preparation, cooking and dispensing of food and from the handling, storage and sale of produce;
- (h) **INDUSTRIAL WASTES** means the waste water from industrial business processes as distinct from sanitary sewage;
- (i) **MAIN SEWER** see **PUBLIC SEWER**
- (j) **MUNICIPALITY** means the District of Sechelt.
- (k) **pH** means the logarithm of the reciprocal of the weight of hydrogen ions in grams per litre of solution;
- (l) **PERMISSION** means permission given by the Engineer or his duly authorized assistant or agent.
- (m) **PROPERLY COMMINUTED GARBAGE** means the wastes from the preparation, cooking and dispensing of food that have been shredded to such a degree that all particles will be carried freely under the flow conditions normally prevailing in public sewers, with no particle greater than six millimetres (6 mm.) in any dimension;
- (n) **PUBLIC SEWER** means a sewer installed on Municipal property, highways or rights-of-way and shall include main sewers, lateral sewers, sewer extensions and sewer connections, and is controlled by the Municipality;
- (o) **RIGHT-OF-WAY** means an acquired legal right for the specified use of land owned by others;
- (p) **SANITARY SEWAGE** means any liquid or waste water containing animal or vegetable matter in suspension or solution and includes waste water from plumbing fixtures and appliances;
- (q) **SEWAGE** means waste water from buildings, lands and industrial establishments, together with such storm water that is not intentionally admitted;
- (r) **SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT** means any arrangement of devices and structures used for treating sewage;
- (s) **SEWER** means a pipe or conduit for carrying sewage or storm water;
- (t) **“SEWER CONNECTION”** means that section of the public sewer connecting the main sewer, lateral sewer or sewer extension to the property it serves;
- (u) **STORM SEWER** means a sewer which carries storm and surface waters and drainage, but excludes sewage and industrial wastes, other than unpolluted cooling water;

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- (v) **STORM WATER** means rainfall, ground water, subsurface water or unpolluted water from any source;
 - (w) **SUSPENDED SOLIDS** means solids that either float on the surface of, or are in suspension in water, sewage or other liquids, and which are removable by laboratory filtering;
 - (x) **UNPOLLUTED WATER** means water of quality equal or better than the effluent criteria in effect or water that would not cause a violation of receiving water quality standards and would not be benefitted by discharge to the sanitary sewers and sewage treatment facilities.
 - (y) **WATER COURSE** means a natural or artificial channel for the passage of water either continuously or intermittently.

REQUIREMENTS TO CONNECT SEWERS

- 3. (1) The owner of every parcel of land to which a sewer connection can be or has been made, and on which a building or other structure with a plumbing system is situate shall connect such plumbing system to the sewer connection.
- (2) In the event of the owner failing to make the necessary connection to the sewer connection within thirty (30) days after being notified in writing by the Municipality to do so, or as required by Section 12 (1) of this bylaw, the Engineer, by his workmen or others, may have the work done at the expense of such owner, and the Municipality shall recover the expense thereof with costs in like manner as municipal taxes.
- (3) Notwithstanding the foregoing, an owner failing to connect his building or structure to the sewer system within the aforesaid period of thirty (30) days shall be liable to the penalties provided by this Bylaw.
- (4) Notice in writing required to be given by the Engineer pursuant to this Section shall be sufficiently given if sent by registered mail to the owner at the address shown on the last revised assessment roll of the Municipality.
- (5) For clarity of Section (1) above:
 - a) where a sewer line extension is built as a response to a petition for the service, connection to abutting properties is mandatory;
 - b) where a sewer line extension is built as a Council initiative whereby the assent of the electors has been gained or an alternative approval process used, connection to abutting properties is mandatory;
 - c) where grant funds are used for a sewer capital project, connection to abutting properties is mandatory;

- d) where Gas Tax grant money is to be used for a project that is in the District's five year capital forecast, connection to abutting properties is mandatory;
 - e) where a developer has provided the funds for a sewer line extension, the abutting properties will be required to connect to the sewer only under the following criteria:
 - i. change of ownership;
 - ii. improvement within the property that requires a building permit; and
 - iii. failure of the septic on the property.
- (6) Property owners who appeal an obligation to connect based on physical lot characteristics or financial hardship be dealt with by Council on a case by case basis.

DESIGN AND INSTALLATION

4. (1) Pursuant to the provisions of this Bylaw, all drainage and sewerage works provided by persons other than the Municipality shall be constructed and installed strictly in accordance with the plans and specifications annexed to the Subdivision Control Bylaw of the Municipality and shall comply with the provisions of the British Columbia Plumbing code.

APPLICATION FOR SERVICE

5. (1) Each application for a sewer connection shall be made to the Municipality by the owner or his authorized agent in the form prescribed in Appendix "A" attached to and forming part of this Bylaw.
- (2) Such owner shall, on making application, pay to the Municipality the applicable connection fee. If such connection is practicable, the Engineer shall, within ninety (90) days, weather permitting, provide and install a sewer connection to the applicant's property. If such connection is not practicable, the Engineer shall so notify the applicant within sixty (60) days and the Municipality shall refund the charges or fees paid by the applicant.
- (3) Each property shall have its own sewer connection which shall be installed by the Municipality. Where two or more buildings exist on one parcel of land and where such parcel of land can be subdivided, each building or structure shall have a separate service connection.
- (4) Where possible, the sewer connection will be located at the location requested by the applicant. In the event the applicant's preferred location is not practicable due to the existence of installed surface improvements or is in conflict with installed underground utilities the Engineer shall designate the location of each service connection to each parcel of land or premises.

FEES AND PERMITS

6. (1) To defray the District of Sechelt's cost to install sewer connection to land on which buildings or structures are to be served, all such costs are to be borne by the owner of said land pursuant to the cost estimate set out in Appendix A attached to and forming part of this bylaw.

INSTALLATION OF SEWERS

7. (1) The Engineer shall determine the location, size and depth of each sewer connection.
- (2) Whenever possible, the sewer connection shall be brought to the property line at a gradient and elevation that will allow gravity flow of sewage from the building to the main sewer.
- (3) When, in the opinion of the Engineer, problems may occur in any sewer connection because of the surcharging of the public sewer, the Engineer may refuse an application.
- (4) The connecting of the building sanitary sewer or the building storm sewer into a public sewer shall conform to the requirements of the Building and Plumbing Codes or other applicable rules and regulations of the Municipality. All such connections shall be made gas-tight and water-tight and be verified by proper testing. Any deviation from the prescribed procedures and materials must be approved by the Engineer before installation.
- (5) All excavations for sewer installations 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.
- (6) When determined as being necessary by the Engineer, the owner of any property served by a sewer discharging industrial wastes to a public sewer shall install a suitable structure, together with such necessary meters and other appurtenances, in the building sanitary sewer to facilitate observation, sampling and measurement of the wastes. Such structure, when required, shall be accessible and safely located and shall be constructed in accordance with the plans approved by the Engineer. The structure shall be maintained by the owner as to be safe and accessible at all times.

- (7) The Engineer may require a user of sewer services to provide information needed to determine compliance with this Bylaw. These requirements may include:
- (a) Sewage or storm water discharge peak rate and volume over a specified time period;
 - (b) Chemical analysis of sewage;
 - (c) Information on raw materials, processes and products affecting sewage volume and quality;
 - (d) Quantity and disposition of specific liquid, sludge, oil, solvent or other materials important to sewer use control;
 - (e) A plot plan of sewers on the user's property showing sewer and pre-treatment facility locations;
 - (f) Details of sewage pre-treatment facilities; and/or
 - (g) Details of systems to prevent and control the losses of materials through spills to the public sewer.

USE OF PUBLIC SEWERS

8. (1) If any sewage is discharged or is proposed to be discharged to the public sewers, which sewage contains the substances or possesses the characteristics, detailed in Section 10, and which, in the judgement of the Engineer, may have deleterious effect upon the sewage facilities, processes, or equipment or which may otherwise create a hazard to life or constitute a public nuisance, the Engineer may:
- (a) Reject the sewage;
 - (b) Require pre-treatment to an acceptable condition prior to the discharge into the public sewers;
 - (c) Require control over the quantities and rates of discharge; and/or
 - (d) Require payment to cover the added cost of handling and treating the sewage not covered by existing taxes or sewer charges.

When considering the above alternatives, the Engineer shall give consideration to the economic impact of each alternative on the discharger. If the Engineer permits the pre-treatment or equalization of waste flows, the design and installation of the plans and equipment shall be subject to review and approval by the Engineer.

- (2) Grease, oil and sand interceptors shall be provided when, in the opinion of the Engineer, they are necessary for the proper handling of sewage containing floatable grease in excessive amounts, as specified in Section 10(3)(c) and (j) or any flammable wastes, sand or other harmful ingredients; except that such interceptors shall not be required for private living quarters or dwelling units. All interceptors shall be of a type and capacity approved by the Engineer, and shall be located as to be readily and easily accessible for cleaning and inspection. In the maintaining of these interceptors, the owner(s) shall be responsible for the proper removal and disposal by appropriate means of the captured materials and shall maintain records of the dates and means of disposal, which are subject to review by the Engineer. Any removal and hauling of the collected materials not performed by the owner's personnel must be performed by currently licenced waste disposal firms.

9.
 - (1) No person shall discharge or cause or allow to be discharged into any pipe, main, conduit, manhole, catch basin, gutter or aperture of the sewer system, or to any sanitary or storm sewer:
 - (a) Any gasoline, benzene, naphtha, alcohols or other flammable or explosive liquid, solid or gas;
 - (b) Any solid or viscous substance capable of obstructing sewage flow or interfering with the operation of the sewage works or treatment facilities. These substances include, but are not limited to: ashes, cinders, sands, mud, straw, grass clippings, insoluble shavings, metal, glass, rags, feathers, tar, asphalt, creosote, plastics, wood, animal paunch contents, offal, blood, bones, meat trimmings and wastes, fish or fowl heads, shrimp, crab or clam shells, entrails, lard, tallow, baking dough, chemical residues, cannery waste bulk solids, hair and fleshings, spent grain and hops, whole or ground paper dishes and cups, whole or ground plastic dishes and cups, whole or ground food and beverage containers, unground garbage, paint residues;
 - (c) Any noxious or malodorous gas or substance which either singly or by interaction with other wastes is capable of creating a public nuisance or hazard to life or preventing entry into a sewer or pump station;
 - (d) Radioactive material, except within such limits as are permitted by the licence issued by the Atomic Energy Control Board of Canada; or
 - (e) Any material from a cesspool, holding tank or septic tank, except at authorized receiving stations.

RESTRICTED WASTES

10. (1) No person shall discharge into any sanitary sewer any storm water, unpolluted drainage or cooling water.
- (2) No person shall discharge any water into a storm sewer except unpolluted drainage water and cooling water.
- (3) No person shall discharge or cause or allow to be discharged into any sanitary sewer or combined sewer any of the following:
- (a) Any garbage which has not been properly comminuted.
 - (b) Any liquid or vapour having a temperature higher than 65° Celsius.
 - (c) Any water or waste which contains grease (includes fats, waxes, oil or any other non-volatile material extracted by hexane from an acidified sample of the wastes), whether or not emulsified, whose all inclusive concentration is in excess of one hundred fifty (150) milligrams per litre of substances derived from petroleum sources, or which contains any substance which may solidify or become discernibly viscous at temperatures above 0° Celsius.
 - (d) Any water or waste having a suspended solids content of more than six hundred (600) milligrams per litre.
 - (e) Any soluble waste or waste water having a pH lower than 5.5 or higher than 9.5 or having any other corrosive property which reasonably could be hazardous to structures, equipment or personnel; such as, but not limited to battery or plating acid and wastes, copper sulphate, chromium salts and compounds or salt brine.
 - (f) Any water or waste containing a toxic or poisonous substance in sufficient quantity to injure or interfere with any sewage treatment process, to constitute a hazard to humans or animals, or to create any hazard to the receiving waters or storm water overflows, or to the effluent of the sewage treatment plant. Without limiting the generality of this Section, the concentration of the following toxic substances at the point of discharge to the public sewer shall not exceed:

Arsenic	one (1) milligram per litre
Cadmium	one (1) milligram per litre
Chromium (Total)	five (5) milligrams per litre
Copper	two (2) milligrams per litre
Cyanide	one (1) milligram per litre
Iron	ten (10) milligrams per litre
Lead	two (2) milligrams per litre
Nickel	three (3) milligrams per litre
Phenols & Cresols	one (1) milligram per litre
Zinc	four (4) milligrams per litre

- (g) Any materials which exerts or causes:
 - (i) Unusual concentration of inert suspended solids; such as, but not limited to: Fuller's earth, lime slurries or limeresidue;
 - (ii) Unusual concentrations of dissolved solids; such as, but not limited to: sodium chloride or sodium sulphate;
 - (iii) Excessive discolouration; such as, but not limited to: dye wastes or vegetable tanning solutions, or
 - (iv) Unusual biochemical oxidation demand;
- (h) Any water or waste that will, by itself or with other water or wastes in the sewer system, release obnoxious gases; or develop colour of undesirable intensity; or form suspended solids in objectionable concentration; or create any other conditions deleterious to structures or treatment processes; or
- (i) Water or wastes containing substances in such concentrations that they are not amenable to treatment or reduction by the sewage treatment processes employed, or are amenable to treatment only to such a degree that the sewage treatment plant effluent cannot meet the requirements of any other agency having jurisdiction over discharges to the receiving waters.
- (j) Any waste water from Food Sector Establishments that contains total fats, oils, or grease in excess of 300 mg per litre;
- (k) Waste that is created by a garburator or in-sink waste disposal device.

SAMPLING AND ANALYSIS

11. (1) All measurements, tests and analyses of the characteristics of waters and wastes to which reference is made shall be determined in accordance with the latest edition of "Standard Methods for the Examination of Water" published by the American Public Health Association. Sampling shall be carried out by customarily accepted methods to reflect the effects of constituents upon the sewage works and to determine the existence of hazards to life, health and property.

PRIVATE DISPOSAL

12. (1) Where a private sewage disposal system such as a septic tank, holding tank, cesspool, or leeching pit has been permitted on a property and a public sanitary sewer is later constructed or becomes available within a reasonable distance of any part of the property, the owner of the property shall make a direct connection to such public sanitary sewer within a two (2) year period of such availability or within 30 days of being notified by the Municipality to do so, whichever period is less. The previously permitted method of sewage disposal shall cease and be removed or cleaned of sludge and filled with a suitable material.
- (2) No statement contained in this Section shall be construed to interfere with any additional requirements that may be imposed by the Health Act or Plumbing codes and Bylaws.

PROHIBITIONS

13. (1) It shall be unlawful for any person to place, deposit or permit to be deposited in any unsanitary manner on public or private property within the Municipality, or in any area under the jurisdiction of the said Municipality, any human or animal excrement, garbage or objectionable waste.
- (2) Except where a sewer connection cannot be installed, it shall be unlawful to construct or maintain any privy, privy vault, septic tank, cesspool or other facility intended or used for the disposal of sewage.
- (3) No person shall maliciously, willfully or negligently break, damage, destroy, uncover, deface or tamper with any structure, appurtenance or equipment which is part of the sewer system.
- (4) No person shall discharge or cause to be discharged any unpolluted waters such as storm water, ground water, roof runoff, subsurface drainage or colling water to any sanitary sewer; except that storm water runoff from limited areas, which storm water may be polluted at times, may be discharged to the sanitary sewer by permission of the Engineer.
- (5) No person shall make any connection whatsoever to the sewer or sewer connection or in any way tamper with the sewer or sewer connection without first obtaining permission from the Engineer.
- (6) No person shall connect any building sanitary sewer to any public storm sewer or to any storm sewer connection. No person shall connect any building storm sewer to any sanitary sewer connection.
- (7) Where any public sewer is laid in private property in respect of which the Municipality holds a right-of-way for sewer purposes, no person shall connect to, or disturb, such sewer except by direction of, and with permission of, the Engineer.
- (8) No person shall connect or attempt to connect or allow to be connected or allow to remain connected any real property to the sanitary sewer or storm sewer system otherwise than in accordance with the provisions of this Bylaw.

STORM WATER DISPOSAL

14. (1) Storm water and all other unpolluted drainage shall be discharged to such sewers as are specifically designated as combined sewers or storm sewers or to a natural outlet approved by the Engineer and other regulatory agencies. Unpolluted industrial cooling water or process waters may be discharged, on approval of the Engineer, to a storm sewer, combined sewer or natural outlet.

INSPECTION

15. (1) The Engineer, or their designated person(s), may enter, at all reasonable times, upon any property subject to the provision of this Bylaw, in order to ascertain whether such regulations are being obeyed.

ENFORCEMENT

16. (1) Should any person who is required by the provisions of this Bylaw to do any matter or thing be in default of it being done by that person, such matter or thing may be done at the expense of the person in default and the Council may recover the expense thereof, with costs in like manner as municipal taxes.

PENALTIES

17. (1) Any person who violates any provisions of this Bylaw or who suffers or permits any act or thing to be done in contravention of this Bylaw, or who neglects to do or refrains from doing any act or thing required to be done by the provisions of this Bylaw, shall be guilty of an offence and shall be subject to the fine specified in the District of Sechelt Bylaw Notice Enforcement Bylaw No. 515, 2012 or, upon conviction, to a fine of not more than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) or a term of imprisonment of not more than six (6) months or to both, for each offence; and each day during which any violations, contravention, or breach shall continue shall be a separate offence

READ A FIRST TIME THIS 2nd DAY OF MAY, 1990.

READ A SECOND TIME THIS 16th DAY OF MAY, 1990.

READ A THIRD TIME THIS 16TH DAY OF MAY, 1990

RECONSIDERED AND FINALLY ADOPTED THIS 16TH DAY OF MAY, 1990.

"Nancy A. MacLarty"
MAYOR

"B. Sabine"
CLERK (Acting)

APPENDIX A

To: District of Sechelt

Date: _____

Folio: _____

I request an estimate for the following services:

Sanitary Sewer: _____ Size _____

Storm Sewer: _____ Size _____

Driveway Access: _____ Width: _____

Culvert Required (Y/N): _____ Size: _____

Other _____ If other, description and on-site location of service requested

PROJECT ADDRESS

APPLICANT

Applicant's address: _____
if different than project address

Telephone number: _____

Alternate telephone number: _____

ESTIMATE: See separate sheet attached _____

Prepared by: _____
Print Name

Date: _____

Approved By: _____ Director of Engineering Services

Date: _____

WORK ORDER: Please carry out the work described relative to:

Address: _____

Date: _____

Sanitary Sewer _____ Storm Sewer _____ Water Service _____ Driveway _____ Other _____

Plan attached: Yes _____ No _____

Engineering Receipt No.: _____

Land Owner's Name: _____

Land Owner's Signature: _____

Please return this document to the District of Sechelt

Folio: _____

WORK ORDER STATUS:

Completed: Date: _____ Signature: _____

Abandoned: Date: _____ Signature: _____

Plans Drawn: Yes: _____ No: _____ By: _____

Details of Service Installed: