

AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain Chapter 25 of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1963, as amended; which Chapter 25 constitutes the PLUMBING AND GAS FITTING CODE OF THE CITY OF ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA, which Chapter 25 adopts the VIRGINIA UNIFORM STATEWIDE BUILDING CODE which incorporates by reference those certain codes promulgated by the Building Officials and Code Administrators, International, Inc., commonly known as BOCA CODES and designated as THE BOCA BASIC PLUMBING CODE/1975, THE BOCA BASIC BUILDING CODE/1975 AND THE BOCA BASIC MECHANICAL CODE/1975 with certain amendments, deletions and additions all of which relate to the ADOPTION OF A PLUMBING AND GAS FITTING CODE FOR THE CITY OF ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA, POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE PLUMBING INSPECTOR, RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION, INSTALLATION, EXTENSION, ALTERATION, MAINTENANCE, REMOVAL, PLACEMENT, DEMOLITION AND USE OF PLUMBING AND GAS FITTING SYSTEMS; COMPOSITION, POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE PLUMBING EXAMINERS AND APPEALS BOARD; REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTIFICATION OF PLUMBERS AND GAS FITTERS; SUSPENSION OF PLUMBERS AND GAS FITTER'S CERTIFICATES; REQUIREMENTS AND FEES FOR PERMITS; REGULATION FOR WATERLINES, DRAINS AND SEWERS OUTSIDE OF BUILDINGS, ILLEGALITY OF CERTAIN ACTIVITIES RELATING TO PLUMBING AND GAS FITTING WORK; PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS AND REGULATIONS FOR WATER CONSERVATION.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF ALEXANDRIA HEREBY ORDAINS:

Section 1. That Chapter 25 of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1963, as amended, be and the same hereby is amended and reordained to read as follows:

CHAPTER 25

PLUMBING AND GAS FITTING.

Article I. In General.

Sec. 25-1. Title.

This chapter shall be known as the Plumbing and Gas Fitting Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia.

Sec. 25-2. Definitions.

For the purpose of this chapter and unless otherwise required by the context, the following words and phrases shall have the meaning relatively ascribed to them by this section.

Certificate "A" plumber. A person who has taken and passed a plumbing examination given by the Virginia State Registration Board for Contractors and holds a valid state license which authorizes him to install and supervise the installation of plumbing and gas fitting work.

Gas fitter's helper. A person working under the personal supervision of a master or journeyman gas fitter in the installation of gas fitting work.

Gas fitting work. The work, beginning at the outlet of the meter or regulator if no meter is present, of putting together and installing piping systems, fixtures and appliances which are to contain gas, including attachments, appurtenances, and the maintenance, repair and alteration of said systems, fixtures and appliances.

Journeyman gas fitter. A person working under the supervision of a master plumber or master gas fitter in the installation of plumbing or gas fitting work.

Journeyman plumber. A person working under the supervision of a master plumber or master gas fitter in the installation of plumbing or gas fitting work.

Limited appliance installer. A person who has limited skill, knowledge and background in the field of plumbing dealing with the installation and replacement of appliances and is authorized to install and replace humidifiers, ice makers and kitchen equipment such as dishwashers, disposals, sinks and similar appliances in residential dwelling units only.

Limited utility plumber. A person who has limited skill, knowledge and background in the field of plumbing dealing with the installation and replacement of utilities and is authorized to install or replace sewer and water systems to within five (5) feet of the building.

Master gas fitter. A person certified by the plumbing examiners and appeals board and authorized to perform and supervise gas fitting work.

Master plumber. A person certified by the plumbing examiners and appeals board and authorized to perform and supervise plumbing and gas fitting work.

Plumbing work. The practice, materials, and fixtures used in the installation, maintenance, extension, and alteration of all piping, fixtures, plumbing appliances, and plumbing appurtenances in connection with any of the following: sanitary drainage or storm drainage facilities and venting systems and the public or private water supply systems, within any building, structure or conveyance.

This definition covers the extension of such lines described above to a point not exceeding five (5) feet beyond the foundation walls of the building or structure.

Not included in this definition are installations of gas piping; chilled water piping in connection with refrigeration, process and comfort cooling; hot water piping in connection with building heating; and piping for fire sprinklers and standpipes.

Plumber's helper. A person working under the personal supervision of a master or journeyman plumber in the installation of plumbing work.

Sec. 25-3. Adoption of Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code.

There be and hereby is adopted and incorporated as if fully set out at length herein for the purpose of establishing rules and regulations for the design, construction, installation, extension, alteration, maintenance, removal, placement, demolition, and use of plumbing and gas fitting systems, the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code of which the Building Officials and Code Administrators International, Inc. (BOCA) Basic Building Code/1975, BOCA Basic Plumbing Code/1975 and the BOCA Basic Mechanical Code/1975 with certain amendments are part thereof.

Sec. 25-4. Same--Official copy.

One copy of said Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code, to be known as the official copy, shall be manually signed on its cover by the mayor and plumbing inspector and shall be filed and kept at all times in the office of the plumbing inspector.

Sec. 25-5. Same--Copies for public inspection.

At least two (2) copies of the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code shall be placed in the office of the plumbing inspector, City Hall, Alexandria, Virginia, where they may be viewed, examined and obtained between the hours of 9:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M. Monday through Friday inclusive of each week, except for holidays.

Sec. 25-6. Appointment, term and compensation of plumbing inspector.

A plumbing inspector shall be appointed by the director of building and mechanical inspections subject to approval of the city manager, and shall hold office at the pleasure of the city manager.

Sec. 25-7. Duties of plumbing inspector generally.

The plumbing inspector or his authorized representatives shall administer and enforce the provisions of this chapter and the Virginia Statewide Building Code applying to plumbing and gas fitting work.

Sec. 25-8. Authority of plumbing inspector.

The plumbing inspector or his authorized representatives shall have full authority to carry into effect all provisions of this chapter and the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code which relates to plumbing and gas fitting work.

Whenever the words "building official" are used in the BOCA Basic Building Code/1975, BOCA Basic Plumbing Code/1975 and BOCA Basic Mechanical Code/1975 they shall mean the plumbing inspector if plumbing or gas fitting work is involved.

Sec. 25-9. Official identification.

The plumbing inspector shall adopt an official identification

for himself and his authorized representatives which shall be displayed while conducting inspections.

Sec. 25-10. Composition of plumbing examiners and appeals board; appointment, term and compensation of members.

The plumbing examiners and appeals board shall consist of one master plumber, one journeyman plumber, one mechanical engineer and two citizens appointed by the city council. The master plumber, journeyman plumber and two citizen members currently serving on the plumbing board shall continue to serve uninterrupted until the expiration of their current appointments. Thereafter those appointed shall serve terms of two years. The mechanical engineer shall serve until June 30, 1978 and thereafter for a term of two years. Vacancies shall be filled by the city council for the unexpired portion of a term. The members of the plumbing examiners and appeals board shall serve as such without pay. The plumbing inspector shall serve as secretary to the board.

Sec. 25-11. Chairman of plumbing examiners and appeals board; quorum; meetings.

The plumbing examiners and appeals board shall select its own chairman from those members selected by the city council. Three members of the plumbing examiners and appeals board present at a meeting shall constitute a quorum. Meetings of the plumbing examiners and appeals board shall be held at the call of the chairman but shall be held at least once every six months.

Sec. 25-12. Duties of plumbing examiners and appeals board.

The board shall have the following powers and duties:

(1) establish standards and procedures for the qualification, examination, and certification of master plumbers and master gas fitters; (2) issue and renew certificates; (3) hear and determine appeals from decisions or actions of the plumbing inspector by any person aggrieved by any such decision or action; (4) hold meetings and public hearings on matters relating to the plumbing and gas fitting when deemed advisable; and (5) maintain adequate records of its activities.

Sec. 25-13. Performance of plumbing and gas fitting work unlawful except under certain conditions.

(a) No person shall engage in plumbing work unless:

- (1) He is a master plumber; or
- (2) He is a journeyman plumber or journeyman gas fitter employed by a master plumber and works under the direct supervision of the master plumber; or
- (3) He is a plumber's helper employed by a master plumber and works under the on-site supervision of a master plumber or journeyman plumber; or
- (4) He is a certificate "A" plumber; or

(5) He is either a certified limited utility plumber or a certified limited appliance installer and does not exceed the limitations set forth in the certificate; or

(6) He meets the requirements of either Section 25-14 or 25-15.

(b) No person shall engage in gas fitting work unless:

(1) He is a master gas fitter; or

(2) He is a master plumber; or

(3) He is either a journeyman gas fitter or journeyman plumber employed by either a master gas fitter or master plumber and works under the direct supervision of either a master gas fitter or master plumber; or

(4) He is a gas fitter's helper employed by either a master gas fitter or master plumber and works under the on-site supervision of either a master gas fitter, master plumber, journeyman gas fitter or journeyman plumber; or

(5) He is a certificate "A" plumber; or

(6) He is a certified limited appliance installer and does not exceed the limitations set forth in the certificate.

(c) All private sewer and water mains and fire lines outside of a building shall be installed under the direct supervision of a master plumber or a limited utility plumber.

Sec. 25-14. Requirements for homeowner or resident to perform their own plumbing work.

Nothing contained in this chapter shall prohibit any bona fide owner or resident or prospective resident of any single family, two-family or row dwelling from personally performing plumbing work in the residence which he owns or resides or which he is preparing as his residence, (including the usual accessory buildings and quarters in connection with such building) provided such owner, resident, or prospective resident conforms to the following rules and regulations:

(a) Submits plans and specifications to the plumbing inspector for approval.

(b) Satisfies the inspector as to his ability to properly perform the work.

(c) Makes application and obtains a plumbing permit before commencing the work.

(d) Files an affidavit that he is the bona fide owner or resident of such premises for his residence, and that he will personally perform the work and that such installation shall be done on his premises only.

(e) Pays the required permit fees set forth herein.

(f) Performs the plumbing work according to the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code and the City Code.

(g) Notifies the Plumbing inspector at such time as the work is ready for inspection prior to enclosing any concealed work.

(h) An owner, resident or prospective resident of a single-family, two family or row dwelling may make minor repairs and replacements for which a permit is not required by Sec. 25-31 without complying with paragraphs (a) through (e) and (g) of this section.

Sec. 25-15. Employees of businesses.

Nothing contained in this chapter shall prohibit regular full-time employees of firms, businesses, or corporations from installing plumbing, piping or appliances as required by any such firm, business or corporation only on the premises or property of such firm, business or corporation provided that such employee holds at least a valid journeyman plumber's certificate for the City of Alexandria and otherwise complies with the applicable provisions of this code and the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code.

Sec. 25-16. Employment of person not certified as master plumber, master gas fitter, limited utility plumber or appliance installer.

It shall be unlawful for any owner, lessee or agent or any person having any authority or duty in connection with any building or premises knowingly to employ any person to do any plumbing or gas fitting work in any such building or premises unless such person is certified either as a master plumber, master gas fitter, limited utility plumber, or limited appliance installer.

Sec. 25-17. Qualifications of applicants for certificates.

(a) Master plumber's certificate. Applicants for certification as a master plumber shall furnish evidence they have had at least five years' experience in practical plumbing, three years of which shall have been served as a journeyman plumber, or, in lieu thereof, have graduated from a college or university with a degree in mechanical engineering, civil engineering, architectural engineering or the equivalent and can show at least two years of practical experience in plumbing work.

They shall be examined as to their knowledge of the practice of the trade of plumbing, their knowledge of the requirements of regulations governing the installation of plumbing in the city, their ability to lay out and plan plumbing work, their knowledge of physics and mechanics insofar as they apply to plumbing design and construction, and they shall generally demonstrate to the board their fitness to properly and intelligently carry on the business of a master, employing or directing plumbers in the city.

(b) Journeyman plumber's certificate. Applicants for certification as a journeyman plumber shall furnish evidence that they have had at least three years' experience as an apprentice plumber or helper or have graduated from a recognized journeyman plumber school with one year of practical experience as an apprentice plumber or one year as a plumber's helper.

They shall be examined as to their knowledge of the practice of the trade of plumbing, their knowledge of the requirements of regulations governing the installation of plumbing in the city, their knowledge of physics and mechanics insofar as they are applied to plumbing design and construction, and they shall generally demonstrate to the plumbing inspector their fitness to properly perform and execute plumbing work.

(c) Master gas fitter's certificate. Applicants for certification as a master gas fitter shall furnish evidence that they have had at least five years' experience as journeyman gas fitters.

They shall be examined as to their knowledge of the practice of the trade of gas fitting, including domestic hot water heating insulation work, their knowledge of the requirements of regulations governing the installation of piping systems fixtures, appliances and devices for conveyance and consumption of gas for power, refrigeration, heating, illumination or other purposes, their ability to lay out and plan gas fitting work, their knowledge of physics and mechanics insofar as they apply to gas fitting design and construction, and they shall generally demonstrate to the board their fitness to properly and intelligently carry on the business of a master, employing or directing gas fitters in the city.

(d) Journeyman gas fitter's certificate. Applicants for certification as a journeyman gas fitter shall furnish evidence that they have had at least three years' experience as an apprentice gas fitter or helper or two years practical experience and have graduated from a recognized gas fitters' school.

They shall be examined as to their knowledge of the practice of the trade of gas fitting, including domestic hot water heating insulation work, their knowledge of the requirements of regulations governing the installation of piping systems, fixtures, appliances and devices for conveyance and consumption of gas for power, refrigeration, heating, illumination or other purposes, their ability to lay out and plan gas fitting work, their knowledge of physics and mechanics insofar as they apply to gas fitting design and construction, and they shall generally demonstrate to the plumbing inspector their fitness to properly perform and execute gas fitting work.

(e) Limited utility plumber and limited appliance installer certificate. Applicants for certification as a limited utility plumber and limited appliance installer shall furnish evidence they have had at least five years' experience in practical work installing water and sewer mains or appliances.

They shall be examined as to their knowledge of the practice of the trade of utility or appliance installer, their knowledge of the requirements of regulations governing the installation of water and sewer mains or appliances, their ability to lay out and plan the related work and their knowledge of physics and mechanics insofar as they apply to such installation design and construction and they shall generally demonstrate to the board their fitness to properly

and carry on the business of a utility plumber or appliance installer employing or directing this work in the city.

Sec. 25-18. Certificates.

(a) Certificates as master plumbers shall be granted by the plumbing examiners and appeals board after a written or oral examination, or both, to determine the fitness of such applicants for such certificates. Certificates as journeyman plumbers shall be granted by the plumbing inspector after a written or an oral examination, or both, to determine the fitness of applicants for such certificates.

(b) Certificates as master gas fitters shall be granted by the plumbing examiners and appeals board after a written or an oral examination, or both, to determine the fitness of applicants for such certificates. Certificates as journeyman gas fitters shall be granted by the plumbing inspector after a written or an oral examination, or both, to determine the fitness of applicants for such certificates.

(c) A certificate "A" may be issued by the plumbing inspector in lieu of certification as a master plumber by the plumbing examiners and appeals board to any person who has passed the examination for plumbing contractors given by the State Registration Board for Contractors without the required examination of paragraphs (a) and (b) above. This certificate "A" will be valid only so long as the State Registration Certificate is in full effect for the person holding it. Fees required for certificate "A" shall be the same as applied to master plumbers.

(d) A certificate as a limited utility plumber shall be granted by the plumbing inspector to install sewer and water lines to within five (5) feet of the building after a written examination to determine the fitness of such applicants for such certificate.

(e) A certificate as a limited appliance installer shall be granted by the plumbing inspector to install or replace humidifiers, ice makers and kitchen equipment such as dishwashers, disposals, sinks, and similar appliances provided no major changes are made to the plumbing, drainage, wastes and vents or the water piping systems.

Sec. 25.19. Reexaminations.

In instances where an applicant fails an examination or reexamination for certification for master plumber, master gas fitter, journeyman plumber, journeyman gas fitter, limited utility plumber or limited appliance installer he shall be ineligible for any subsequent reexamination for the following time periods:

(a) After first examination, one month.

(b) After first reexamination, three months.

(c) After second reexamination and all subsequent reexaminations, six months;

Except that journeyman plumbers and journeyman gas fitters will be eligible for reexaminations at any time after the first examination.

Sec. 25-20. Fees for examinations and reexaminations.

The fee for each examination and for each reexamination of master plumbers shall be ten dollars. The fee for each examination and for each reexamination of master gas fitters shall be ten dollars. The fee for the examination of journeyman plumbers shall be two dollars and fifty cents. The fee for the examination and reexamination of journeyman gas fitters shall be two dollars and fifty cents. The examination and reexamination fee for limited utility plumbers and limited appliance installers shall be ten dollars. Required fees shall accompany applications.

Sec. 25-21. Period for certificates and renewals; fees for certificates and renewals.

The certificate for master plumber, master gas fitter, limited utility plumber and limited appliance installer shall be issued after the applicant passes the prescribed examination and pays the fee and shall be valid for a period of one year. Such certificates shall be renewable annually. The fees shall be as follows:

Fees for Certificates

	Original	Renewal
Master plumber	\$25.00	\$10.00
Master gas fitter	25.00	10.00
Limited utility plumber	25.00	10.00
Limited appliance installer	25.00	10.00
Journeyman plumber	3.00	3.00
Journeyman gas fitter	3.00	3.00

An application for renewal shall be accompanied by the fee, and shall be made in person or by mail before the expiration of a prior certificate. Any such certificate which is not renewed within the three (3) year period shall be considered lapsed and in such case an applicant must reapply for a new certification.

Sec. 25-22. Reciprocity.

The plumbing examiners and appeals board may determine those jurisdictions whose certification is equivalent to that provided for in this code. No examination shall be required of a person holding a certificate from any such jurisdiction, but such person shall pay the applicable fees.

Sec. 25-23. Bonds of master plumbers, master gas fitters, limited utility plumbers and limited appliance installers.

On receiving a certificate, and before engaging in business, every master plumber, every master gas fitter, every limited utility plumber and every limited appliance installer shall give bond with an approved surety company in the sum of five thousand dollars, payable to the city, conditioned upon the faithful performance of and compliance with all of the provisions of this

chapter. The bond shall be approved by the city attorney and filed with the director of finance.

In lieu of individual bonds for each master plumber, master gas fitter, limited utility plumber or limited appliance installer, a group association bond, bonding each member for \$5,000.00 shall be accepted by the plumbing inspector if such bond is approved by the city attorney.

Sec. 25-24. Certificate prerequisite to advertising as plumber or gas fitter.

It shall be unlawful for any person to display a sign stating or implying that he is carrying on the business of plumbing work, or to advertise by means of business cards, stationery or any publication, or to claim orally to a prospective customer, or otherwise indicate, that he is in the business of plumbing or is offering to do plumbing, unless he is certified as a master plumber as provided herein.

It shall be unlawful for any person to display a sign stating or implying that he is carrying on the business of gas fitting work, or to advertise by means of business cards, stationery or any publication, or to claim orally to a prospective customer, or otherwise indicate that he is in the business of gas fitting or is offering to do gas fitting, unless he is certified as a master gas fitter as provided herein.

Sec. 25-25. Vehicles used in plumbing or gas fitting work to show license.

Any vehicle used in the city in connection with plumbing work in the city shall have the master plumbers license number clearly marked on the exterior of the vehicle. Any vehicle used in the city in connection with gas fitting work in the city shall have the master gas fitters license number clearly marked on the exterior of the vehicle.

Sec. 25-26. Appeals.

Any person aggrieved by a decision or interpretation of the plumbing inspector or his authorized representative in the administration and enforcement of the provisions of this code or the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code may appeal to the plumbing examiners and appeals board.

Any person aggrieved by a decision of the plumbing examiners and appeals board may appeal the decision in accordance with applicable provisions of Section 127 of the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code.

Sec. 25-27. Hearings.

For the purpose of hearing an appeal the plumbing examiners and appeals board shall meet upon notice of the chairman within ten (10) days of the filing of the appeal. All hearings shall be public. Any person whose interests may be affected by the matter

on appeal shall be given an opportunity to be heard.

Sec. 25-28. Actions on appeals.

Every action of the plumbing examiners and appeals board on an appeal shall be conducted in accordance with applicable provisions of Section 127 of the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code.

Sec. 25-29. Revocation of certificates.

The plumbing examiners and appeals board shall have authority to suspend temporarily or revoke any master plumber's, journeyman plumber's, master gas fitter's or journeyman gas fitter's certificate for failure to correct faulty work, doing work without a permit or failure to comply with the provisions of this chapter or the Virginia Statewide Building Code or other sufficient reason; provided, that no such certificate shall be revoked except by a two-thirds vote of the board, after a public hearing by the plumbing board, at which the certificate holder may be represented by counsel.

Sec. 25-30. Violations.

Any person who shall violate any provision of this chapter other than a provision of the herein adopted Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be punished by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00). Each day a violation continues shall be deemed a separate offense.

Violations of this chapter may in addition to the penalty provided for in the preceding paragraph be restrained, prohibited or enjoined by appropriate proceedings in a court of competent jurisdiction.

Any person who shall violate any provision of the herein adopted Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code shall be subject to the applicable provisions of Section 122 of the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code.

Article II. Permits Required for Plumbing
or Gas Fitting Work: Fees for Permits

Sec. 25A-31. Required; schedule of fees.

It shall be unlawful for any person to do any plumbing or gas fitting work unless he shall have first applied for and received a permit from the plumbing inspector provided that no permit shall be required for minor repairs or replacements and provided further that emergency repairs or replacements of existing fixtures may be made without a permit prior to the receipt of a permit, but a permit shall be obtained not later than five working days after the repair or replacement. Permits for emergency repairs or replacements may be applied for by mail.

The fee for a permit shall be the sum of the base fee (if any) plus the fixture fees plus the final inspection fee (if any) as set forth in the following table:

<u>Type of Permit</u>	<u>Base Fee</u>	<u>Fixture Fee (Per Fixture)</u>	<u>Final Inspection Fee</u>
New residence 1 and 2 family (L-3 Use)	\$7.50	\$0.75	\$1.50
New residence (L-1 and multi-family L-2 Use)	7.50	0.75	3.00 per floor
New commercial and industrial	7.50	0.75	3.00 per floor
Replacement and alter- ations to existing plumbing or gas systems		2.00 ⁽¹⁾	

⁽¹⁾In no event shall total permit cost exceed rate for new work.

The fee for additional inspections made necessary by improper materials or work or failure to be ready for inspection: \$3.00 per inspection.

Notwithstanding anything in this section, there shall be no fees assessed for plumbing and gas fitting work performed by or for the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority in connection with the construction, alteration, repair, or maintenance of rail rapid transit facilities such as rails, stations, substations, repair and storage yards, retaining walls, tunnel structures, and elevated rail

structures, nor shall there be any fees assessed for plumbing and gas fitting work performed by or for the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority in connection with the Carlyle House Restoration Project and the Bank of Alexandria Restoration Project.

Sec. 25-32. Abandoned or discontinued work.

(a) Should any person to whom a permit has been issued for plumbing or gas fitting work abandon the installation for any reason, he shall immediately notify the plumbing inspector.

(b) If an installation has been partially completed, the permit grantee, upon abandoning the installation, shall notify the plumbing inspector and request an inspection. A record shall be kept of the results of the inspection and a notice of any violations shall be sent to the permit grantee and the bonding company. The master plumber or master gas fitter who then proceeds with the installation shall secure a permit for the entire job and shall be responsible for all work.

(c) If no work has been done, a permit grantee shall be entitled to a refund of 75% of the permit fee, provided that request for a refund is made within six months after date of permit.

No refund shall be granted to the permit grantee for work already installed and inspected.

(d) Before proceeding with any plumbing or gas fitting work which has been started by any other person, an owner or master plumber or master gas fitter shall make request for an inspection of the installation, and shall secure a permit for the entire job and shall be responsible for all work.

(e) Any person to whom a permit has been issued for plumbing or gas fitting work shall give written notice to the office of the plumbing inspector if the plumbing contractor is discharged by the owner. This shall not be construed to relieve the owner or person doing plumbing or gas fitting work from the terms of any agreement but will allow the issuance of a new permit to another person certified to do such work.

Article III. Sewer and Water Systems.

Sec. 25-33. Connection to sanitary sewer and water system required.

(a) Every building and every separate business establishment having an outside entrance, shall have an independent sewer and water supply connection with a public or private sewer or water system; except that where one building stands in the rear of another building on an interior lot and no public or private sewer or water is available or can be constructed to the rear building through adjoining alley, court, yard or driveway, the house sewer and water service from the front building may be extended to the rear building and the whole may be considered as one sewer and one water system.

(b) Commercial buildings with more than one unit under the same roof and multi-family residential buildings with more than one unit under the same roof where a single owner is responsible for the maintenance and repair of plumbing for all the units under the same roof may be served by one system only upon written request to the plumbing inspector. Row dwellings shall have one public sewer and one water service connection for each family dwelling unit, unless otherwise approved by the plumbing inspector.

(c) Availability. A public water supply system or a public sewer system shall be deemed available to one or two-family dwelling premises if such premises are within 300 feet measured along a street, alley or easement of public water supply or sewer system and a connection may be made lawfully thereto.

All other premises. A public water supply system or a public sewer system shall be deemed available to all premises other than one or two-family dwellings, if such premises are within 500 feet, measured along a street, alley or easement, of the public water supply or sewer system, and a connection may be made lawfully thereto.

(d) Any extension of public sewer or water required hereby, shall be made at the expense of the owner of the premises to be served.

Sec. 25-34. Building sewer and water service.

(a) Easements for sewers. Unless a right-of-way or easement is recorded with the Clerk of the Circuit Court for the City of Alexandria, Virginia, no sewer or drain from any building or premises shall be installed on any adjacent property or premises, unless at the time of the proposed installation such adjacent property is under same ownership.

(b) All sewer taps must be made under the supervision of a certified master plumber, with inspection by the plumbing inspector; however, a certified journeyman plumber may make the tap. All material necessary for making the sewer tap shall be furnished by the owner of property for which the sewer tap is to be made. The connection of a saddle house sewer to a public sanitary sewer shall be made using a saddle approved by the plumbing inspector. The sewer tap shall be made with a 1/16 bend with the sewer tap entering the upper air space of the trunk sewer, unless otherwise approved by the plumbing inspector.

The maximum size house sewer which may be connected to a ten inch or larger public sanitary sewer is six inches. All other connections of a house sewer to a public sanitary sewer require the installation of an approved manhole, at the property owners expense, except that a wye (Y) connection may be permitted to be installed in the construction of a new public sewer if approved by the plumbing inspector and director of transportation and environmental services before construction begins.

Sewer taps shall be at least two feet apart. Sewer taps into public manholes must be approved by the plumbing inspector and director of transportation and environmental services before the sewer tap is made. Taps into public storm sewers shall be made as directed by the director of transportation and environmental services and plumbing inspector. Trenches and excavations shall be maintained in a safe condition and shall be kept free from water to permit adequate inspection. All sewer taps and laterals in public streets, roads, pavements, alleys and utility rights-of-way must be free of jumps or grades in excess of one-quarter (1/4) inch per foot until they reach the property line or the limit of the public sewer easement unless approved in advance by the plumbing inspector and the director of transportation and environmental services.

(c) Protection - minimum cover (protection against freezing). Water service piping and sewers shall be installed below recorded frost penetration but not less below grade than three (3) feet, zero (0) inches for water piping and one (1) foot six (6) inches for sewers except that when a building sewer terminates in a septic tank its minimum cover shall be twelve (12) inches.

(d) Clearance required. A house sewer or water system shall be laid in such a manner that the system can be serviced without disturbing the adjacent property.

(e) Materials. Building sewers shall be constructed of non-degradable material with a minimal load bearing capacity of two thousand (2000) lb. per lineal foot of pipe under the ASTM (American Society Testing Materials) 3 edge bearing test (ASTMC-500).

Sec. 25-35. Plugging, capping and sealing of abandoned sewer laterals.

When a building is razed or a new sewer connection is provided for an existing building, the abandoned sewer lateral shall be plugged or capped by the owner at, or outside of, the property line, tightly sealed with a material approved by the plumbing inspector. A permit for this work must be obtained before the work is started. Where evidence of an abandoned sewer lateral is found on a vacant lot or in an abandoned building it shall be plugged and sealed by the owner after proper notice. Should the owner ordered to perform this work neglect or refuse to comply with the order within 30 days, it shall be the duty of the plumbing inspector to arrange to have this work performed and the cost charged as a recorded lien against the property.

Sec. 25-35. Method of storm and subsoil water disposal.

(a) Buildings shall have drainage provisions for conveying storm water from roofs, paved areas and areaway drains, subsoil water, condensate, cooling water, etc., on the premises to a public storm sewer, except that where such public storm sewer is not available, an approved method of disposal shall be provided to the

satisfaction of the director of transportation and environmental services.

(b) Availability. For a one or two-family dwelling, a public storm sewer shall be deemed available when such sewer is within one hundred (100) feet of the premises on which the dwelling is located, measured along a street, and a connection may be made lawfully thereto.

For any other buildings, a public storm sewer shall be deemed available when such sewer is within five hundred (500) feet of the premises on which the building is located, measured along a street, and a connection may be made lawfully thereto.

(c) Area drains are prohibited from entering septic tanks or public or private sewer systems unless specifically approved in writing by the director of transportation and environmental services.

Article IV. Water conservation.

Sec. 25-36. Water consumption of fixtures. In all new construction and in all repair or replacement of fixtures or faucets, only fixtures and faucets not exceeding the following flow rates or water usage shall be installed. These rates are based on a pressure at the fixture of forty (40) to fifty (50) pounds per square inch.

Water closets, tank type	3.5 gal. per flush
Water closets, flushometer type	3.0 gal. per flush
Urinals, tank type	3.0 gal. per flush
Urinals, flushometer type	3.0 gal. per flush
Shower heads	3.0 gal. per minute
Lavatory, sink faucets	4.0 gal. per minute

Sec. 25-37. Lavatories for public use. Faucets of lavatories located in rest rooms intended for public use shall be of the metering, or self-closing type.

Sec. 25-38. Car wash installation. Car wash installations shall be equipped with a water recycling system approved by the plumbing inspector.

Sec. 25-39. Coin-operated car wash facilities. No coin-operated car wash may be permitted to be installed and used until plans have been submitted to and approved by the plumbing inspector. The plans must show the method of connection to an approved sanitary sewer system, disposal of rain and subsurface water and the protection of the potable water system.

Sec. 25-40. Continuous flow equipment. Any water connected device or appliance requiring a continuous flow of five (5) gallons per minute or more and not previously listed in this section shall be equipped with a water recycling system approved by the plumbing inspector.

Section 2. That the title of and an informal memorandum explaining this ordinance shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation published in the city not later than five

days following its introduction together with a notice containing the time and place for a public hearing. The city clerk shall have the full text of this ordinance printed in sufficient numbers to supply copies to meet request. The city clerk shall note the date of introduction and first reading, the date of publication, the date of the public hearing, and the date of the second reading and final passage in the minutes of the meeting. This ordinance shall become effective the date of its final passage.

FRANK E. MANN
Mayor

— FINAL PASSAGE: NOVEMBER 23, 1976 —