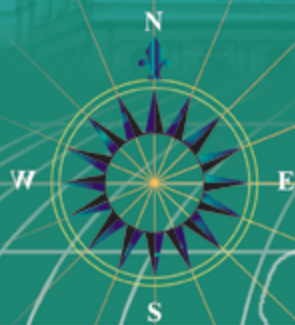


# Plumbing Code of New York State

**New York State  
Department of State**

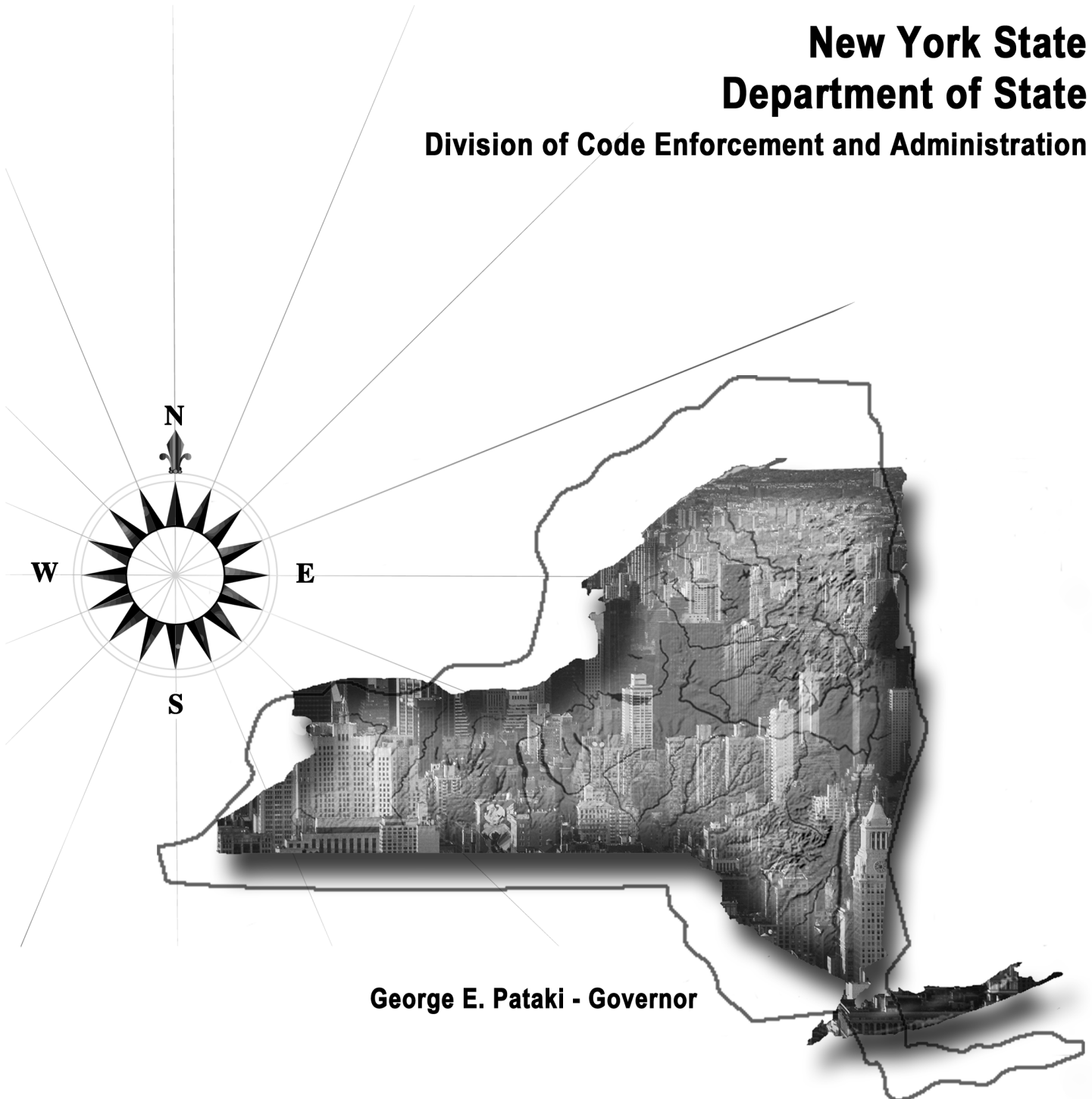
**Division of Code Enforcement and Administration**



**George E. Pataki - Governor**

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Department of State  
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## Content

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## Marginal Markings

New York modifications to code language are indicated by NY tape ( ¶ ) in the margin, and New York text is underlined. Deletion of code language by New York is indicated by an arrow ( ⇒ ) in the margin.

“Reserved” indicates that a section or portion of the International Code™ has been deleted, but its number or position has been retained.

## Letter Designations in Front of Section Numbers

The content of sections in this code which begin with a letter designation are maintained by another code development committee in accordance with the following: [B] = International Building Code Development Committee; [F] = International Fire Code Development Committee; [M] = International Mechanical Code Development Committee; [P] = International Plumbing Code Development Committee; [RBE] = International Residential Code Building and Energy Development Committee; [RMP] = International Residential Code Mechanical/Plumbing Development Committee; and [E] = International Energy Conservation Code Development Committee.

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## CHAPTER 1

# GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

### SECTION 101 GENERAL

**101.1 Title.** These provisions shall be known as the *Plumbing Code of New York State*, hereinafter referred to as "this code."

**101.2 Scope.** The provisions of this code shall apply to the erection, installation, alteration, repairs, relocation, replacement, addition to, use or maintenance of plumbing systems. The installation of fuel gas distribution piping and equipment, fuel gas-fired water heaters, and water heater venting systems shall be regulated by the *Fuel Gas Code of New York State*.

**Exception:** Detached one- and two-family dwellings and multiple single-family dwellings (townhouses) not more than three stories high with separate means of egress and their accessory structures shall comply with the *Residential Code of New York State*.

**101.2.1 Appendices.** The following appendices have been adopted and are made part of this code:

**Appendix C—Gray Water Recycling Systems**

**Appendix F—Structural Safety**

**101.3 Purpose.** The purpose of this code is to provide minimum standards to safeguard life or limb, health, property and public welfare by regulating the design, construction, installation, quality of materials, location, operation, and maintenance or use of plumbing equipment and systems.

**101.4 Severability.** If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this code is for any reason held to be unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this code.

### SECTION 102 APPLICABILITY

**102.1 General.** The provisions of this code shall apply to all matters affecting or relating to structures, as set forth in Section 101. Where, in any specific case, different sections of this code specify different materials, methods of construction or other requirements, the most restrictive shall govern.

**102.2 Existing installations.** Plumbing systems lawfully in existence at the time of the adoption of this code shall be permitted to have their use and maintenance continued if the use, maintenance or repair is in accordance with the original design and no hazard to life, health or property is created by such plumbing system.

**102.3 Maintenance.** All plumbing systems, materials and appurtenances, both existing and new, and all parts thereof,

shall be maintained in proper operating condition in accordance with the original design in a safe and sanitary condition. All devices or safeguards required by this code shall be maintained in compliance with the code under which they were installed.

**102.4 Additions, alterations or repairs.** Additions or alterations to any plumbing system shall conform to that required for a new plumbing system without requiring the existing plumbing system to comply with all the requirements of this code. Additions or alterations shall not cause an existing system to become unsafe, insanitary or overloaded.

Repairs to existing plumbing systems shall be permitted in the same manner and arrangement as in the existing system, provided that such repairs or replacement are not hazardous.

**102.5 through 102.7** Reserved.

**102.8 Referenced standards.** The standards referenced in this code shall be those that are listed in Chapter 13 and considered part of the requirements of this code to the prescribed extent of each such reference. Where differences occur between provisions of this code and referenced standards, the provisions of this code shall apply.

**102.9 Other laws and regulations.** The provisions of this code shall not be deemed to nullify any provisions of local, state or federal laws and regulations.

### SECTION 103 OFFICE OF CODE ENFORCEMENT

**103.1 General.** A city, town, village or county that is responsible for administration and enforcement of this code shall designate a code enforcement official in accordance with the applicable provisions of local law.

A state agency that is responsible for administration and enforcement of this code shall be in compliance with the applicable provisions of state agency regulations.

**103.2 and 103.3** Reserved.

**103.4 Restriction of employees.** An official or employee connected with the department of plumbing inspection, except one whose only connection is that of a member of the board of appeals established under the provisions of Section 109, shall not be engaged in or directly or indirectly connected with the furnishing of labor, materials or appliances for the construction, alteration or maintenance of a building, or the preparation of construction documents thereof, unless that person is the owner of the building; and such officer or employee shall not engage in any work that conflicts with official duties or with the interests of the department.



## SECTION 104 CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICIAL

**104.1 General.** A city, town, village or county that is responsible for administration and enforcement of this code shall establish its local program in accordance with the applicable provisions of local law.

A state agency that is responsible for administration and enforcement of this code shall be in compliance with the applicable provisions of state agency regulations.

⇒ **104.2 and 104.3** Reserved.

**104.4 Inspections.** A city, town, village or county that is responsible for administration and enforcement of this code shall provide for inspections in accordance with the applicable provisions of local law.

A state agency that is responsible for administration and enforcement of this code shall be in compliance with the applicable provisions of state agency regulations.

⇒ **104.5 through 104.7** Reserved.

**104.8 Department records.** A city, town, village or county that is responsible for administration and enforcement of this code shall establish and maintain records in accordance with the applicable provisions of local law.

A state agency that is responsible for administration and enforcement of this code shall keep records in compliance with the applicable provisions of state agency regulations.

## SECTION 105 APPROVAL

⇒ **105.1** Reserved.

**105.2 Alternative materials and methods.** The provisions of this code are not intended to prevent the installation of any design or material or to prohibit any method of construction not specifically prescribed by this code, provided that any such alternative has been approved. An alternative material, design or method of construction shall be approved where the State Fire Prevention and Building Code Council finds that the proposed design is satisfactory and complies with the intent of the provisions of this code, and that the material, method or work offered is, for the purpose intended, at least the equivalent of that prescribed in this code in quality, strength, effectiveness, fire resistance, durability and safety.

⇒ **105.3 Testing.** Reserved.

⇒ **105.3.1 Test methods.** Test methods shall be as specified in this code or by other recognized test standards.

⇒ **105.4** Reserved.

**105.5 Material and equipment reuse.** Material, equipment and devices shall not be reused unless they meet the requirements of this code for new materials.

## SECTION 106 PERMITS

**106.1 When required.** A city, town, village or county that is responsible for administration and enforcement of this code shall determine local permit requirements in accordance with the applicable provision of local law.

A state agency that is responsible for administration and enforcement of this code shall be in compliance with the applicable provisions of state agency regulations.

**106.2 through 106.5** Reserved.

**106.6 Fees.** A city, town, village or county that is responsible for administration and enforcement of this code shall establish fees in accordance with the applicable provisions of local law.

A state agency that is responsible for administration and enforcement of this code shall be in compliance with the applicable provisions of state agency regulations.

## SECTION 107 INSPECTIONS

**107.1 Required inspections and testing.** A city, town, village or county that is responsible for administration and enforcement of this code shall determine necessary inspections in accordance with the applicable provisions of local law.

A state agency that is responsible for administration and enforcement of this code shall be in compliance with the applicable provisions of state agency regulations.

**107.2** Reserved.

**107.3 Testing.** Plumbing work and systems shall be tested as required in Section 312 and in accordance with Sections 107.3.1 and 107.3.3.

**107.3.1 New, altered, extended or repaired systems.** New plumbing systems and parts of existing systems that have been altered, extended or repaired shall be tested as prescribed herein to disclose leaks and defects, except that testing is not required in the following cases:

1. In any case that does not include addition to, replacement, alteration or relocation of any water supply, drainage or vent piping.
2. In any case where plumbing equipment is set up temporarily for exhibition purposes.

**107.3.2** Reserved.

**107.3.3 Reinspection and testing.** Where any work or installation does not pass any initial test or inspection, the necessary corrections shall be made to comply with this code.

## SECTION 108 VIOLATIONS

**108.1 Violations.** Violations of this code shall be dealt with in a manner appropriate to the applicable provisions of city, town, village or county and shall be in accordance with the applicable provisions of local law.

NY  
N Violations of this code on state property shall be dealt with in a manner appropriate to a state agency.

⇒ **108.2 through 108.6** Reserved.

**108.7 Unsafe plumbing.** Any plumbing regulated by this code that is unsafe or that constitutes a fire or health hazard, unsani-

⇒ tary condition, or is otherwise dangerous to human life by reason of inadequate maintenance, dilapidation, obsolescence,  
⇒ fire hazard, disaster, damage or abandonment shall be abated by repair, rehabilitation, demolition or removal.  
⇒

## **SECTION 109**

### **VARIANCE PROCEDURES**

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N **109.1 Application for variance or appeal.** A variance or appeal for any part of this code shall be in accordance with the provisions of 19 NYCRR, titled "Variance Procedures," which is administered by the Secretary of State. No town, village, city or county, nor any state agency charged with the administration and enforcement of this code may waive, modify or otherwise alter this code.

⇒



## CHAPTER 2 DEFINITIONS

### SECTION 201 GENERAL

**201.1 Scope.** Unless otherwise expressly stated, the following words and terms shall, for the purposes of this code, have the meanings shown in this chapter.

**201.2 Interchangeability.** Words stated in the present tense include the future; words stated in the masculine gender include the feminine and neuter; the singular number includes the plural and the plural the singular.

**201.3 Terms defined in other codes.** Where terms are not defined in this code and are defined in the *Building Code of New York State*, *Fire Code of New York State*, *Fuel Gas Code of New York State*, or the *Mechanical Code of New York State*, such terms shall have the meanings ascribed to them as in those codes.

**201.4 Terms not defined.** Where terms are not defined through the methods authorized by this section, such terms shall have ordinarily accepted meanings such as the context implies.

### SECTION 202 GENERAL DEFINITIONS

**ACCEPTED ENGINEERING PRACTICE.** That which conforms to accepted principles, tests or standards of nationally recognized technical or scientific authorities.

**ACCESS (TO).** That which enables a fixture, appliance or equipment to be reached by ready access or by a means that first requires the removal or movement of a panel, door or similar obstruction (see "Ready access").

**ACCESS COVER.** A removable plate, usually secured by bolts or screws, to permit access to a pipe or pipe fitting for the purposes of inspection, repair or cleaning.

**ADAPTER FITTING.** An approved connecting device that suitably and properly joins or adjusts pipes and fittings which do not otherwise fit together.

**AIR ADMITTANCE VALVE.** One-way valve designed to allow air to enter the plumbing drainage system when negative pressures develop in the piping system. The device shall close by gravity and seal the vent terminal at zero differential pressure (no flow conditions) and under positive internal pressures. The purpose of an air admittance valve is to provide a method of allowing air to enter the plumbing drainage system without the use of a vent extended to open air and to prevent sewer gases from escaping into a building.

**AIR BREAK (Drainage System).** A piping arrangement in which a drain from a fixture, appliance or device discharges indirectly into another fixture, receptacle or interceptor at a point below the flood level rim.

**AIR GAP (Drainage System).** The unobstructed vertical distance through the free atmosphere between the outlet of the waste pipe and the flood level rim of the receptacle into which the waste pipe is discharging.

**AIR GAP (Water Distribution System).** The unobstructed vertical distance through the free atmosphere between the lowest opening from any pipe or faucet supplying water to a tank, plumbing fixture or other device and the flood level rim of the receptacle.

**ANCHOR BUILDING.** An exterior perimeter building of a group other than H having direct access to a covered mall building but having required means of egress independent of the mall.

**ANCHORS.** See "Supports."

**ANTISIPHON.** A term applied to valves or mechanical devices that eliminate siphonage.

**APPROVED.** Acceptable to the code enforcement official.

**APPROVED AGENCY.** An established and recognized agency that is regularly engaged in conducting tests or furnishing inspection services.

**AREA DRAIN.** A receptacle designed to collect surface or storm water from an open area.

**ASPIRATOR.** A fitting or device supplied with water or other fluid under positive pressure that passes through an integral orifice or constriction, causing a vacuum. Aspirators are also referred to as suction apparatus, and are similar in operation to an ejector.

**AUTHORITY HAVING JURISDICTION.** The local government, county government or state agency responsible for the administration and enforcement of an applicable regulation or law.

### BACKFLOW

**Backpressure.** Pressure created by any means in the water distribution system, which by being in excess of the pressure in the water supply mains causes a potential backflow condition.

**Backpressure, low head.** A pressure less than or equal to 4.33 psi (29.88 kPa) or the pressure exerted by a 10-foot (3048 mm) column of water.

**Backsiphonage.** The backflow of potentially contaminated water into the potable water system as a result of the pressure in the potable water system falling below atmospheric pressure of the plumbing fixtures, pools, tanks or vats connected to the potable water distribution piping.

**Backwater valve.** A device or valve installed in the building drain or sewer pipe where a sewer is subject to backflow, and which prevents drainage or waste from backing into a low level or fixtures and causing a flooding condition.