

ORDINANCE NO. 913

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF NORTHFIELD, MINNESOTA, AMENDING CHAPTER 82, UTILITIES:

ARTICLE IV, SEWERS AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL, DIVISION 2, DISCHARGE RESTRICTIONS, SEC. 82-206, UNPOLLUTED WATER OR STORM-WATER

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTHFIELD DOES ORDAIN THAT:

Northfield Code Chapter 82, Utilities, Article IV, Sewers and Sewage Disposal, Division 2, Discharge Restrictions, Sec. 82-206, Unpolluted Water or Storm-Water, are hereby amended as follows (deleted material is crossed out; new material is underlined; sections and subsections not being amended are omitted):

CHAPTER 82, UTILITIES

ARTICLE IV, SEWERS AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

DIVISION 2, DISCHARGE RESTRICTIONS

Sec. 82-206. – Unpolluted water or storm-water

- (a) No unpolluted water or stormwater shall be discharged to the public sanitary sewer system. Such water shall be discharged only to storm sewer or to natural outlets approved by the city and other regulatory agencies as outlined in this section.
- (b) Except as otherwise expressly authorized in this section, no water from any roof, surface, groundwater sump pump, footing tile, swimming pool, or other source of natural precipitation shall be discharged into the sanitary sewer system. Dwellings and other buildings and structures which require, because of infiltration of water into basements, crawl spaces, and the like, a sump pump discharge system shall have a permanently installed discharge line which shall not at any time discharge water into the sanitary sewer system, except as provided in this section. A permanently installed discharge line shall be one which provides for yearround discharge capability to either the outside of the dwelling, building, or structure, preferably to the ground surface (i.e. lawn) to encourage infiltration. If discharge to the yard is not feasible, the permanently installed discharge line may be connected ~~to~~ city storm sewer facilities or through the curb and gutter to the street as long as it does not create nuisance conditions (such as ice build-up on public right-of-way surfaces or excessive flows on neighboring properties). It shall consist of a rigid discharge line, without valving or quick connections for altering the path of discharge.
- (c) Any person having a roof, surface, groundwater sump pump, footing tile, or swimming pool connected and/or discharging into the sanitary sewer system shall

immediately disconnect or remove such. Any connections or openings in the sanitary sewer system shall be closed or repaired in an effective, workmanlike manner, subject to inspection and approval by a designated representative.

(d) Swimming pool water must be dechlorinated by chemical treatment or stopping the addition of chlorine 3-4 days in advance of discharge. It is preferred that swimming pool water, free of chlorine, be discharged to the ground surface (i.e. lawn) to encourage infiltration. The discharge should not flow onto any other persons' property or create nuisance conditions. If the discharge flow is to occur across bare soil areas, care should be taken to prevent soil erosion. Nuisance conditions and erosion may be limited by reducing the rate of discharge. If it is not possible to discharge swimming pool water to the ground surface, it may be discharged to city storm sewer facilities or through the curb and gutter to the street so long as the discharge does not create nuisance conditions.

~~(d)~~(e) Any person who owns improved real estate that does or may discharge into the city's sanitary sewer system shall allow a designated representative to inspect the buildings to confirm that there is no sump pump or other prohibited discharge into the sanitary sewer system. Alternatively, any person may furnish a certificate from a licensed plumber certifying that the property is in compliance with this article.

~~(e)~~(f) Any sump pump connection may be reinspected from time to time as requested by the city.

~~(f)~~(g) All new dwellings with sumps for which a building permit is issued after the effective date of the ordinance from which this section derives shall have a pump and shall be piped to the outside of the dwelling before a certificate of occupancy may be issued.

~~(g)~~(h) A monthly surcharge equal to the amount of the sewer charges against the subject property for the 12-month period prior to the date of the notice of noncompliance shall be imposed against every property which is not in compliance with this article within 30 days following notice of noncompliance and order by the authorized representative to come into compliance or for which the property owner and/or occupant has refused to allow any inspection as allowed by this article. The surcharge shall be added to the service charge billed against the property on a monthly basis. Any property found during any reinspection to have violated this article shall be subject to a monthly surcharge in the amount established by resolution of the city council for all months between the two most recent inspections.

~~(h)~~(i) The authorized representative is authorized to issue a permit to allow a property owner to discharge surface water into the sanitary sewer system between November 15 and March 15 only, provided that the property owner shall be required to meet at least one of the following criteria in order to obtain such a permit:

- (1) The freezing of the surface water discharge from a sump pump or footing drain causes a dangerous condition, such as ice buildup or flooding, on either public or private property.
- (2) The property owner has demonstrated that there is a danger that the sump pump or footing drain pipes will freeze up and result in either failure or damage to the sump pump unit or the footing drain and cause basement flooding.
- (3) The water being discharged from the sump pump or footing drain cannot be readily discharged into a storm drain or other acceptable drainage system.

~~(i)~~(j) Following ten days' written notice, the authorized representative may require a property owner to discharge the sump pump into the sanitary sewer system between November 15 and March 15 if surface water discharge has caused or is causing an icy condition on streets.