

PLUMBING NEWSLETTER



All information herein was referenced for the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Area. If you have questions concerning other Inspection Divisions, please contact that division for your answers.

WORK SCHEDULE CHANGE FOR INSPECTORS

To all Plumbing Contractors that perform work in the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Jurisdiction—

Subject:
Plumbing Inspector's Work Schedule Change

The Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Plumbing Inspection division will be changing

our work hours from 7:00 am – 4:00 pm. The new work hours will be 6:30 am – 3:30 pm.

Effective Date:
October 3, 2011

This change will allow uniformity with Building, Electrical and Mechanical Inspector and their working hours. We will be able to offer

earlier inspections for the contractor.

If you have any questions, concerns or commits please contact:

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WATER HEATERS

Inspections has noticed an increase in Plumbing Code violations in and around the installation/replacement of water heaters.

In the hopes that this will help reduce the amount some the most reoccurring

violations. We have listed those violations below

1. Not reading the Mfg. Installation Instructions. Many times the Inspector is the one that opens the Installation Instructions. Most of the violations noted come from

the Installer not reading and following the Installation Instructions.

2009 NC Plumbing Code:

502.1 General. Water heaters shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's



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installation instructions. Oil-fired water heaters shall conform to the requirements of this code and the *International Mechanical Code*. Electric water heaters shall conform to the requirements of this code and provisions of the *International Code Council Electrical Code-Administrative Provisions*. Gas-fired water heaters shall conform to the requirements of the *International Fuel Gas Code*.

2. Thermal Expansion Tank not installed when needed.

2009 NC Plumbing Code:

607.3 Thermal expansion control. A means of controlling increased pressure caused by thermal expansion shall be provided where required in accordance with Sections 607.3.1 and 607.3.2.

607.3.1 Pressure-reducing valve. For water service system sizes up to and including 2 inches (51 mm), a device for controlling pressure shall be installed where, because of thermal expansion, the pressure on the downstream side of a pressure-reducing valve exceeds the pressure-reducing valve setting.

607.3.2 Backflow prevention device or check valve. Where a backflow prevention device, check valve or other device is installed on a water supply system utilizing storage water heating equipment such that thermal expansion causes an increase in pressure, a device for controlling pressure shall be installed.

3. Improper joints when transitioning between different piping material.

2009 NC Plumbing Code:

605.24 Joints between different materials. Joints between different piping materials shall be made with a mechanical joint of the compression or mechanical-

sealing type, or as permitted in Sections 605.24.1, 605.24.2 and 605.24.3. Connectors or adapters shall have an elastomeric seal conforming to ASTM D 1869 or ASTM F 477. Joints shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

605.24.1 Copper or copper-alloy tubing to galvanized steel pipe. Joints between copper or copper-alloy tubing and galvanized steel pipe shall be made with a brass fitting or dielectric fitting. The copper tubing shall be soldered to the fitting in an approved manner, and the fitting shall be screwed to the threaded pipe.

605.24.2 Plastic pipe or tubing to other piping material. Joints between different grades of plastic pipe or between plastic pipe and other piping material shall be made with an approved adapter fitting.

4. We have had many different violations dealing with the discharge piping from the T & P Valve.

2009 NC Plumbing Code:

504.6 Requirements for discharge piping. The discharge piping serving a pressure relief valve, temperature relief valve or combination thereof shall:

1. Not be directly connected to the drainage system.
2. Discharge through an air gap located in the same room as the water heater either on the floor into an indirect waste receptor or outdoors.
3. Not be smaller than the diameter of the outlet of the valve served and shall discharge full size to the air gap.
4. Serve a single relief device and shall not connect to piping serving any other relief device or equipment.
5. Deleted.

6. Discharge in a manner that does not cause personal injury or structural damage.

7. Discharge to a termination point that is observable by

the building occupants.

8. Not be trapped.

9. Be installed so as to flow by gravity.

10. Not terminate more than 6 inches (152 mm) above the floor or waste receptor.

11. Not have a threaded connection at the end of such piping.

12. Not have valves or tee fittings.

13. Be constructed of those materials listed in Section 605.4 or materials tested, rated and approved for such use in accordance with ASME A112.4.1.



If you have any questions or wish for your questions to be included in our monthly newsletter please send all questions to: jamesr@cityofws.org. James Rhodes, Senior Plumbing Inspector, Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Inspections 100 E. First St., Suite 328 Winston-Salem, NC 27101

If you are looking for information from NCDOL go to www.ncdoi.com

For licensing questions contact the State Board of Examiners of Plumbing, Heating, and Fire Sprinkler Contractors at www.nclicensing.org

CITY OF WINSTON-SALEM Mayor: Allen Joines City Council: Vivian H. Burke, Mayor Pro Tempore, Northeast Ward; Denise D. Adams, North Ward; Dan Besse, Southwest Ward; Robert C. Clark, West Ward; Molly Leight, South Ward; Wanda Merschel, Northwest Ward; Derwin L. Montgomery, East Ward; James Taylor, Jr., Southeast Ward City Manager: Lee Garrity
 FORSYTH COUNTY COMMISSIONERS David R. Plyler, Chairman; Debra Conrad, Vice Chair; Beaufort O. Bailey; Ted Kaplan; Richard V. Linville; Walter Marshall; Gloria D. Whisenhunt County Manager: Dudley Watts, Jr.

