



Andy Beshear
Governor

PUBLIC PROTECTION CABINET
Department of Housing, Buildings and Construction

Mona S. Womack
Acting Commissioner

Kerry B. Harvey
Secretary

500 Mero Street, Floor 1
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601
Phone: 502-573-0365
Fax: 502-573-1057
www.dhbc.ky.gov

Max Fuller
Deputy Commissioner

Ray Perry
Deputy Secretary

June 16, 2020

Plumbing Regulation Changes

As of June 2, 2020 several changes to the Kentucky State Plumbing Code have been approved. Many of them are simply grammatical or structure related. However here are some of the more relevant changes that will impact you. Please understand that the Division of Plumbing will be working closely with all licensed plumbers to make sure that the transition of enforcing these new regulations is done with least amount of interruption as possible.

The first regulation that I want to make you aware of is the addition of a tracer wire to the water service. The trace wire will need to be installed in such a manner as to allow access for connection to the wire. If the water service is of plastic piping and transitions to copper prior to entering the building, the tracer wire shall be bonded to the copper piping.

815 KAR 20:120. Water supply and distribution

(2) If the water service piping is made of plastic or other nonconductive piping, the water service piping shall be installed with an insulated copper tracer wire adjacent to the piping.(a) Access shall be provided to the tracer wire within the building at the main supply control valve.

(b) The tracer wire shall:

- 1. Not be less than eighteen (18) AWG; and**
- 2. Be suitable for direct burial.**

Within this regulation it will also allow a sleeve to be installed when water and sewer intersect.

(d) 1. If the water service pipe and sewer intersect, then a sleeve shall be used on the water service pipe extending five (5) feet on either side of the intersection.

2. The sleeve shall be of material approved for water service pipe as established in 815 KAR 20:020.

3. The sleeve shall be sealed on each end to prevent debris from entering the sleeve.

Amendments to 815 KAR 20:120 Section 9 (8) removed the restriction of allowing PE, (Polyethylene) piping from being buried underneath a building. This will eliminate the transition fitting from being buried outside before entering the foundation and allow you install the transition inside the crawl space or basement where it is accessible.

(8) PVC shall not be used below ground under a house or building. If a CPVC joint or connection is installed below ground under a house or building, the water distribution system shall be tested to at least 100 pounds per square inch before backfilling. The applicable requirements of 815 KAR 20:060 shall be met.

Solid Core PVC/ABS will be acceptable when installed under a road or parking area.

815 KAR 20:130. House sewers and storm water piping; methods of installation.

(c) Sewer piping installed under property subject to vehicular traffic (such as a driveway, parking lot, or similar location) shall have at least a twenty-four (24) inch cover unless:

1. Constructed of cast iron piping, schedule 40 or 80 PVC produced and labeled as ASTM D2665 or D1784, or schedule 40 or 80 ABS produced and labeled as ASTM D2661; and

2. Encased in a minimum of six (6) inches of concrete on each side and the top. Pipe shall be covered to prevent direct contact with concrete.

Automatic washer standpipes have been raised to 2 inches above the flood level rim.

815 KAR 20:180. Special connection

Section 2. Washing Machines, Automatic, Residential. (1) New Buildings.

(a) An automatic washing machine installed in a new building shall:

1. Have a two (2) inch trap; and

2. Be vented in accordance with 815 KAR 20:080.

(b) The trap shall be installed twelve (12) inches above the floor with a two (2) inch stand pipe extended to at least two (2) inches above the flood level rim of the washing machine

The medical gas code (NFPA 99) has been amended from the 2002 version to the 2012.



Drain pans will be required for water heaters installed on wood floor or drop ceilings; this **will not** go into effect until April 2021

815 KAR 20:055. Water heating devices

(4) Attic, Drop Ceiling, or Wood Flooring.

(a) After April 1, 2021, a water heater installed in an attic, above a drop ceiling, or on wood flooring in the occupied space of a building shall be:

1. Installed with a corrosion resistant water tight pan below the water heater; and

2. Equipped with at least a three-fourths (3/4) inch drain to be piped similarly to a temperature and pressure relief valve discharge line.

(b) A temperature and pressure relief valve may discharge into the drain pan if the drain pan pipe:

1. Is equipped with a one (1) inch drain;

2. Is of a material suitable for hot water; and

3. Discharges through an air gap to a sump basin, service sink, open receptacle, or other point of discharge approved by the division, in accordance with 815 KAR 20:130.

Sincerely,



David Moore
Director
Division of Plumbing

