

## TITLE 8

HEALTH AND SANITATION<sup>1</sup>

## CHAPTER

1. MISCELLANEOUS.
2. REFUSE.
3. CROSS CONNECTIONS, AUXILIARY INTAKES, ETC.

## CHAPTER 1

MISCELLANEOUS

## SECTION

- 8-101. Health officer.
- 8-102. Adulterated food, drugs, and cosmetics.
- 8-103. Communicable diseases.
- 8-104. (Reserved for future use.)
- 8-105. Smoke, soot, cinders, etc.
- 8-106. Stagnant water.
- 8-107. Weeds.
- 8-108. Dead animals.
- 8-109. Health and sanitation nuisances.
- 8-110. Spitting on streets, etc.
- 8-111. Junk yards.

8-101. Health officer. The "health officer" shall be such municipal, county, or state officer as the governing body shall appoint or designate to administer and enforce health and sanitation regulations within the municipality.

8-102. Adulterated food, drugs, and cosmetics. It shall be unlawful and a violation of this section for any person to violate within this municipality any provisions of the state food, drug, and cosmetic laws.

8-103. Communicable diseases. When there exists or is suspected to exist in any household a communicable disease other than a venereal disease or a

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<sup>1</sup>For specific health and sanitation provisions elsewhere in this code with respect to the following, see the references indicated:

- (1) Animals and fowls, title 3.
- (2) Littering streets, etc., section 12-107.

common childhood disease, it shall be the duty of any attending physician and the head or other responsible person in such household possessing knowledge of the facts to notify immediately the health officer. The health officer shall thereupon make such investigation and issue such quarantine orders as may reasonably be necessary to protect the public health. It shall be unlawful for any person to violate any such orders of the health officer. (ords. No. 21 and 24, modified)

8-104. Reserved for future use.

8-105. Smoke, soot, cinders, etc. It shall be unlawful for any person to permit or cause the escape of such quantities of dense smoke, soot, cinders, noxious acids, fumes, dust, or gases as to be detrimental to or to endanger the health, comfort, and safety of the public or so as to cause or have a tendency to cause injury or damage to property or business.

8-106. Stagnant water. It shall be unlawful for any person knowingly to allow any pool of stagnant water to accumulate and stand on his property without treating it so as effectively to prevent the breeding of mosquitoes.

8-107. Weeds. Every owner or tenant of property shall periodically cut the grass and other vegetation commonly recognized as weeds on his property, and it shall be unlawful for any person to fail to comply with an order by the city recorder or chief of police to cut such vegetation when it has reached a height of over one (1) foot.

8-108. Dead animals. Any person owning or having possession of any dead animal not intended for use as food shall promptly bury the same or notify the health officer and dispose of such animal in such manner as the health officer shall direct.

8-109. Health and sanitation nuisances. It shall be unlawful for any person to permit any premises owned, occupied, or controlled by him to become or remain in a filthy condition, or permit the use or occupation of same in such a manner as to create noxious or offensive smells and odors in connection therewith, or to allow the accumulation or creation of unwholesome and offensive matter or the breeding of flies, rodents, or other vermin on the premises to the menace of the public health or the annoyance of people residing within the vicinity. (ord. No. 22, modified)

8-110. Spitting on streets, etc. It shall be unlawful for any person to spit upon any public street or sidewalk or upon the floors or walks of any public place. (ord. No. 19, modified)

8-111. Junk yards.<sup>1</sup> All junk yards within the corporate limits shall be operated and maintained subject to the following regulations:

(1) All junk stored or kept in such yards shall be so kept that it will not catch and hold water in which mosquitoes may breed and so that it will not constitute a place or places in which rats, mice, or other vermin may be harbored, reared, or propagated.

(2) All such junk yards shall be enclosed within close fitting plank or metal solid fences touching the ground on the bottom and being not less than six (6) feet in height, such fence to be built so that it will be impossible for stray cats and/or stray dogs to have access to such junk yards.

(3) Such yards shall be so maintained as to be in a sanitary condition and so as not to be a menace to the public health or safety.

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<sup>1</sup>The provisions of this section were taken substantially from the Bristol ordinance upheld by the Tennessee Court of Appeals as being a reasonable and valid exercise of the police power in the 1961 case of Hagaman v. Slaughter, 49 Tenn. App. 338, 354 S.W.2d 818.

## CHAPTER 2

REFUSE

## SECTION

- 8-201. Refuse defined.
- 8-202. Premises to be kept clean.
- 8-203. Storage.
- 8-204. Location of containers.
- 8-205. Disturbing containers.
- 8-206. Collection; fee.
- 8-207. Collection vehicles.
- 8-208. Disposal.

8-201. Refuse defined. Refuse shall mean and include garbage, rubbish, leaves, brush, and refuse as those terms are generally defined except that dead animals and fowls, body wastes, hot ashes, rocks, concrete, bricks, and similar materials are expressly excluded therefrom and shall not be stored therewith.

8-202. Premises to be kept clean. All persons within the municipality are required to keep their premises in a clean and sanitary condition, free from accumulations of refuse except when stored as provided in this chapter. (ord. No. 74, sec. 1., modified)

8-203. Storage. Each owner, occupant, or other responsible person using or occupying any building or other premises within this municipality where refuse accumulates or is likely to accumulate, shall provide and keep covered an adequate number of refuse containers. The refuse containers shall be strong, durable, and rodent and insect proof. They shall each have a capacity of not less than twenty (20) nor more than thirty-two (32) gallons, except that this maximum capacity shall not apply to larger containers which the municipality handles mechanically. Furthermore, except for containers which the municipality handles mechanically, the combined weight of any refuse container and its contents shall not exceed seventy-five (75) pounds. No refuse shall be placed in a refuse container until such refuse has been drained of all free liquids. (ord. No. 74, sec. 2, modified)

8-204. Location of containers. Where alleys are used by the municipal refuse collectors, containers shall be placed on or within six (6) feet of the alley line in such a position as not to intrude upon the traveled portion of the alley. Where streets are used by the municipal refuse collectors, containers shall be placed adjacent to and back of the curb, or adjacent to and back of the ditch or street line if there be no curb, at such times as shall be scheduled by the

municipality for the collection of refuse therefrom. As soon as practicable after such containers have been emptied they shall be removed by the owner to within, or to the rear of, his premises and away from the street line until the next scheduled time for collection.

8-205. Disturbing containers. No unauthorized person shall uncover, rifle, pilfer, dig into, turn over, or in any other manner disturb or use any refuse container belonging to another. This section shall not be construed to prohibit the use of public refuse containers for their intended purpose. (ord. No. 74, sec. 4, modified)

8-206. Collection; fee. All refuse accumulated within the corporate limits shall be collected, conveyed, and disposed of under the supervision of such officer as the governing body shall designate. Collections shall be made regularly in accordance with an announced schedule and shall be subject to such service fees as the governing body may from time to time prescribe.

8-207. Collection vehicles. The collection of refuse shall be by means of vehicles with beds constructed of impervious materials which are easily cleanable and so constructed that there will be no leakage of liquids draining from the refuse onto the streets and alleys. Furthermore, all refuse collection vehicles shall utilize closed beds or such coverings as will effectively prevent the scattering of refuse over the streets or alleys.

8-208. Disposal. The disposal of refuse in any quantity by any person in any place, public or private, other than at the site or sites designated for refuse disposal by the governing body is expressly prohibited. (ord. No. 74, sec. 5, modified)

## CHAPTER 3

CROSS CONNECTIONS, AUXILIARY INTAKES, ETC.<sup>1</sup>

## SECTION

- 8-301. Definitions.
- 8-302. Standards.
- 8-303. Construction, operation, and supervision.
- 8-304. Statement required.
- 8-305. Inspections required.
- 8-306. Right of entry for inspections.
- 8-307. Correction of existing violations.
- 8-308. Use of protective devices.
- 8-309. Unpotable water to be labeled.
- 8-310. Violations.

8-301. Definitions. The following definitions and terms shall apply in the interpretation and enforcement of this chapter:

(1) Public water supply. The waterworks system furnishing water to the municipality for general use and which supply is recognized as the public water supply by the Tennessee Department of Public Health.

(2) Cross connection. Any physical connection whereby the public water supply is connected with any other water supply system, whether public or private, either inside or outside of any building or buildings, in such manner that a flow of water into the public water supply is possible either through the manipulation of valves or because of any other arrangement.

(3) Auxiliary intake. Any piping connection or other device whereby water may be secured from a source other than that normally used.

(4) Bypass. Any system of piping or other arrangement whereby the water may be diverted around any part or portion of a water purification plant.

(5) Interconnection. Any system of piping or other arrangement whereby the public water supply is connected directly with a sewer, drain, conduit, pool, storage reservoir, or other device which does or may contain sewage or other waste or liquid which would be capable of imparting contamination to the public water supply.

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<sup>1</sup>The regulations in this chapter are recommended by the Tennessee Department of Public Health for adoption by cities.

See title 13 for provisions providing for the administration of the water and sewer system.

(6) Person. Any and all persons, natural or artificial, including any individual, firm, or association, and any municipal or private corporation organized or existing under the laws of this or any other state or country. (ord. No. 56, modified)

8-302. Standards. The municipal public water supply is to comply with sections 68-13-101 and 68-13-104 of the Tennessee Code Annotated, as well as the Rules and Regulations for Public Water Supplies, legally adopted in accordance with this code, which pertain to cross connections, auxiliary intakes, bypasses, and interconnections, and establish an effective ongoing program to control these undesirable water uses. (ord. No. 56, modified)

8-303. Construction, operation, and supervision. It shall be unlawful for any person to cause a cross connection to be made, or allow one to exist for any purpose whatsoever, unless the construction and operation of same have been approved by the Tennessee Department of Public Health and the operation of such cross connection, auxiliary intake, bypass or interconnection is at all times under the direct supervision of the superintendent of the waterworks of the municipality. (ord. No. 56, modified)

8-304. Statement required. Any person whose premises are supplied with water from the public water supply and who also has on the same premises a separate source of water supply, or stores water in an uncovered or unsanitary storage reservoir from which the water stored therein is circulated through a piping system, shall file with the superintendent of the waterworks a statement of the non-existence of unapproved or unauthorized cross connections, auxiliary intakes, bypasses, or interconnections. Such statement shall also contain an agreement that no cross connection, auxiliary intake, bypass, or interconnection will be permitted upon the premises. (ord. No. 56, modified)

8-305. Inspections required. It shall be the duty of the superintendent of the waterworks to cause inspections to be made of all properties served by the public water supply where cross connections with the public water supply are deemed possible. The frequency of inspections and reinspections, based on potential health hazards involved, shall be established by the superintendent of the waterworks and as approved by the Tennessee Department of Public Health. (ord. No. 56, modified)

8-306. Right of entry for inspections. The superintendent of the waterworks or his authorized representative shall have the right to enter, at any reasonable time, any property served by a connection to the public water supply for the purpose of inspecting the piping system or systems therein for cross connections, auxiliary intakes, bypasses, or interconnections. On request, the

owner, lessee, or occupant of any property so served shall furnish to the inspection agency any pertinent information regarding the piping system or systems on such property. The refusal of such information or refusal of access, when requested, shall be deemed evidence of the presence of cross connections. (ord. No. 56, modified)

8-307. Correction of existing violations. Any person who now has cross connections, auxiliary intakes, bypasses, or interconnections in violation of the provisions of this chapter shall be allowed a reasonable time within which to comply with the provisions of this chapter. After a thorough investigation of existing conditions and an appraisal of the time required to complete the work, the amount of time shall be designated by the superintendent of the waterworks.

The failure to correct conditions threatening the safety of the public water system as prohibited by this chapter and the Tennessee Code Annotated, section 68-13-104, within a reasonable time and within the time limits set by the superintendent of the waterworks shall be grounds for denial of water service. If proper protection has not been provided after a reasonable time, the utility shall give the customer legal notification that water service is to be discontinued and shall physically separate the public water supply from the customer's on-site piping system in such a manner that the two systems cannot again be connected by an unauthorized person.

Where cross connections, interconnections, auxiliary intakes, or bypasses are found that constitute an extreme hazard of immediate concern of contaminating the public water system, the management of the water supply shall require that immediate corrective action be taken to eliminate the threat to the public water system. Immediate steps shall be taken to disconnect the public water supply from the on-site piping system unless the imminent hazard(s) is (are) corrected immediately. (ord. No. 56, modified)

8-308. Use of protective devices. Where the nature of use of the water supplied a premises by the water department is such that it is deemed (a) impractical to provide an effective air-gap separation, (b) that the owner and/or occupant of the premises cannot, or is not willing, to demonstrate to the official in charge of the water supply, or his designated representative, that the water use and protective features of the plumbing are such as to propose no threat to the safety or potability of the water supply, (c) that the nature and mode of operation within a premises are such that frequent alterations are made to the plumbing, (d) there is a likelihood that protective measures may be subverted, altered, or disconnected, the superintendent of the waterworks of the municipality or his designated representative, shall require the use of an approved protective device on the service line serving the premises to assure that any contamination that may originate in the customer's premises is



contained therein. The protective device shall be a reduced pressure zone type backflow preventer approved by the Tennessee Department of Public Health as to manufacture, model, and size. The method of installation of backflow protective devices shall be approved by the superintendent of the waterworks prior to installation and shall comply with the criteria set forth by the Tennessee Department of Public Health. The installation shall be at the expense of the owner or occupant of the premises.

Personnel of the municipal public water supply shall have the right to inspect and test the device or devices on an annual basis or whenever deemed necessary by the superintendent of the waterworks or his designated representative. Water service shall not be disrupted to test the device without the knowledge of the occupant of the premises.

Where the use of water is critical to the continuance of normal operations or protection of life, property, or equipment, duplicate units shall be provided to avoid the necessity of discontinuing water service to test or repair the protective device or devices. Where it is found that only one unit has been installed and the continuance of service is critical, the superintendent of the waterworks shall notify, in writing, the occupant of the premises of plans to discontinue water service and arrange for a mutually acceptable time to test and/or repair the device. The superintendent shall require the occupant of the premises to make all repairs indicated promptly, to keep the unit(s) working properly, and the expense of such repairs shall be borne by the owner or occupant of the premises. Repairs shall be made by qualified personnel acceptable to the superintendent of the waterworks.

The failure to maintain backflow prevention devices in proper working order shall be grounds for discontinuing water service to a premises. Likewise, the removal, bypassing, or altering of the protective devices or the installation thereof so as to render the devices ineffective shall constitute grounds for discontinuance of water service. Water service to such premises shall not be restored until the customer has corrected or eliminated such conditions or defects to the satisfaction of the superintendent of the waterworks. (ord. No. 56, modified)

8-309. Unpotable water to be labeled. In order that the potable water supply made available to premises served by the public water supply shall be protected from possible contamination as specified herein, any water outlet which could be used for potable or domestic purposes and which is not supplied by the potable system must be labeled in a conspicuous manner as:

WATER UNSAFE  
FOR DRINKING

The minimum acceptable sign shall have black letters at least one-inch high located on a red background. (ord. No. 56, modified)

8-310. Violations. The requirements contained herein shall apply to all premises served by the municipal water system whether located inside or outside the corporate limits and are hereby made a part of the conditions required to be met for the municipality to provide water services to any premises. Such action, being essential for the protection of the water distribution system against the entrance of contamination which may render the water unsafe healthwise, or otherwise undesirable, shall be enforced rigidly without regard to location of the premises, whether inside or outside the corporate limits.

Any person who neglects or refuses to comply with any of the provisions of this chapter shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction therefor, shall be fined under the general penalty clause for this municipal code of ordinances. (ord. No. 56, modified)