

## CHAPTER 97

## USE OF PUBLIC SEWERS

97.01 Storm Water  
97.02 Prohibited Discharges

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97.04 Restricted Discharges – Powers

**97.01 STORM WATER.** No person shall discharge or cause to be discharged any storm water, surface water, groundwater, roof run-off, sub-surface drainage, uncontaminated cooling water, or unpolluted industrial process waters to any sanitary sewer. Storm water and all other unpolluted drainage shall be discharged to such sewers as are specifically designated as storm sewers, or to a natural outlet approved by the City Engineer. Industrial cooling water or unpolluted process waters may be discharged on approval of the City Engineer, to a storm sewer or natural outlet.

**97.02 PROHIBITED DISCHARGES.** No person shall discharge or cause to be discharged any of the following described waters or wastes to any public sewers:

1. Flammable or Explosive Material. Any gasoline, benzene, naphtha, fuel oil, or other flammable or explosive liquid, solid, or gas.
2. Toxic or Poisonous Materials. Any waters or wastes containing toxic or poisonous solids, liquids or gases in sufficient quantity, either singly or by interaction with other wastes, to injure or interfere with any sewage treatment process, constitute a hazard to humans or animals, create a public nuisance, or create any hazard in the receiving waters of the sewage treatment plant.
3. Corrosive Wastes. Any waters or wastes having a pH lower than 5.5 or having any other corrosive property capable of causing damage or hazard to structures, equipment, and personnel of the sewage works.
4. Solid or Viscous Substances. Solid or viscous substances in quantities or of such size capable of causing obstruction to the flow in sewers, or other interference with the proper operation of the sewage works such as, but not limited to, ashes, cinders, sand, mud, straw, shavings, metal, glass, rags, feathers, tar, plastics, wood, unground garbage, whole blood, paunch manure, hair and fleshings, entrails and paper dishes, cups, milk containers, etc., either whole or ground by garbage grinders.

**97.03 RESTRICTED DISCHARGES.** No person shall discharge or cause to be discharged the following described substances, materials, waters, or wastes without a treatment agreement permit issued in accordance with the Articles of Agreement.

1. High Temperature. Any liquid or vapor having a temperature higher than one hundred twenty (120) degrees F (48 degrees C).

2. Fat, Oil, Grease. Any water or waste containing fats, wax, grease, or oils, whether emulsified or not, in excess of one hundred (100) milligrams per liter.
3. Viscous Substances. Water or wastes containing substances which may solidify or become viscous at temperatures between thirty-two (32) and one hundred fifty (150) degrees F (0 and 65 degrees C).
4. Garbage. Any garbage that has not been properly shredded, that is, to such a degree that all particles will be carried freely under the flow conditions normally prevailing in public sewers, with no particle greater than one-half (1/2) inch in any dimension.
5. Acids. Any waters or wastes containing strong acid iron pickling wastes, or concentrated plating solution whether neutralized or not.
6. Toxic or Objectionable Wastes. Any waters or wastes containing iron, chromium, copper, zinc, and similar objectionable or toxic substances; or wastes exerting an excessive chlorine requirement, to such degree that any such material received in the composite sewage at the sewage treatment works exceeds the limits established for such materials.
7. Odor or Taste. Any waters or wastes containing phenols or other taste or odor producing substances, in such concentrations exceeding limits which may be established to meet the requirements of State, Federal, or other public agencies of jurisdiction for such discharge to the receiving waters.
8. Radioactive Wastes. Any radioactive wastes or isotopes of such half-life or concentration as may exceed limits established in compliance with applicable State or Federal regulations.
9. Excess Alkalinity. Any waters or wastes having a pH in excess of 9.5.
10. Unusual Wastes. Materials which exert or cause:
  - A. Unusual concentrations of inert suspended solids (such as, but not limited to, Fullers earth, lime slurries, and lime residues) or of dissolved solids (such as, but not limited to, sodium chloride and sodium sulfate).
  - B. Excessive discoloration (such as, but not limited to dye wastes and vegetable tanning solutions).
  - C. Unusual B.O.D., chemical oxygen demand, or chlorine requirements in such quantities as to constitute a significant load on the sewage treatment works.
  - D. Unusual volume of flow or concentration of wastes constituting "slugs" as defined herein.
11. Noxious or Malodorous Gases. Any noxious or malodorous gas or other substance which either singly or by interaction with other wastes is capable of

creating a public nuisance or hazard to life or of preventing entry into sewers for their maintenance and repair.

12. **Damaging Substances.** Any waters, wastes, materials or substances which react with water or wastes in the sewer system to release noxious gases, develop color of undesirable intensity, form suspended solids in objectionable concentration or create any other condition deleterious to structures and treatment processes.

13. **Untreatable Wastes.** Waters or wastes containing substances which are not amenable to treatment or reduction by the sewage treatment processes employed, or are amenable to treatment only to such degree that the sewage treatment plant effluent cannot meet the requirements of other agencies having jurisdiction over discharge to the receiving waters.

14. **Other.** Any water or wastes excluding sanitary wastes having:

- A. Average daily flow greater than 25,000 gallons/day (excluding sanitary wastes).
- B. Five-day BOD greater than 42 pounds/day or
- C. Suspended solids greater than 52 pounds/day or
- D. Total Kjeldahl nitrogen greater than six pounds/day.

All wastewater treatment agreements will be subject to the permit classes as outlined in the Cedar Rapids Municipal Code. All terms of the permit will be established by resolution of the Council according to the Articles of Agreement.

**97.04 RESTRICTED DISCHARGES – POWERS.** If any waters or wastes are discharged, or are proposed to be discharged to the public sewers, which waters contain the substances or possess the characteristics enumerated in Section 97.03 and which may have a deleterious effect upon the sewage works, processes, equipment, or receiving waters, or which otherwise create a hazard to life or constitute a public nuisance, the Director may:

- 1. **Rejection.** Reject the wastes by requiring disconnection from the public sewage system;
- 2. **Pretreatment.** Require pretreatment to an acceptable condition for discharge to the public sewers;
- 3. **Controls Imposed.** Require control over the quantities and rates of discharge; and/or
- 4. **Special Charges.** Require payment to cover the added cost of handling and treating the wastes not covered by existing taxes or sewer charges under the provisions of Chapter 99.