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Plumbing & Gas Piping Newsletter Archive Registry

Notes about the newsletter archive:

1. Special announcements that have expired or are otherwise no longer valid (hiring announcements, survey invitations, etc.) may be periodically removed from this registry.
2. Newsletter articles are provided as a courtesy to the public and are meant to reflect information currently available at the time the article was written. Due to the dynamic nature of Codes, regulations, and the construction industry in general, some of the information contained within past articles may be outdated. Please check with PHSKC directly for current guidelines and enforcement information.

Date Published	Topics

10/28/26	• **General Announcements**
	  ○ Progress on simplifying permit applications
	  ○ Data transparency efforts
	  ○ Service disruption
	• **Inspection Updates**
	  ○ Inspection area updates
	  ○ Waitlisted inspections
	  ○ How to see inspection comments
	• **Featured Article: Floor drains in single-user bathrooms**

9/28/26	• **General Announcements**
	  ○ Permit application changes coming this Fall
	  ○ Tips for requesting permit changes online
	  ○ New permit types available for replacing water heaters
	• **Featured Article: Resolving Questions About Inspection and Plan Review Decisions**

8/19/26	• **General Announcements**
	  ○ Wondering if you need a permit?
	  ○ Lab Gas permits vs. Mechanical Piping permits
	  ○ Permitting System Tips – Adding a Contractor
	• **Inspection Insights**
	  ○ How to prepare for a successful inspection
	• **Featured Article: Previous Featured Articles**

7/23/26	• **General Announcements**
	  ○ Celebrating the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials
	  ○ Reminder – Permits required for replacement water heaters
	  ○ New guidance document – Future equipment and appliance installations
	• **Plan Review Updates**
	  ○ Revised Occupancy and Use document
	• **Featured Article: Inspection waitlist notifications**

6/18/26	• **General Announcements**
	  ○ Permit system feedback survey
	  ○ Reminder: Replacement water heater permits

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	• **Plan Review Updates**
	  ○ Guidance document highlight – Food service plumbing
	  ○ Plan review email accounts
	• **Inspection Updates**
	  ○ Delays for inspection response times

5/20/26	• **Staffing Announcements: Retirements and new inspectors**
	• **General Announcements**
	  ○ Permit system feedback survey
	  ○ Featured resource: Newsletter archive
	• **Plan Review Updates**
	  ○ Acid waste neutralization for lab sinks
	• **Inspection and Enforcement Updates**
	  ○ Inspection authority and installation requirements
	  ○ Installing 'future' equipment
	• **Featured Article: Backflow assembly installation**

4/30/26	• **General Announcements**
	  ○ Open meeting to discuss Public Health proposals for 2024 Seattle Plumbing Code
	• **Plan Review Updates**
	  ○ Upcoming Changes to Mandatory Plan Review for Schools and Daycares
	  ○ Townhome buildings with shared parking garages require plan review
	• **Inspection & Enforcement Updates**
	  ○ Combination fire/domestic water service is considered plumbing work
	• **Featured Article: Preparing for replacement water heater permitting**

3/31/26	• **General Announcements**
	  ○ Reminder: Give feedback on the new permitting system
	  ○ 2024 Seattle Plumbing Code and Fuel Gas Code Proposals
	• **Inspection & Enforcement Updates**
	  ○ Processing time for permit changes after inspection
	  ○ Not all heat trace is created equal
	• **Featured article: Tips for using the new permitting system**

2/25/26	• **Hiring Announcements:** Hiring 3 inspectors
	• **General Announcements**
	  ○ Small business owner resources
	  ○ Feedback opportunity
	• **Plan Review Updates**
	  ○ Premises Isolation Considerations
	• **Inspection & Enforcement Updates**
	  ○ Processing time for permit changes post-inspection
	  ○ Backflow assemblies – not in wall cavities
	• **Featured Article: City of Seattle's Premises Isolation Requirements**

1/26/26	• **General Announcements:**
	  ○ Reminder: new permitting system
	  ○ Revised inspection schedules
	• **Inspection and Enforcement Updates**

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	○ Backflow assembly installation and permitting ○ Enforcement of UPC/ SPC 507.7 • **Featured Article: How to avoid common issues in the new permitting system**
12/10/25	• **General Announcements:** ○ Register for the Public Health Permit Center ○ Office Hours for New Permitting System ○ New Process for Inspections: No More IVR ○ Frequently Asked Questions ○ Updated Permitting Fees • **Featured Article:** Permit type & fixture changes
11/25/25	• **General Announcements** ○ Temporary permitting system closure & new system launch ○ Updated resources ○ Training opportunity • **Plan Review Updates**: Legacy billing to end in 2026 • **Enforcement Updates** • **Featured Article:** Permit type & fixture changes
9/18/25	• **General Announcements:** ○ Limited Services During Transition to New Permitting System in October ○ Handling Expired Permits After New Permitting System Launch • **Featured Article:** Regulation of Fabricated Stainless Steel Fittings and Assemblies in Seattle and Unincorporated King County
8/21/25	• **Staffing Announcements:** ○ On to New Ventures – Chief Steve Hart leaving Public Health ○ New Role – Eric Gilbreath is Special Duty Chief Plumbing Inspector ○ Retirement – Inspector Tracy Belvill retiring in September • **General Announcements:** ○ Update - New Permitting System Coming in September October • **Featured Article: Changes Coming to Plumbing Permits**
7/23/25	• **General Announcements:** ○ Reminder – New permit system coming in September ○ Reminder – '90 Day Final' being discontinued • **Inspection & Plan Review Updates:** ○ Water heater drain pans ○ 90 Day Limit ○ Dead Leg Enforcement
6/26/25	• **General Announcements:** ○ New permit system coming in September ○ Retirement: Susan Felchin • **Featured Article:** Avoiding Common Pitfalls with Plumbing and Gas Permits
5/29/25	• **General Announcements**: 90 Day Final, ideas for 2024 WA State UPC Codes • **Plan Review Updates:** Faster review timelines, support details for large equipment

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	• **Inspection & Enforcement Insights:** Stakeholder meeting for fabricated stainless steel fittings
4/30/25	• **General Announcements**: New fixture types • **Plan Review Updates:** Gas and backflow permits • **Inspection & Enforcement Insights:** Upcoming stakeholder meeting • **Featured Article:** Plan deviations and plan resubmittals
3/20/25	• **General Announcements**: I-2066 Guidance from State Building Code Council & Public Health • **Plan Review Updates:** Backflow Protection for Commercial Ice Machines • **Featured Article:** Pipe Protection Above Food Storage Areas

2/20/25	• **General Announcements**: Updated guidance for food service plumbing
	• **Plan Review Updates:**
	  ○ Grease interceptors and pollution control units
	  ○ Practical application of Energy Code C404.2.1 Exception 1
	• **Featured Article:** What can discharge to a parking garage drainage system?

1/24/25	• **Staffing Announcement:** Nate Isaacson, Plumbing Plans Examiner
	• **General Announcements**:
	  ○ 2024 Year-End Totals
	  ○ Impact of fee changes on existing projects
	• **Plan Review Updates:** Espresso makers in office environments
	• **Inspection Updates**: Change to KCC allows for consultation without a permit
	• **Featured Article:** Application Process for Re-Pipe Projects

12/11/24	• **General Announcements**: Initiative 2066: No Impact for Plumbing & Gas Permitting • **Featured Article**: Changes Coming to Plumbing & Gas Permit Fees

11/20/24	• **General Announcements**: Permitting and plan review fee changes
	• **Plan Review Updates:**
	  ○ New 90 day limit for plan review responses
	  ○ 'Large or Complex' systems may require plan review
	• **Featured Article**: Considerations for Elevator Hoistway Drainage

10/30/24	• **Training Opportunity**: IAPMO WDC Summit • **Plan Review Updates:** Overflow drainage for fire water storage tanks • **Inspection Insights**: Inspection of combination fire/ domestic water service lines • **Featured Article**: ASPE Convention takeaways

9/18/24	• **Hiring Announcement**: New plan reviewer
	• **General Announcements**:
	  ○ Re-pipe projects procedure and documentation
	  ○ We want your input in future newsletters!
	• **Inspection Insights:** Installing an indirect receptor in a base cabinet
	• **Featured Article:** 'Schedule A' updated & example plans

8/21/24	• **General Announcements**:
	  ○ 2021 Seattle Codes to take effect Nov 15
	  ○ Archive of past newsletters

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	• **Inspection Insights:** Grease interceptor installation requirements • **Featured Article:** Applicability of NSF 61 (The Elephant in the Room)

6/13/24	• **Hiring Announcement:** Plumbing Plans Examiner
	• **We need your input!:**
	  ○ Plumbing Fixture List Subcommittee
	  ○ Policy Advisory Committee
	• **Tips and reminders**
	  ○ Contacting the Plan Review team
	  ○ Requesting inspections – estimated timeframes are only estimates
	• **Featured Article:** Example Plans coming soon

6/5/24	• **Hiring Announcement**: Plumbing Plans Examiner

5/22/24	• **General Announcements**:
	  ○ 2021 Seattle Construction Codes Delayed
	  ○ Development of WA State ONWS Rules Postponed
	  ○ Revised Process for Out-of-Portal Plan Submittals
	• **Plan Review Updates:** New Product Listing Requirements in 2021 Codes
	• **Featured Article:** Design Considerations for Instantaneous (Tankless) Water Heaters

4/30/24	• **Special Announcement:** Postponement of Enforcement for 3rd Party Listings on Fabricated SS Fittings

4/17/24	• **General Announcements**:
	  ○ Training Event: Basic Plumbing Design
	  ○ Reminder to Sign Up for Plumbing Fixture List Input Surveys
	  ○ Links to Commonly Used Documents
	• **Plan Review Updates:** Grease Interceptors and Backwater Valves
	• **Inspection Updates**:
	  ○ Floor Drains and Trap Primers
	  ○ Shower Compartment Design Considerations
	• **Featured Article:** Plan Deviations and Reinspection Fees

3/20/24	• **General Announcements**:
	  ○ Solicitation for Input on Plumbing Fixture Lists
	  ○ Updated Condensate Disposal Policy
	• **Plan Review Updates:**
	  ○ Updated P-20 Document (Single Stack Sovent/Provent) Posted to Website
	  ○ Notice of Solids Interceptors for Brewery Projects
	• **Featured Article:** 2021 Code Updates: Horizontal Wet Vents and Emergency Floor Drains

2/22/24	• **General Announcements**:
	  ○ Permit Issuance Limited to Licensed Plumbing Contractor
	  ○ Solicitation for Design Experience Using UPC Appendix M
	• **Plan Review Updates:** Lab Gas Pressure Matrix Required
	• **Featured Article:** Notice About 'For Reference' Sheets in Submitted Plan Sets

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1/18/24	• **Training Opportunity:** UPC Appendix M • **Inspection Updates**: Water Hammer Arrestors on Domestic Dishwashers • **Featured Article:** Guide to Backwater Valves: Types, Applications, and Code Requirements

12/20/23	• **Announcements:**
	  ○ Enforcement of Fabricated SS Fitting 3rd Party Listings Postponed (Again)
	  ○ Invitation to Join Policy Advisory Committee
	• **Plan Review Updates:**
	  ○ Guidance on Plan Review Requirements
	  ○ Guidance on Townhouse Permitting
	• **Featured Article:** Horizontal Venting Below Fixture Flood Level

11/15/23	• **Announcements:**
	  ○ Enforcement of Fabricated SS Fitting 3rd Party Listings Postponed
	  ○ Notice of Upcoming Staff Training Days
	  ○ Request for Feedback via Survey
	• **Inspection Reminder:** Indirect Receptors Required for Indirect Waste
	• Guidance on Resubmitting a Set of Plans
	• **Featured Article:** Best Management Practices for Rooftop Dog Runs

10/19/23	• **Announcements:**
	  ○ Notice of Upcoming Staff Training Days
	  ○ Permit Extension Policy Returned to Pre-COVID (1 Standard Extension)
	  ○ Request for Feedback via Survey
	• **Plan Review Updates:**
	  ○ Design Guidance Revision Posted
	  ○ Intro to Plan Review Guidance References in Correction Comments
	  ○ Plan Review Timeline Update
	• **Featured Article:** Stainless Steel Fittings and Listing Requirements

9/20/2023	• **Announcements:**
	  ○ State 2021 Code Adoption Update
	  ○ Unlisted Fabricated Fittings Prohibited
	  ○ Links Provided to UPC Venting System Presentations
	  ○ Rescinded Informal Allowance to Combine Water Heater T&P Relief Lines
	• **Plan Review Updates:**
	  ○ Updated Plan Review Design Guidance Posted
	  ○ Sample Plans Under Development
	  ○ Future Planned Guidance Updates
	• **Featured Article:** Heat Pump Water Heater Requirements in 2018 and 2021 Codes

8/16/2023	• **Announcements:**
	  ○ 2021 Seattle Construction Codes Delayed
	  ○ Notice of Upcoming Staff Training Days
	• Explanation of Product Standards and Listings

7/19/2023	• **Announcements:** ○ Public Health Website Changes in Place

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	○ Plan Review Timeline Update ○ On-Site Nonpotable Water System Draft Rule Available for Review ○ Plan Review Design Guidance Updates Still in Progress ○ Potable Water System Disinfection Policy Updated ○ August 3rd All Staff Meeting Announcement • **Training Opportunity:** 2021 UPC Code Update Class • Permitting and Plan Review Process Outline
6/21/2023	• **Welcome new staff:** Senior Plans Examiner, Field Inspectors, and Plan Reviewer • **Announcements:** ○ 2021 Construction Codes Delayed ○ Insulation Inspections on Hold ○ Draft of Updated Plan Review Design Guidance Available for Review ○ Water System Disinfection Policy Updates Posted
5/16/2023	• ABS or PVC Fittings Larger than 6" – Listing Requirements • Domestic Water System Disinfection Policy • Plan Review Design Guidance Updates Under Development • Insulation Installation Advisory Group Meeting Announcement
4/20/2023	• 2021 Seattle Construction Codes Delayed • Insulation Installation Advisory Group Meeting Announcement • Updated Occupancy and Use Document Posted
3/30/2023	• Public Health Website Change Announcement
3/16/2023	• Insulation Inspection Advisory Group Created • Announcement for Occupancy and Use Document Update Meeting • Contacting Plan Review Team
2/16/2023	• Plumbing Inspector and Plans Examiner Job Announcements • Occupancy and Use Document Revisions in Progress • King County Amendments to 2018 Washington State Energy Code • Pipe Insulation Inspections Beginning July 2023 • ONWS Public Comment Period Open (WAC 246-275) • Contacting Plan Review Team
2/13/2023	• ONWS Public Comment Period Open (WAC 246-275)
1/18/2023	• Senior Plumbing Plans Examiner Position Open • Plan Review Updates: Occupancy & Use, Houseboats • Electric Tankless Water Heaters & T&P Relief • Pipe Insulation Inspections Beginning July 2023
12/7/2022	• Welcome New Assistant Chief and Assistant Division Director • Code Update: Water Heater T&P Discharge • Pipe Insulation Inspections Beginning July 2023
7/27/2022	• Welcome New Inspectors • Assistant Chief Plumbing Inspector Position Open • Permit Technician Position Open • Assistant Division Director Position Open • Private Well Damage After Wildfires

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3/16/2022	• New Assistant Chief Plumbing Inspector Position Created • Updated Food Establishment Handout (by Food Program)
2/22/2022	• Plumbing Inspector Job Announcement
1/20/2022	• Welcome New Chief Plumbing Inspector • HB-1184 On-Site Nonpotable Water Systems • Plumbing & Gas Year-End Total Inspections & Plan Reviews • ASPE CPD Permitted to Inspect Sovent/Provent Systems • Updated Permit Renewal Policy (Two Extensions) • Request for Topics
12/16/2021	• Welcome New Inspectors • New Senior Plans Examiner Position Created • Exemption for Food Establishment Plan Review (30 Occupants or Less) • Occupancy and Use Document Updated
11/16/2021	• Introduction to PHSKC Plumbing & Gas Piping Newsletter • Collaboration with Industry (Plan Review & Sample Plans) • Expedited Plan Review Ending 12/31/2021 • Minimum Plumbing Fixtures (SBC Ch 29) Reviewed by SDCI for 2018 Projects • Plumbing Inspector Job Announcement • Feedback Survey