

CITY OF MILPITAS

Building & Safety Department
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Milpitas, CA 95035
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WATER SERVICE LINE

1. PERMIT INFORMATION:

- A Building Permit may be issued only to a State of California Licensed Contractor or the Homeowner.
- Building Permits may be issued to a Homeowner for construction if that Homeowner indicates the intent to do his or her own work personally. If the inspection indicates the Homeowner is unable to perform the work satisfactorily, then a licensed contractor must perform the work.
- If the Homeowner is planning to hire workers, State Law requires the Homeowner to obtain Worker's Compensation Insurance. Proof of this insurance is required prior to inspection.

2. BUILDING REQUIREMENTS

- This permit is for the replacement of the existing water service between the meter and the building.
- All work must comply with the 2007 Building Code Standards (Building, Electrical, Mechanical, Plumbing and Energy) and the 2008 Milpitas Municipal Code.
- This permit does not including adding a new water service if a new City water meter is being installed.
- The new service water piping materials shall be in accordance with CPC Section 604.0. Pipe may be brass, copper, cast iron, galvanized iron, galvanized steel, asbestos-cement, PVC, CPVC, PE, or PEX-AL-PE. CPVC piping must be installed in accordance with Section 604.1.1. PEX and PEX-AL-PEX piping is prohibited.
- The new piping must be buried a minimum of 12" below finished grade. Water pipes shall not be laid in the same trench as the building sewer or drainage piping constructed of clay or materials that are not approved for use inside a building unless the bottom of the water pipe is at least 12" above the top of the sewer or drainage piping AND the water pipe is installed on a solid shelf excavated at one side of the common trench with a minimum clear horizontal distance of at least 12" from the sewer or drain pipe.
- All trenches deeper than the footing of any building or structure and paralleling the same shall be at least forty-five degrees therefrom.
- Piping shall be laid on a firm bed for its entire length; where other support is otherwise provided, it shall be approved.
- All excavations shall be completely backfilled as soon after inspection as practicable. Adequate precaution shall be taken to ensure proper compactness of backfill around piping without damage to such piping. Trenches shall be backfilled in thin layers to 12 inches above the top of the piping with clean earth, which shall not contain stones, boulders, construction debris, or other materials that would damage or break the piping or cause corrosive action.
- An approved back-flow prevention device must be installed between the domestic water system and the irrigation system (CPC 603.4.6). If an anti-siphon valve is installed, it must be installed 6" above the highest sprinkler head or in accordance with it's listing.
- All hose-bibbs should have non-removable hose-bibb backflow preventors installed in accordance with CPC 603.4.7. The preventors must be installed if there is a hose-bibb fed directly from the new service line.
- If it would be possible for any used, unclean, polluted, or contaminated water, mixtures, or substances to enter any portion of the water piping system, such as through landscape irrigation piping, an approved backflow prevention device must be installed.

- Grounding and bonding of the electrical service is required when the water piping is replaced. Grounding and bonding shall comply with the 2007 California Electric Code. Grounding shall consist of a continuous grounding conductor run from the panel to a ground rod (grounding electrode) and to the cold water pipe. Grounding of the electrical service at the main water line must be within the first 5 feet of water piping into the building. The underground water service shall not be used as the sole grounding system; it must be supplemented with a ground rod.
- Smoke alarms:** When the value of the work exceeds \$1,000, smoke detectors must be installed if they do not exist as follows: in each sleeping room, at a point centrally located in the corridor or area giving access to each separate sleeping area, and on each story. In existing construction, detectors may be battery operated. See CBC Section 907.2.10 and the separate handout on Smoke Alarms for more information.
- Spark arrester:** When the value of the work exceeds \$1,000, a spark arrester must be installed on fireplace chimneys if one does not exist per MMC Section II-3-2.06. Spark arresters shall be constructed in conformance with CBC Section 2113.9.1 or 2802.1. See separate handout on Spark Arresters for more information.

3. INSPECTION PROCEDURES

- Two inspections are required, a rough and a final. The rough inspection should be scheduled when the new water line is installed and before it is covered up. A final inspection should be scheduled after all work is complete. For each inspection, the Permit Card and the Approved Job Copy of the Drawings (if any) must be presented to the inspector. Permits expire 180 days after the last passed inspection.

4. QUESTIONS:

- If you have any questions regarding your project contact the Building & Safety Department at (408) 586-3240.