

# THE PLUMB LINE WINTER



\*\*\*\*CONGRATULATIONS BOB\*\*\*\*

After 35 years of service to the citizens of Arkansas, Robert “Bob” Higginbottom has retired from his position at the Arkansas Department of Health. Bob came on board with the plumbing division as plan reviewer in 1984. A short time later he became field supervisor for the state plumbing inspectors. He eventually became director over the plumbing division but after the HVACR program was added to the agency he became director of the newly created Division of Protective Health Codes. Bob was responsible for growing the program into the respected division of the Arkansas Department of Health that it is today. Thank you for your service, Bob!

**HAPPY RETIREMENT BOB!!!**

## Just a reminder...

The question of sizing building sewers serving water closets has come up recently. Building sewers that contain a water closet shall be a minimum of 4 inches. (ASPC 710.1) Also a building drain serving a water closet shall be a minimum of 3 inches (ASPC Table 710.1(1) note a.)

# Scheduling Inspections (or “The phone call is coming from inside the house”)

**107.1 Required inspections and testing.** The code official, upon notification from the permit holder or the permit holder’s agent, shall make the following inspections and such other inspections as necessary, and shall either release that portion of the construction or shall notify the permit holder or an agent of any violations that must be corrected. The holder of the permit shall be responsible for the scheduling of such inspections.

**Plumber are the ones responsible for calling in their inspections.** Sometimes we get an overzealous contractor who will call in an inspection. This puts the inspector in a tough spot if he does the inspection. If there are violations, the plumber can simply say “I wasn’t ready and didn’t call for inspection” so no inspection fee or re-inspection fee can be charged. If the building contractor is using inspections to put some kind of leverage on the plumber, this makes the inspector seem complicit and not showing impartiality.



## THE LAW

### Arkansas Law §17-38-301. License required

- (a) (1)** No person shall engage in work as a master plumber, journeyman plumber, apprentice plumber, or restricted license holder called for under this chapter or adopted regulations unless first licensed or registered to do so by the Department of Health.
- (2)** No person other than a licensed master plumber shall use or display the title "master plumber" or append his or her name to or in connection with such a title or any other title or words that represent or may tend to represent him or her as a licensed master plumber.

**The 2018 Arkansas Plumbing Code and the 2018 Arkansas Fuel Gas Code** has gone through the public review process and soon will go to the legislative body for approval. Again, remember our code is law and therefore has to go through the legislative body to be changed. Sometimes this takes a little time. We will keep you updated as this process continues. As we said in our last issue: We think this code will be a great improvement. Making your job easier and more efficient both economically and health wise. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact your area State Inspector. They will be happy to answer any questions or address concerns.