
THE PLUMBLINE

January 2017 Issue

ALREADY 2017...WHERE HAS THE TIME GONE???

It is license renewal time again so please make sure that you, and those working under you, are properly licensed for 2017. It only takes a minute and can avoid unnecessary back fees / penalties and problems down the road.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Plumbers & Code Officials should be mindful that the legislature meets in January 2017. There are always bills introduced that can affect the plumbing & natural gas industry as well as inspectors. BE ADVISED!!!

STAFFING NEWS

Betty Bureson, a valued and important part of the Office of Protective Health Codes, has decided to retire. Her last day is December 19 and has over 18 years of service with the Health Department...most with Protective Health Codes.

On behalf of the entire staff, I want to congratulate Betty her joyful day of retirement. She has been, and still is, an inspiration to us all and I know that I speak for all when I say that we appreciated the relationship we have developed over these many years with Betty.



HVAC/R CONTRACTORS & CEU'S

The Arkansas HVAC/R Association has plans to introduce legislation requiring continuing education (CEU's) for all HVAC/R contractor level licensing. If passed, HVAC/R contractors will have to obtain at least six (6) hours of continuing education annually to maintain licensing.

While this will not affect the plumbing industry, many plumbers & gas licensees hold HVAC/R licensing and should be advised.

COMMITTEE OF PLUMBING EXAMINERS HEARINGS FOR 2016 & 2017

NAME	LIC. STATUS	FINE	CITY
Ton Inglehart	Unlicensed	\$250	Hot Springs
Brad Fason	Master Plbr	\$2,000	NLR
Allen Davis	Unlicensed	\$4,000	Texarkana
Jack Morreto	Master Plbr	\$1,000	Bentonville
Nathan Kemper	Unlicensed	\$4,000	Conway
Jimmy Elkins	Master Plbr	\$ 500	Cabot
Christopher Row	Unlicensed	\$ 250	Cabot
Josh Johnson	Master Plbr	\$1,000 & Rev	Springdale

AAV's – OUTSIDE OR NOT?

Studor® Air Admittance Valves may be used outside. It is recommended that protection for all Air Admittance Valves be used.

- The MAXI-VENT® comes with a Styrofoam cover which should be used in conjunction with the MAXI-CAP®, which is a spun metal top.
- The MINI-VENT® comes with a protective cover that will protect the MINI-VENT from the harmful effects of UV rays.

Studor Air Admittance Valves are listed in accordance with ASSE standards 1050 and 1051, and therefore perform, when correctly installed, normally between -40 degrees and +150 degrees Fahrenheit.

Oatey® AAV's Sure-Vents are not designed for exposure to Ultra Violet Rays, and therefore, not allowed to be used outside.

PLUMBING VS. UTILITY

Where does plumbing end and utilities start – an often-asked question...

Every so often, the question is raised “what is plumbing” and / or “what is utility” within the scope of a property. This type of question usually occurs for multi-unit building complexes such as school / college campuses, state parks, and housing / apartment complexes. To answer this question - and to define where plumbing starts – stops, a definition of utility must be established.

A **public water and /or sewer utility** are both the sewer collector and water distribution lines outside the scope of the private property boundaries owned and governed by a public body such as a city, county, water / sewer association, etc. These types of systems are regulated under the Health Department Engineering Section.

A **private water and /or sewer utility** are both the sewer collector and water distribution lines inside the scope of the private property boundaries owned and governed by some entity other than a public body and serve multiple buildings or other multiple plumbing outlets. These water distribution and sewer collection systems are parallel to public utilities in scope and scale that are designed by engineers, installed to utility types of standards, and reviewed by the Health Department Engineering Section for compliance.

The water and sewer piping to and from a building to the point of a **public utility** is considered plumbing; however, in the case of the **private utility** water and sewer utility lines, plumbing starts at the branch lines to the building(s) or other plumbing outlets being served (i.e., building sewer yard line and / or water service yard line). The term branch line could include multiple buildings being tied together into a common line(s) before connecting to the private utility sewer collection and water distribution lines. The reason for this is that the service lines for both building water and sewer must be sized according to the fixture load of the building(s) served as required by the plumbing code. This includes line sizing, piping materials, backflow valves, outside yard hydrants, grinder pumps, etc. The plumbing code was never intended to regulate components such as manholes, fire hydrants, utility piping material standards, large pipe sizing ---- the types of systems associated with water and sewer designed as public utilities. This, of course, is for engineered systems only...not for multiple buildings that are not engineered systems (i.e., like two buildings that may use a common collector and water service line).

Lastly, this interpretation is not meant to override other laws, rules & regulations that may come into play regarding RV & mobile home parks, septic & sewage disposal systems, septic tank effluent pump (STEP)

systems, pipeline safety master metered gas piping systems, etc.

All questions about this should be directed to your state plumbing inspector or the central office.



2016 & 2017 Inspector Training Dates (Bring Code Books!)

08.11.16 - 08.12.16	A.R.W.A. 240 Dee Dee Lane	Lonoke
09.15.16 - 09.16.16	Paragould Community Center 3404 Linwood Drive	Paragould
10.13.16 - 10.14.16	Rogers Youth Center 315 West Olive	Rogers
11.17.16 - 11.18.16	Dardanelle Community Center 2011 Hwy 22	Dardanelle
01.12.17 - 01.13.17	A.R.W.A. 240 Dee Dee Lane	Lonoke
02.09.17 - 02.10.17	Ouachita Technical College Lector Hall #1 College Circle	Malvern
03.16.17 - 03.17.17	Baxter Co. Emergency Service Training Center 170 Dillard Road	Midway
04.13.17 - 04.14.17	UA Community College Hempstead Hall 2500 S. Main Street	Hope

DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY?

If you would like to offer comments, suggestions, or ideas for articles, please let us know. The articles must be about industry related activities such as public service announcements, obituaries, technical papers, or opinions. You may contact Bob Higginbottom @ 501-661-2642.