

You have a valuable resource – do you know about it?

Rejected plumbing work costs can mount up to more than professional contract costs. If you are qualified for a homeowner plumbing permit, we can answer your questions in advance and save you labor and material, time and money, and re-inspection fees.

Your Plumbing Inspector can be a valuable resource to you.

WORDS WORTH STRESSING....

Never cover plumbing work without first obtaining inspection approvals in writing

The holder of a home-owner plumbing permit may accept assistance from a family member or hire help to perform labor. but...

the permit holder *MUST* perform the plumbing installation described in the permit.

Ordinances require a triple fee if work begins before Permits have been obtained.

(615) 862-6500
(615) 862-6570—Plumbing Division
(615) 862-6499—FAX Number

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The purpose of this brochure is.....

- To alert homeowners to some problems non-professionals encounter, as revealed by plumbing inspection experience
- Provide solutions

We believe that without solid experience, non-professionals should arrange to have professional plumbers perform this work. It is not our intention to publish all applicable regulations here—such a project is beyond the scope of this brochure. The *Standard Plumbing Code* (available at retail), and the *Davidson County Code of Laws—Chapter 16.12* provide the plumbing regulations for Metro/Nashville and Davidson County. Feel free to visit our website to review any of the codes. Questions of interpretation and application may be directed to the Plumbing Inspection Staff at the Department of Codes Administration. The Plumbing Inspection Division telephone number is 862-6570.

NOTICE

The Metropolitan Water Services Department also has regulations that govern water and sewer installations.

Metro Nashville Government of Nashville and Davidson County

Howard Office Building
700 2nd Avenue, South
Nashville, Tennessee 37210
(615) 862-6500

[Visit our Website at www.nashville.gov/codes](http://www.nashville.gov/codes)

Homeowner Permit Series



Water Service Installation

METROPOLITAN
NASHVILLE & DAVIDSON
COUNTY
CODES DEPARTMENT

BILL PURCELL, MAYOR

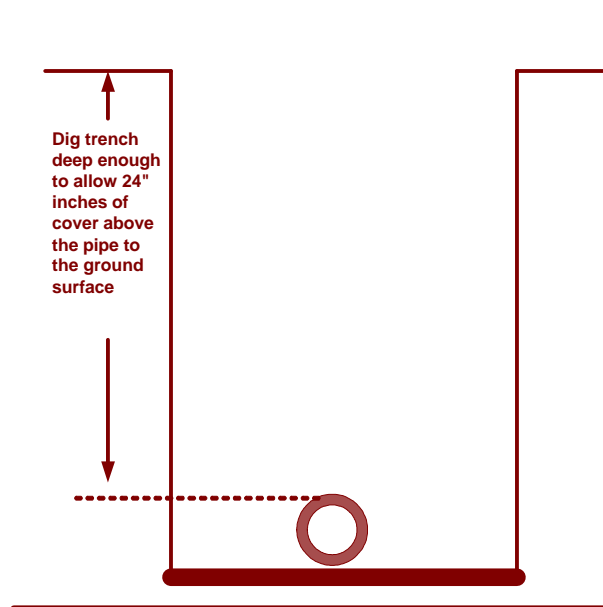
10 STEPS TO SUCCESSFUL WATER SERVICE INSTALLATION AND INSPECTION

1. Plan ahead! Contact One-Call-Center and arrange to have all underground utilities marked to prevent serious, expensive accidents. Allow 3 working days. Call 1-800-351-1111—A Free Service.
2. After receiving notification that underground utilities are marked, turn off water meter.
3. Dig the trench in the most direct route between the meter and the point of entry at the house. Maintain 5 foot safe “zones” from other utilities as marked.
4. A trench width of 12” to 24” offers the most adequate work space. See about “Trenchers” below.
5. The trench depth must provide a minimum of 24’ of frost protection above the top of the pipe. To meet minimum requirements, dig the trench at least 25” or 26” deep (see drawing below).
6. Protect the water pipe from the wall where it enters the building with a section of insulation or plastic pipe of a slightly larger size diameter. Maintain 24” of frost protection to inside of house. Alternate route: under the footing.
7. Re-waterproof the wall around the penetration and caulk the sleeve pipe if there is one (see drawing at right).
8. After you have completed all connections, test your work by restoring the pressure at the meter valve and visually inspect for leaks. Closely inspect connection joints for leaks. Take corrective actions if necessary.
9. Before covering your work, call 862-6570 and request the inspection (have your permit number at hand). Make certain the inspection is approved in writing before proceeding with the backfill.
10. When backfilling, use no large stones or material that will decay and cause settling (such as tree stumps, large roots and trash). Rock material the size of crush is allowed in the first 12” above the pipe. Mound excess soil on top of trench to provide for natural settling.

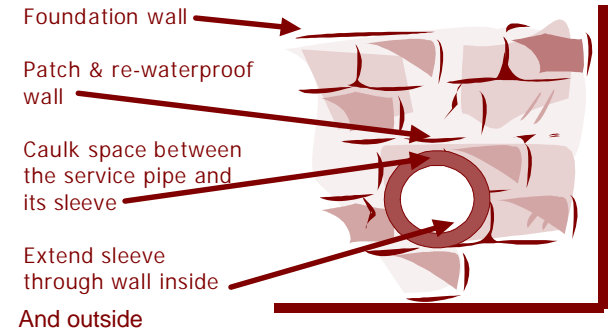
ABOUT TRENCHERS...Although Codes policy permits 6” trench width as produced by trenching machines, finely ground soil produced by trenchers sifts back onto the trench bottom creating peaks higher than the 24” frost minimum cover. It is slow, tedious and back-straining work to remove these peaks in a trench that is narrower than your shovel blade.

It is not a violation for a homeowner permittee to hire labor to dig the trench.

ABOUT ELECTROLYSIS...If copper tube is left in contact with other metal such as a former water service, the new service can be damaged in short time. It is thought that to prevent damp soil from grounding the new metal to the old, a minimum of 6” distance should be maintained throughout the installation path between a new copper service pipe and any other metals in the ground.



RE-WATERPROOF the foundation wall to prevent groundwater passage and subsequent



ABOUT ROCK...Pipe may not be laid on solid rock. The rock must be removed and a bed of rock crush shall be provided 4” to 6” deep on the trench bottom above the solid rock to support the pipe. 24” of frost protection cover above the pipe must be maintained.

CAUTION...Removing solid rock is best left to professionals.

BLASTING...requires special licenses and permits

LARGE ROCKS...may not go back into the trench. You may have to haul them away.

ABOUT PLASTIC PIPE...Metro Water Services will allow use of Schedule 40 Plastic pipe with pressure fittings for residential water services. Three key points to successful installation of plastic pipe are:

- Dig an even, smooth bottom trench
- Fill any holes or depressions in trench bottom before laying pipe
- Use clean backfill of soil, crush or sand, free of rock and debris