



CITY OF ROANOKE RAPIDS

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

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NOTICE TO PLUMBING CONTRACTORS & PROPERTY OWNERS

Tracer Wire Required for Plastic Sewer Piping

2012 NC Plumbing Code, Section 306.2.4, Amended, effective 3/1/2017

March 23, 2017

This is a courtesy letter to inform you of an amendment to the **2012 NC Plumbing Code**, effective March 1, 2017. The amendment is stated below for you, as well as, the website address provided to us from the NC Department of Insurance (NCDOI).

http://www.ncdoi.com/OSFM/Engineering_and_Codes/Documents/BCC_Minutes/2016%202012%2016~December%2016,%202016_.pdf

306.2.4 Tracer wire. For plastic sewer piping, an insulated copper tracer wire or other approved conductor shall be installed adjacent to and over the full length of the piping. Access shall be provided to the tracer wire or the tracer wire shall terminate at the cleanout between the building drain and building sewer. The tracer wire size shall be not less than 14 AWG and the insulation type shall be listed for direct burial.

*Residential & Commercial Super Committees Motion – David Smith / Second / Approved
Building Code Council Motion–Ralph Euchner/Second/Adopted as Modified, Effective 3/1/2017*

NCDOI chose to immediately implement this requirement (*rather than make effective the next calendar year*) due to all horizontal drilling going on for fiber and natural gas installations and the life-safety aspect. The life-safety aspect happens because when the gas company drills through an unmarked plastic sewer line, the drain may work for a while, but then when it stops up, a plumber is called to clean it out. When they rod out or use root-cutting methods on the line, they can penetrate the gas line and now you have gas with a direct path into the structure.

All new plastic sewer piping must abide by this NC Plumbing Code amendment.

For assistance or additional information, please contact our office at 252-533-2844 or www.roanokerapidsnc.com/roanoke-rapids-city-departments/planning-and-development.html

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