

Chapter 1: Organization and Administration

Section 1.1. Origins of VTMUA.

The Vernon Township Municipal Utilities Authority (“VTMUA”) was created by Ordinance 11-12 adopted by the Mayor and Committee of Vernon Township in 2011. The VTMUA was organized pursuant to the provisions of the “Municipal and County Utilities Authorities Law,” N.J.S.A. 40:14B-1 et seq.

Section 1.2. Organization of VTMUA.

- A. The VTMUA is responsible for providing public sewage collection for its customers. Treatment and final disposal of wastewater collected by the VTMUA is the responsibility of the SCMUA.
- B. While the VTMUA has broad statutory powers to provide sewer services pursuant to New Jersey’s Municipal Utilities Authority Law, N.J.S.A. 40:14B-1 et seq. Its responsibilities include a service contract with the Sussex County Municipal Utilities Authority (“SCMUA”), federal and state laws, bio-solids management, contractual undertakings and other applicable state and municipal laws and ordinances.
- C. The VTMUA consists of five members, called commissioners, and up to two alternates, each serving a five (5) year staggered term. Commissioners of the VTMUA are responsible for setting policy, approving goals and objectives, overseeing VTMUA affairs and directing the activity of the staff. The VTMUA may employ an administrative and operations staff and the services of consultants representing the accounting, engineering and legal professions.
- D. The VTMUA’s administrative office is located in the Vernon Township Municipal Building, 21 Church Street, Vernon, New Jersey 07462. It is open for business Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- E. Regular meetings of the VTMUA are open to the public and are held the third Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Vernon Township Municipal Building. Special meetings are scheduled and held as required. All meetings are held in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act. N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq.
- F. Every meeting of the VTMUA shall include a portion for public comment limited to 5 minutes per person unless extended by vote of the commissioners. The agenda shall be arranged so that no new business will be started or addressed after 10:30 p.m.
- G. The fiscal year of the VTMUA is December 31st calendar year. The annual reorganization meeting of the VTMUA is held in February, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:14B-18. At the reorganization meeting in February, the commissioners shall elect a chairperson and vice-chairperson who shall each serve in that capacity for one year.

Section 1.3. Disqualification of Commissioner.

- A. Disqualifying Interest. Any commissioner of the Authority is disqualified from sitting on the consideration of any matter in which the commissioner has a disqualifying interest such as, but not limited to, the following situations:
 - a. Relation to an Applicant or principal of an Applicant within the fourth degree of consanguinity; or is spouse of any person so related;
 - b. Applicant or Applicant's attorney is the employer, employee or partner of the commissioner or is a corporation in which the commissioner is a shareholder or has other financial interest;
 - c. Commissioner has a personal or pecuniary interest in the proceeding.
- B. Statutory Conflict. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:14B-15, no commissioner or officer or employee of the VTMUA "shall have or acquire any interest, direct or indirect, in the utility system or in any property included or planned to be included in the utility system or in any contract or proposed contract for materials or services to be furnished to or used by the municipal authority..."
- C. Recusal. Any commissioner so disqualified shall not sit with the Authority for participation in any executive session or conference during the hearing or determination of any matter in connection with said application.

Section 1.4. Removal of Commissioner.

The removal of a commissioner is governed by N.J.S.A. 40:14B-16.

Section 1.5. Record of Proceedings.

The VTMUA shall provide for the electronic recording of its meetings. The recordings of said meetings shall be kept for a period of at least twelve months after written minutes have been adopted for said meetings.

Section 1.6. Nepotism Prohibited.

Immediate relatives of any VTMUA commissioner, official or employee shall not be hired, promoted, or transferred where one relative would have authority to appoint, remove, discipline, or evaluate the performance of the other; or where one relative would be responsible for auditing the work of the other; or where other circumstances exist that placed the relatives in a situation of actual or reasonably foreseeable conflict of interest. For the purposes of this policy, immediate relatives include spouse or significant other, child, parent, step-child, sibling, grandparents, daughter-in-law, son-in-law, grandchildren, niece, nephew, uncle, aunt, or any person related by blood or marriage residing in the same household. (R13-28)

Section 1.7. Sewer Service Area.

The service area of the VTMUA does not extend beyond the political borders of Vernon Township. The service area consists of certain properties within the Sussex County Wastewater Management Plan, designated on a map entitled, "Sussex County Wastewater Management Plan, Future Wastewater Facilities and Service Area" revised to June 2013. (R16-36)

Chapter 2: Sanitary Sewer

Section 2.1. Definitions.

Unless the context specifically indicates otherwise, the meanings of terms used in this chapter shall be as follows:

Accessory Structure

A subordinate structure or building, the purpose of which is customarily incidental to that of the main building and is on the same lot. Accessory structure, or residential accessory structure, shall include, but not be limited to, such structures as detached garages, boathouses or any separate structure with sanitary facilities to be connected to the municipal sewer system.

Act

Federal Water Pollution Control Act, also known as the Clean Water Act, as amended, 33 U.S.C. 1251, et. seq.

Biochemical Oxygen Demand

The quantity of oxygen utilized in the biochemical oxidation of organic matter under standard laboratory procedure in five days at 20° C, expressed in parts per million by weight.

Building Drain

That part of the lowest horizontal piping of drainage system which receives the discharge from waste drainage pipes inside the walls of the buildings and conveys it to the building sewer, beginning three feet outside the inner face of the building wall.

Building Sewer

The extension from the building drain to the building sewer lateral or other place of disposal.

Building Sewer Lateral

That part of the sewer system extending between the public sewer main and the cleanout, but in no case extending beyond the sewer easement or public right-of-way.

Cleanout

The cleanout shall be located as close as is practical to the property and the edge of pavement of a public or private street. Within an easement, the cleanout shall be installed as close as practical to the sewer main. The cleanout shall be the point of connection of any property serviced by a gravity sewer line to the municipal sewer system.

COD

The value of the test for Chemical Oxygen Demand, as described in the latest edition of "Standard Methods for the Examination of Water & Wastewater."

Commercial Properties

All properties containing one or more commercial uses or a mixture of one or more commercial uses and one or more residential uses.

Flammable Liquid

Pollutants which create a fire or explosion hazard in the local sewerage system or the SCMUA Regional Sewerage Treatment Works, including but not limited to waste

streams with a closed cup flashpoint of less than 140° F or 60° C using the test methods specified in 40 CFR 261.21.

Fats, Oils, and Greases (FOG)

Organic polar compounds derived from animal and/or plant sources that contain multiple carbon chain triglyceride molecules. These substances are detectable and measurable using analytical test procedures established in 40 CFR 136, as may be amended from time to time. All are sometimes referred to herein as “grease” or “greases.”

Fog Disposal System

A grease interceptor that reduces nonpetroleum fats, oils, and grease (FOG) in effluent by separation, and mass and volume reduction.

Garbage Shredder

A device or machine used to shred non-food, non-soluble solid waste for introduction into the sanitary sewer system.

Generator

Any person who owns or operates a grease trap/grease interceptor, or whose act or process produces a grease trap waste.

Grease Interceptor

An appurtenance or appliance that is installed in a sanitary drainage system to intercept non-petroleum fats, oils and grease (FOG) from wastewater. There are two types of Grease interceptors, Gravity Grease Interceptors and Hydromechanical Grease Interceptors:

Gravity Grease Interceptor

A plumbing appurtenance or appliance that is installed in a sanitary drainage system to intercept non-petroleum fats, oils, and greases (FOG) from a wastewater discharge and is identified by volume, 30-minute retention time, baffle(s), a minimum of two compartments, a minimum total volume of 300 gallons, and gravity separation. These interceptors are designed by a registered professional engineer. Gravity Grease Interceptors are generally installed outside.

Hydromechanical Grease Interceptor

A plumbing appurtenance or appliance that is installed in a sanitary drainage system to intercept nonpetroleum fats, oils, and grease (FOG) from a wastewater discharge and is identified by flow rate, and separation and retention efficiency. The design incorporates air entrainment, hydromechanical separation, interior baffling, and/or barriers in combination or separately, and an External flow control, with air intake (vent).

Grease Removal Device (GRD)

Any hydromechanical grease interceptor that automatically, mechanically removes non-petroleum fats, oils and grease (FOG) from the interceptor, the control of which are either automatic or manually initiated.

Grease Waste

Material collected in and from a grease interceptor in the sanitary sewer service line of a commercial, institutional, or industrial food service or processing establishment, including the solids resulting from dc-watering processes.

Individual Pumping Unit

A part of a building sewer that discharges sewage under pressure into either a low head pressure system or into a gravity system at a higher elevation than the discharge point. An Individual Pumping Unit servicing non-residential property or residential structures with a combined wastewater flow of 8,000 gallons or less shall be privately owned.

Individual Water Softener

Any public or private water unit designed to filter, treat, separate or soften private or domestic water supplies.

Indirect Discharge

The introduction of pollutants into a Municipal Sanitary Sewer System from any non-domestic source.

Interference

A discharge which alone or in conjunction with a discharge or discharges from other sources inhibits or disrupts the Municipal Sanitary Sewer System, its treatment processes or operations or its sludge processes, use or disposal, or is a cause of a violation of the city's TPDES permit.

Industrial Waste

The liquid wastes from industrial processes as distinct from sanitary sewage.

Initiation for Interceptor

A receptacle designed and constructed to intercept or separate and prevent the passage of oil, grease, sand or similar materials into the drainage system to which it is directly or indirectly connected.

Licensed Contractor

A contractor registered as a home improvement contractor pursuant to N.J.S.A. 56:8-136 et seq., as applicable, and holding licenses as required by State and local codes for the work to be performed.

Local Sewerage System

System of sewer and appurtenances including sewer mains, pumping stations, building sewer laterals and cleanouts owned and operated by the VTMUA for the collection, transportation and pumping of sewage and industrial wastes to the SCMUA.

Motel and Rooming Home

Any property containing multiple rooms for rent by the day, week or month primarily for sleeping accommodations for transient residential use without complete kitchen and living facilities. Motels and rooming homes shall be considered commercial properties under this chapter.

SCMUA

The Sussex County Municipal Utilities Authority

Natural Outlet

Any outlet which discharges water directly or indirectly into a watercourse, pond, ditch, lake or other body of surface or ground water.

Owner or Applicant

Any person vested with ownership, legal or equitable, sole or partial, of any property located in the township having or seeking service by the Wastewater Treatment System.

Person

Any individual, firm, company, association, society, corporation or group.

pH

The logarithm of the reciprocal of the weight of hydrogen ions in grams per liter of solution.

Plumbing Inspector

A person licensed and authorized to inspect plumbing pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 26:1A-38 to 26:1A-44 and N.J.S.A. 26:3-20 and in the employment of the VTMUA or the Township of Vernon.

Public Properties

Any building or property belonging to the VTMUA, Township of Vernon, Board of Education, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey or any political subdivision or agency of any of the foregoing.

Public Sewer

A sewer in which all owners of abutting properties have certain rights and which is controlled by public authority.

Residential Properties

All single-family homes and apartments, townhouses, condominiums, and co-op properties containing more than one single-family dwelling.

Sand Interceptor

An interceptor designed primarily for sand.

Sanitary Sewage (domestic or home sewage)

Wastewater, water-carried culinary wastes and liquid waste containing human excrement and other matter, flowing in or from a building drainage system or sewer originating in a building, factory or institution.

Sanitary Sewer

A sewer which carries sewage and to which storm, surface and ground waters are not intentionally admitted.

Service Charge

The annual charge imposed by the VTMUA for the use of the municipal sewer system to satisfy all of the financial obligations of the VTMUA's sewer utility on an annual basis.

Sewage

A combination of the water-carried wastes from residences, business buildings, institutions and industrial establishments.

Sewage Treatment Plant

Any arrangement of devices and structures used for treating sewage.

Sewer

A pipe or conduit for carrying sewage.

Storm Sewer or Storm Drain

A sewer which carries storm and surface waters and drainage, but excludes sewage and polluted industrial wastes.

Structure

A building containing one or more residential units, nonresidential units, or a mixture thereof.

Supervisor of the Sewer Department

A representative of the VTMUA or the Township of Vernon duly appointed for the position of Supervisor of Sewer and/or its designated representatives.

Suspended Solids

Solids that either float on the surface of or are in suspension in water, sewage or other liquids and which are removable by laboratory filtering.

Transportor

A Transporter means a person who is registered with and authorized by the TCEQ to transport sewage sludge, water treatment sludge, domestic septage, chemical toilet waste, grit trap waste, or grease trap waste in accordance with current regulations.

TSS

The value of the test for Total Suspended Solids, as described in the latest edition of "Standard Methods for the Examination of Water & Wastewater."

User

Any person, including those located outside the jurisdictional limits of the city, who contributes, causes or permits the contribution or discharge of wastewater into the Municipal Sanitary Sewer System, including persons who contribute such wastewater from mobile sources.

VTMUA

The Vernon Township Municipal Utilities Authority (hereinafter the "VTMUA").

VTMUA Attorney

The duly appointed Attorney of the VTMUA.

Wastewater Treatment System

All of the component facilities of SCMUA and the VTMUA Sewer System for the collection, conveyance, treatment and discharge of sewage effluent.

Watercourse

A man-made or naturally occurring channel in which a flow of water occurs, either continuously or intermittently.

Section 2.2. Property Owner Responsibility; Use of Public Sewers.

- A. The property owner shall be responsible for the maintenance, repair and replacement of the building sewer lateral and individual pumping unit, if any, from the building to the cleanout when located in the municipal right-of-way. The owner shall be responsible for the lateral up to the property line where the cleanout is not in a municipal right-of-way.
- B. The owner of each house connection shall be responsible for and make such provisions as he deems necessary to protect his premises against backflow of sewage from the sanitary sewer. Sufficient check valve and appurtenant equipment shall be installed and maintained by owner as he deems necessary. All such appurtenances and equipment shall be the sole responsibility of the owner and the VTMUA shall not be responsible for the installation, operation, or for damage caused by sewerage backflow.
- C. Whenever an application is submitted to the land use board or building department for a new construction or a change in use of an existing construction, PLEASE NOTE the applicant must meet with the VTMUA. The meeting should occur simultaneously with the applicant's initial meeting with the land use board/building department. *(R18-27)*
 - a. New Construction: Applicants for new construction shall comply with all other application procedures set forth in Section 3.3 and 3.4 of the VTMUA Rules and Regulations.
 - b. Change in Use: Applicants for a change in use to an existing construction must file an application with the VTMUA to determine whether the change in use results in an increase to the projected flows from the building. As set forth in Section 3.2(B) of the Rules and Regulations, additional fees shall be based on the increase in projected wastewater flows and all EDUs shall be rounded to the next highest .25 increment.
 - i. A change in use application requires the submission of a floor plan of the facility and a construction plan illustrating what is being done to the existing facility. A filing fee for the application in the amount of \$100.00 and an engineer reviewing fee in the amount of \$200.00 must be provided. Depending on the size of the project, an escrow account may be required.
 - ii. The VTMUA's engineer will review the application and determine an EDU count. The findings will be presented to the board of commissioners of the VTMUA for approval. The land use board/building department will be notified of the result of the action so that the project may be completed. The VTMUA board of commissioners meets only on the third Thursday of every month and this applicable timing must be considered in coordinating

approval between the departments for completion of the applicant's project.

- iii. Any property owner that fails to notify the VTMUA of a change in use shall be subject to a fine in the amount of \$100. Additionally, the property owner shall be responsible for the rates for the property's EDU since the date that the change in use occurred. Any property owner that fails to satisfy the aforementioned payments shall receive a summons and be subject to the general violations and penalties established in Section 6.2 of the VTMUA Rules and Regulations.

Section 2.3. Discharges Restricted.

- A. No person shall discharge or cause to be discharged any storm water, surface water, groundwater, roof runoff, subsurface drainage, swimming pool water, sump pump discharges, cooling water or unpolluted industrial process waters to any sanitary sewer. The VTMUA encourages those property owners with water softeners to develop and use alternate means of disposal of individual water softener discharges in order to avoid the discharge of water softeners into the municipal sewer system where it is practical to do so.
- B. Storm water and all other unpolluted processed water or drainage shall be discharged to such sewers as are specifically designated as storm drains or storm sewers or to a natural outlet. Industrial cooling water once through or unpolluted process waters may be discharged, upon approval of the VTMUA Engineer, to a storm drain or natural outlet.
- C. No person shall discharge or cause to be discharged to any public sewer:
 - a. Gasoline, benzene, naphtha, fuel oil, lubricating oils and greases, flammable or explosive liquids, gases, paint and lacquers, tars, plastics and other viscous substances.
 - b. Shredded garbage, except for fully soluble food waste produced by a kitchen disposal (of not more than 1 hp).
 - c. Abrasive, ashes, cinders, sand, mud, straw, shavings, metal, glass, rags, feathers, tar, plastics or woods.
 - d. Solid or viscous substances which are capable of causing obstructions in sewers or interference with the proper functioning of the treatment processes.
 - e. Any liquid or vapor having a temperature higher than 110° F.
 - f. Any waters or wastes which may contain more than 10 parts per million by weight of fat, oil or grease.
 - g. Any waters or wastes containing suspended solids of such character and quantity that unusual attention or expense is required to handle the materials at the sewage treatment plant.
 - h. Wastes containing viable pathogenic bacteria other than those normal to domestic sewage.

- i. All wastes containing corrosive matters or toxic or poisonous substances in sufficient quantity to injure or interfere with the sewage treatment process or create any hazard to humans, animals, sewers, structures, equipment or personnel of the sewage treatment works or to create any hazard in the receiving waters of the sewage treatment plant.
 - j. Any noxious, toxic, corrosive or malodorous solids, liquids or gases which, either singly or by interaction with other substances, are capable of creating a public nuisance and hazard to life or preventing entry into sewers for their maintenance and repair.
 - k. Any radioactive isotopes, antibiotic wastes, or prescription drugs.
 - l. All waters, wastes or deleterious substances which shall be excluded from discharge to intercepting or trunk sewers of the SCMUA as defined by existing or future regulations of the SCMUA and existing or future agreements between the VTMUA and the SCMUA.
 - m. Any waters, wastes or deleterious substances which require pretreatment or dilution before introduction to intercepting or trunk sewers of the SCMUA as defined by existing or future agreements between the VTMUA and the SCMUA.
 - n. Any water or wastes having a pH lower than 5.5 or higher than 9.0 or having any other corrosive property capable of causing damage or hazard to structures, equipment and personnel of the sewage works.
 - o. Any waters or wastes having a five-day biochemical oxygen demand greater than 300 parts per million by weight.
 - p. Any waters or wastes containing more than 350 parts per million, by weight, of suspended solids.
 - q. Any waters or wastes containing levels of total phosphorous as P greater than 6.0 parts per million.
 - r. Any water or wastes that exceed the maximum allowable limit for any substance set by the SCMUA.
- D. Where preliminary treatment facilities are provided for any waters or wastes, they shall be maintained continuously in satisfactory and effective operation by the owner at his expense.
- a. When required by the VTMUA, the owner of any property served by a building sewer carrying industrial wastes shall install a control manhole in the building sewer to facilitate observation, sampling and measurement of the wastes. Such manhole, when required, shall be accessible and safely located and shall be constructed in accordance with plans approved by the VTMUA. The manhole shall be installed by the owner at his expense and shall be maintained by him so as to be safe and accessible at all times.
 - b. Where necessary in the opinion of the VTMUA, the owner shall provide, at his expense, such preliminary treatment as may be required to reduce the biochemical oxygen demand to 300 parts per million and the suspended solids to 350 parts per

million by weight; or reduce objectionable characteristics or constituents to within the acceptable limits provided for in Subsection C above; or control the quantities and rates of discharge of such waters or wastes.

- c. Plans, specifications and any other pertinent information relating to proposed preliminary treatment facilities shall be submitted for the approval of the VTMUA, SCMUA and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP). Under no circumstances can any construction of such facilities commence until said approvals/permits are obtained in writing.
- E. No statement contained in this section shall be construed as prohibiting any special arrangement between the VTMUA and any persons whereby an industrial waste of unusual strength or character may be admitted to the sewerage system, whether before or after pretreatment, provided that there is no impairment of the functioning of the sewerage system or any sewerage treatment plant by reason of the administration of such wastes.
 - a. The VTMUA may, on a routine basis, randomly obtain discharge samples from individual generators, and once a particular discharge is found to exceed the maximum limits specified previously, the qualitative surcharge will be imposed. Additionally, a minimum frequency of quarterly grab sampling will be conducted by the VTMUA for determining any excessive constituents or characteristics, and the additional charges for the same shall be reflected and payable by the owner or occupant in his quarterly sewer billing.
 - b. Any violation of the aforementioned standards set forth above shall permit the VTMUA to issue a cease and desist notification of that discharge. The VTMUA may thereafter proceed by all appropriate methods in enforcement of such cease and desist notification.
- F. All measurements, tests and analysis of the characteristics of waters or wastes to which reference is made herein shall be determined by a New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) certified laboratory for water and wastewater analysis and in accordance with the latest edition of Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Sewage. Samples will be collected at the most representative point of collection deemed by the VTMUA.
- G. In no event shall the achievement of any acceptable limits as pertains to this section be accomplished by any form of dilution.
- H. It shall be unlawful to discharge any industrial waste into the municipal sewer system without the prior written consent of both the SCMUA and the VTMUA. The SCMUA and the VTMUA shall both have the right to limit the quantity and quality of any industrial discharge into the municipal sewer system and require pretreatment of any such discharge at the sole expense of the property owner. If permitted to be discharged into the municipal sewer system, all industrial wastes shall be pretreated to a domestic equivalent standard and shall comply with all federal and state regulations governing same.
- I. The VTMUA hereby establishes the following program to ensure the elimination of sources of groundwater, surface water and shredded garbage discharges into the local sewage system.

- a. Any person who permits or has permitted on his or her property any connection of a sump pump, roof drain, area drain or garbage shredder to the local sewage system shall cause said restricted discharge to be immediately disconnected from the local sewage system at said person's sole cost and expense.
- b. After said person has disconnected his or her garbage shredder, said shredder shall remain disconnected and shall not thereafter be reconnected to the local sewage system.
- c. After said person has disconnected his or her sump pump, roof drain or area drain from the local sewage system, said person shall be permitted to continue to utilize on his or her property said pump or drain system in accordance with the following requirements:
 - i. The pump shall have a permanent piping installation to direct flow from a building structure and at a location which will minimize infiltration to the building foundation and/or local sewage system.
 - ii. The pump or drain discharge pipe shall not discharge water, either directly or indirectly, to a public right-of-way, easement or public property without permission from the VTMUA Engineer. Said Engineer, when evaluating a request to redirect flow from a pump or a drain, shall require the submittal of the following information:
 - 1. A written proposal noting thereon how the flow is intended to be redirected to discharge to a storm sewer or the gutter line of a street so that icing or street erosion conditions will not occur.
 - 2. A sketch submitted showing the connection of the pump or drain line to a storm sewer; submission of any street opening permit required, if work is to be done in the VTMUA right-of way.
 - iii. The new pump or drain connection shall not discharge water onto any adjacent property without an approved drainage easement.
 - iv. No pump or drain connection shall be made to the local sewage system.
- J. Prior to the transfer of title of any real property containing a building connected to the local sewage system, the owner shall obtain a certificate of compliance from the DPW Supervisor, or his designee, that the property is in compliance with the provisions of this section. The property owner shall apply for the certificate on a form provided by the VTMUA. The fee for said inspection shall be \$50 which shall be paid by the property owner prior to said inspection. The DPW Supervisor, or his designee, shall inspect the property and shall issue the certificate if said property is found to be in compliance with the provisions of this section.
- K. The VTMUA shall have the right at any time upon reasonable cause to inspect any structure connected to the local sewage system for any prohibited discharge into the local sewage system.

Section 2.4. Maintenance and Repairs.

- A. All connections, building sewers and fixtures furnished by the user shall be maintained by him/her in good order, and all piping and connections furnished and owned by the VTMUA and on the property of the customer shall be protected properly and cared for by the user. All leaks in the building sewer or any other pipe or fixture in or upon the premises served must be repaired immediately by the owner or occupant of the premises. The user shall be responsible for notifying the VTMUA of the party engaged by the user to do any maintenance work to the customer's building sewer, prior to work being commenced, and the party shall not backfill any trench until the work has been inspected and approved by the VTMUA's agent. Any work not acceptable shall be immediately removed and replaced by work which is acceptable.
- B. If it is found that there is infiltration or inflow caused by a broken pipe, open joints, or some other problem with the user's piping, it shall be reported to the VTMUA and repaired immediately by the user or owner.

Section 2.5. Service Supplied by Two or More Service Laterals.

A building sewer shall not serve more than one structure; however, any of the properties classified below may, upon proper application of the owner, be supplied by two or more service laterals, each of which, for billing purposes, shall be considered as being one user account:

- A. An industrial, commercial or manufacturing establishment.
- B. A building separated from adjacent buildings by a party wall or party walls, and comprising apartments or stores or offices or any combination thereof.
- C. A detached building comprising apartments or stores or offices or any combination thereof.

Section 2.6. Failure to Comply with Regulations; VTMUA to Bill for Damages.

In the event that any user fails to conform to these regulations, which failure causes damage of any sort to the township or the SCMUA facilities or their respective employees or representatives, the VTMUA shall determine the extent of the damage and bill the user accordingly. If such bill is not paid within five calendar days from the date of the bill, legal action may be instituted to enforce collection; the charge shall become a lien upon the property.

Section 2.7. Opening Manhole and Tampering with Equipment Prohibited.

No unauthorized person shall open the cover of, enter or alter any manhole or other appurtenance of any public sewer; place or insert in any public sewer or its appurtenances any foreign material which said sewer or its appurtenances was not intended to receive; nor shall any person damage, destroy, uncover, deface or tamper in any way with any public sewer or its appurtenances. Any person violating this provision of these regulations shall be subject to arrest under a charge of disorderly conduct.

Section 2.8. Powers and Authority of Inspectors.

The Department of Public Works Supervisor and other duly authorized employees, agents and consultants of the VTMUA bearing proper credentials and identification shall be permitted to enter on all properties for the purpose of inspection, observation, measurements, sampling and testing in accordance with the provisions of this chapter. Duly authorized employees, agents and consultants of the SCMUA shall have the same authority hereunder as VTMUA employees.

Chapter 3: Sewer Connection

Section 3.1. Permit Required.

It shall be unlawful to make any connection to the municipal sewer without first obtaining appropriate permits from the VTMUA, as provided in the Uniform Construction Code Act, the governing provisions of the New Jersey Administrative Code (NJAC) from the closure and abandonment of individual subsurface sewage (septic) systems and in accordance with this chapter.

Section 3.2. Connection Fee.

- A. Each property owner whose property is connected to the municipal sewer system on or after July 1, 2011 shall pay a connection fee, which shall be established annually in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:26A-11 and this section in the amount as follows:

\$2,332.50 per EDU. *(R21-39)*

- B. The connection fee of shall be due and payable at the time the property owner applies for a building permit to connect to the system in accordance with Section 4.2. Changes in use of an existing building serviced by the Authority shall require the payment of additional connection fees if the change in use results in an increase to the projected flows from the building. Additional fees shall be based on the increase in projected wastewater flows. All EDUs shall be rounded to the next highest .25 increment. *(R12-24)*

Section 3.3. Sewer Connection Application.

- A. When applying to the Vernon Township Department of Planning & Zoning/Land Use Board/Building Department for new construction or a change of use in existing construction, please note that the applicant must meet with the Vernon Township Municipal Utilities Authority (VTMUA) to determine if an application for sewer is required. This conversation with the VTMUA should take place at the time the applicant has his or her initial meeting with the Vernon Township Department of Planning & Zoning/Land Use Board/Building Department.

The reason for this parallel meeting is to insure that the applicant can be informed about what is required for sewers and can take that information into consideration as he or she is laying out their plans for completing their project to ensure they have considered what actions are required and the time it takes to accomplish these actions.

Here is an overview of what is required:

- a. For new construction or changes in use where sewers already exist, a sewer application is required to be filed.

- b. Along with the application, a floor plan of the facility and a construction plan illustrating what is being done to the facility that exists or is being created for the first time is required to be filed.
 - c. There is a filing fee for the application and an engineering review fee. Depending on the size of the project and what it entails, an escrow account may be required.
 - d. The plan that is submitted will be reviewed by the VTMUA's engineer and analyzed to determine its sewer usage and assign an EDU count.
 - e. After doing so, the engineer will present the findings to the commissioners of the VTMUA for approval. The result of that approval action will be provided to the Vernon Township Land Use Board/Building Department and the applicant, enabling the applicant to proceed with the necessary steps and actions with these two departments to complete their project.
 - i. Please factor into your thinking and planning that the VTMUA board usually meets on the third Thursday of every month so consider that as you plan for the completion of your project. Sewer applications may be obtained from the [VTMUA's website](#). You may also get the application at the VTMUA office when you first visit there.
- B. An application for a sewer connection shall include and be defined as the following:
- a. Preliminary Planning Board Approval shall be a condition precedent to the Tentative Approval of an Application for Service. A copy of the Planning Board Approval shall be submitted by the Applicant.
 - b. An escrow shall be deposited with the Authority. The Authority shall withdraw funds from the escrow account to reimburse itself for costs incurred by the Authority for engineering review, legal review or other services provided to Applicant by the Authority.
 - c. Four (4) copies of all engineering plans and reports in accord with the requirements of Section 3.3. The engineering plans and reports that are required to be submitted with the Application shall be in accordance with, and must comply in every respect to, the rules, regulations and specifications of the Authority and any state or federal agency asserting jurisdiction over water and/or sewer services.
 - d. An application for a sewer connection for a multiple unit/multiple dwelling project shall be filed simultaneously with the application provided to the land use board. Additionally, said application shall include the following: *(R18-32)*
 - i. a signed agreement in which the developer, association, or any other entity responsible for the development project, agrees that it maintains responsibility for all sewage infrastructure within the development up to the location where the development's sewage infrastructure connects with VTMUA assets.
 - ii. said agreement shall continue and be binding upon any future successors or assigns responsible for the development project.

- C. The fully completed application with accompanying plans and fees shall be submitted to the VTMUA office no later than 30 days prior to the regular monthly meeting of the Authority.
- D. Upon submission to the VTMUA of a completed application for sewage connection, the VTMUA shall approve or disapprove the application within 90 days of the date that the application is certified as complete.
- E. The VTMUA reserves the right to extend the time for the aforesaid approval or disapproval for a period not to exceed 30 days by adoption of a resolution therefore.
- F. Upon Final Approval of the application, the Authority will endorse the completed applications to federal or state agencies, including but not limited to NJDEP Treatment Works Approvals.
- G. Upon receipt of all required approvals from state or federal agencies including but not limited to NJDEP Treatment Works Approvals and compliance with the requirements, the Authority will issue a Permit to construct. The Applicant shall not be allowed to begin construction prior to the issuance of a written permit from any state or federal agency, if required, and a Permit from the Authority.

Section 3.4. Connection Design Criteria.

- A. A Sewer Connection Application shall be submitted to the Authority for a review of the proposed facilities, route of construction, estimated volumes of flow and whether an individual or comprehensive study of the sewerage system is required to be submitted by the Applicant. Projected wastewater flow estimates shall be based on the latest version of N.J.A.C. 7:14A-23.3 where applicable, with no exceptions. No application will be considered unless a professional engineer or architect as prescribed by law, registered in the State of New Jersey is in charge of the planning and design of the proposed sewerage distribution facilities and has affixed his seal and signature thereto.
- B. Engineer's Report. A complete Engineer's Report setting forth the basis of design shall be submitted to the Authority by the Applicant for each project. It shall contain the following minimum data:
 - a. For Sewer Systems
 - i. Intended use of the proposed realty improvements and the characteristics of sewage expected from such use.
 - ii. The effect of the proposed sewerage facilities on existing or proposed sewerage systems.
 - iii. Amount of infiltration expected and its effect on design flow.
 - iv. The estimated average daily and peak flow and descriptive formula utilized in calculating such estimates.
 - v. The Applicant's requested timeframe for the staging of any required off-site improvements.
 - vi. Preliminary cost estimate for both on-site and off-site sewers.

- vii. Any other factors which would affect design and use of the sewerage system as determined by the VTMUA.
- viii. Any other factors which may be required by local agencies.
- ix. The plans and specifications shall be in conformance with NJDEP “Treatment Works Approvals, Sewer Bans, Sewer Exceptions” N.J.A.C. 7:14A et seq.

b. For Pumping Stations

- i. The operational characteristics including pumping rates, wet well detention times and force main velocities at minimum, maximum and average flow (both present and future).
- ii. Technical basis of design for the mechanical, structural and electrical elements of the station including emergency standby generator.
- iii. The Applicants requested timeframe for the staging of the installation of any required equipment or facilities.
- iv. Preliminary cost estimate for construction and annual operating costs.
- v. Any other factors which would affect design and use of the sewerage system.
- vi. The plans and specifications shall be in conformance with NJDEP “Treatment Works Approvals, Sewer Bans, Sewer Exceptions” N.J.A.C. 7:14A et seq.

C. Plans and Profiles of all Proposed Sewer Mains. Four (4) sets of plans and profiles shall be submitted and shall be of uniform size, 24" x 36", with a 1/2" border on top, bottom and right side, and a 2" border on the left side, the last one for binding. All plans shall be in a minimum scale of 1 inch equals 50 feet and profiles in a minimum scale of 5 feet vertical to 50 feet horizontal. The plans shall show the following:

- a. Details. The plans and profiles shall show all other underground utilities and appurtenances such as Water Mains, storm sewers, gas and electric as may be applicable and existing and proposed sewers, appurtenances, contours, and all existing and proposed streets, and surface elevations at all breaks in grade and street intersections the true or magnetic meridian, boundary line, title, data and scale. All sheets shall be numbered.
- b. Symbols. Sewers and/or water Mains and appurtenances to be constructed shall be clearly labeled. Existing sanitary sewers and water Mains shall be labeled as such. All topographical symbols and conventions shall be those used by the United States Geological Survey.
- c. Elevations. All elevations shall be shown on United States Geological Survey datum. All permanent benchmarks of the New Jersey Coast and Geodetic Survey shall be shown. Elevations of street surfaces shall be shown. The elevations of sewer inverts at ends of lines and at changes of grades shall be indicated. The elevations of streets surfaces shall be shown to the nearest 0.01 feet. Sewer inverts

shall be shown to the nearest 0.01 feet. Sufficient benchmarks shall be permanently established for the area.

- d. Distances. Grades and Sizes. For water Mains, valves and hydrants, the distances and stationing manholes, grades in decimal, sewer sizes and material shall be shown on the plans. Arrows shall show the direction of flow. For water Mains, the distances, diameter and material shall be shown on the plans.
- D. Plans and Specifications. The plans for the pumping stations, water mains and water storage facilities shall include a general site plan showing boundaries, contours, proposed improvements with capacities, underground or overhead wires, and shall include the items referred to in the Engineer's Report that are related to the design drawing.

Section 3.5. Sewer Main Extensions.

- A. All applications for sewer main extensions and renewals shall be prepared, whenever necessary, by the Applicant at its sole expense and shall be subject to review and approval by the Authority and its consulting engineer and shall be submitted to DEP in the name of the Authority as the applicant. All rights or entitlement contained in a main extension permit issued by DEP shall belong to the Authority and not to the Applicant. The Authority reserves the right to surrender any main extension permit to DEP on a section-by-section basis, if substantial construction has not yet begun on that section to which the permit refers.
- B. Main extension permits shall be secured for each section of a development or for each project or facility, whenever required, prior to the Authority issuing a Permit(s) to the Applicant.
- C. Preliminary Planning Board Approval shall be a condition precedent to the submission of a main extension application to DEP.
- D. Main extension applications shall only be sent to DEP after Final Approval by the Authority.

Section 3.6. Mandatory Connection.

- A. Where the VTMUA has jurisdiction and has provided for the installation of a sanitary sewer collection and transmission system through any public or private street, roadway, highway or easement (public sewer system), all owners of any developed real property, including, but not limited to, residential, commercial or otherwise, lying on or adjacent to said public or private street, roadway, highway or easement where said main and/or lateral exists, shall, after receiving notice from the VTMUA as provided for in this chapter, disconnect from and cease utilization of any existing on-site individual sewage disposal system. The owner shall cause any on-site sewage collection and transmission facilities to be connected to the above-referenced public sewer system. The disconnection of the property from the on-site sewage disposal system shall be done in a manner that is in compliance with the ordinances, rules and regulations of VTMUA, Health and Construction Code departments, as well as any and all other federal, state, country or local laws and regulations which may be applicable.

- B. Whenever a sewer main and/or lateral is installed in any public or private street, roadway, highway or easement, all owners of any property, including, but not limited to, residential, commercial or otherwise, lying on or adjacent to said public or private street, roadway, highway or easement shall connect to the sewer main and/or lateral within 180 days after service of notice of availability of sewer service provided by the VTMUA, in writing, which shall be served upon the owner of the property personally or by leaving it at his usual place of abode with a member of his family above the age of 18 years or by mailing such notice by first class mail to the owner's last known post office address as shown on the tax records of the VTMUA.
- C. Should the owner of any property fail or neglect to connect to the public sewer system pursuant to Subsection A above, unless the property owner has applied for and received a hardship connection deferral from the VTMUA, the owner of the property shall be responsible for paying user fees in the same amounts as if the property had been connected starting at the expiration of the 180 day period. The user fees shall be based upon an estimated EDU count determined by the VTMUA engineer in consultation with the township assessor. Upon the submission of an application for connection and approval of an EDU count by the VTMUA, the property owner will be responsible for the retroactive payment of any shortfall in sewer fees in the event the actual EDU count is greater than the estimated EDU count. Nothing contained herein shall relieve the owner of any property from being subject to the penalty provisions set forth in Section 6.2 for violations of this chapter. *(R15-45)*
- D. Any property owner abandoning an individual septic system may apply to the VTMUA to utilize said system, or any component thereof, for an alternate drainage use. The property owner shall provide such information as the VTMUA shall require in order to determine whether or not to allow the proposed alternate use. No proposed alternate use shall be allowed unless approved by the Construction Official and Health Officer of the township or their designees.
- E. The disconnection of an existing individual on-site sewage disposal system shall be done in the following manner and prior to final approval of the connection of the property to the public sewer system:
- a. All septic tanks and seepage pits shall have the contents removed or properly disposed of in a manner approved the VTMUA, Health and Construction Code departments.
 - b. The VTMUA, Health and Construction Code departments, upon notification by the property owner, will provide for an official inspection of the abandonment and filling of the septic tanks and seepage pits.
 - c. All septic tanks and seepage pits shall be closed and abandoned in accordance with all applicable rules, regulations and codes in effect in the township.
 - d. After the official inspection of the pumping and cleaning of the septic system, the filling and the compacting shall commence until all voids have been completely filled and a soil density equal to or greater than that of the surrounding soil has been achieved.

- F. The provisions of this chapter shall be enforceable by the VTMUA through its respective designee(s), which shall include, but not be limited to, the Health Officer and the Supervisor of Water and Sewer.
- G. *Incorporation of Certain Standards for Individual Subsurface Sewage Disposal Systems.* The prohibitions set forth in N.J.A.C. 7:9A-1.6 regarding the installation, construction, alteration or repair of an individual subsurface sewage disposal system are incorporated herein as if fully set forth herein and shall be read in conjunction with the requirements of this Section 3.6. (R16-42)

Section 3.7. Construction Requirements.

- A. The diameter of the building sewer and building sewer lateral shall not be less than four inches for gravity flow and one and a quarter inches for low pressure sewers. The slope of gravity pipes shall not be less than 1/4 inch per foot. The minimum velocity in all pipes shall be two feet per second. The recommended maximum velocity shall be ten feet per second unless supported by adequate justification acceptable to the VTMUA Engineer. Where necessary, in the opinion of the VTMUA Engineer or Plumbing Code Official, if the above sizes and slope are not adequate, he shall have the right to require a larger diameter pipe or an increased slope that is adequate.
- B. Whenever possible, the building sewer shall be brought to the building at an elevation not exceeding that of the existing building drain. If the building sewer is brought to the existing building at a lower elevation than the existing building drain, suitable fittings and cleanouts shall be installed, subject to inspection and approval of the Plumbing Inspector. No building sewer shall be laid parallel and within three feet of any bearing wall which might thereby be weakened. The depth shall be sufficient to afford protection from frost but in no event less than 36 inches deep. The building sewer shall be laid at uniform grade and in straight alignment insofar as possible. Changes in direction shall be made only with properly curved pipe and fittings and shall be subject to the approval of the Plumbing Inspector. Cleanouts shall be installed at all changes of directions, or within 40 feet of any change of direction and every 75 feet of straight run.
- C. In all buildings in which any building drain is too low to permit gravity flow to the public sewer, sanitary sewage carried by such drain shall be lifted by approved artificial means and discharged to the building sewer.
- D. Building sewers and building sewer laterals shall be constructed only of materials approved for use under the Plumbing Code.
- E. All building drains outside of the building being connected to the municipal sewer system shall be installed and tested pursuant to the Plumbing Code. Before any portion of the building drain outside of the house is connected to the building sewer, the owner shall prove to the satisfaction of the VTMUA that the building drain is clean and conforms in every respect to the requirements of this chapter. Before any portion of the building sewer is connected to the building sewer lateral, the Plumbing Inspector shall be satisfied that the building sewer is in good order and conforms in the requirements for construction thereof.

- F. Where there is no existing building sewer or building sewer lateral available that connects to a public sewer, the property owner shall, prior to the issuance of a certificate of occupancy, apply to the VTMUA for a sewer connection permit for the installation of a building sewer lateral and/or building sewer for connection to the public sewer.
- G. The building sewer laterals may not be installed or the public street disturbed by any person or concern who is not a licensed contractor. Such contractor shall provide the VTMUA with satisfactory evidence of his capacity to perform the work.
- H. The connection of the building sewer lateral in to the public sewer shall be made at the Y-branch, if such branch is available at suitable location. If no Y-branch is available, the owner shall install a saddle on the sewer main, of such type as approved by the VTMUA.
- I. Each sewer pipe shall be laid so as to have a continuous bearing on the bedding material, true to line and grade and in such manner as to form a close concentric joint with the adjoining pipe and to prevent sudden offsets of the flow line. As the work progresses, the interior of the pipe shall be cleared of all dirt and superfluous materials of every description. A suitable swab or drag shall be kept in the pipe and pulled forward past each joint immediately after the joining has been completed. Trenches shall be kept free from water, and pipe shall not be laid when the condition of the trench or the weather is unsuitable for such work. At times when work is not in progress, open ends of pipe and fittings shall be securely and satisfactorily closed so that no trench water, earth or other substance will enter the pipe or fittings.
- J. Excavations for building sewers and building sewer laterals.
 - a. Excavation for building sewers and building sewer laterals shall follow lines parallel to and equidistant from the location of the pipe centerline. Trenches shall be excavated to the depths and widths required to accommodate the construction of the sewers. Excavation shall not be carried below the approved grade. Any excavation made below grade for any reason shall be backfilled with the granular material specified hereinafter. Excavation in trenches in rock shall extend to a depth of six inches below the outside bottom of the pipe barrel and brought to required elevation with granular bedding material.
 - b. Excavation and trenches in earth shall extend a depth of four inches below the outside bottom of the pipe barrel and shall be brought to required elevation with granular bedding material. Where unsatisfactory foundation material is found in earth trenches, such material shall be removed to the extent directed by the Plumbing Subcode Official.
 - c. In backfilling trenches select granular material shall be used a minimum of 24 inches above the pipe. Backfilling between 24 and 36 inches above the pipe shall be with loose fine earth, free from clods, stones larger than two inches in greatest dimension, and debris,. Pursuant to the Plumbing Code, the backfill material shall be carefully tamped under the pipe haunches, on the side and above the pipe in layers not more than six inches deep before compaction. The remainder of the trench shall contain not more than 20% stone by volume, and no one stone shall be more than six inches in its greatest dimension. This material shall be thoroughly tamped in layers not to exceed 10 inches in thickness after

compaction. Backfilling and compaction up to two feet over the pipe shall be done by hand. Puddling of trench backfill will not be permitted. Compaction of each layer of backfill shall be to a density at least equal to that of the surrounding earth and to a degree which will prevent settlement of restored or proposed future pavement. The surface shall be mounded over and left in a uniform and neat condition satisfactory to the VTMUA.

- d. Excavated materials shall be piled in compact heaps, so placed as to cause the least possible inconvenience to the public. Extreme care shall be taken to prevent any dirt, stones or other undesirable material from entering the public sewer system through the building sewer during these operations.

K. Safety precautions.

- a. Blasting operations for excavation will be subject to the approval of the VTMUA and shall conform to the requirements of all laws, ordinances and regulations having jurisdiction over such work.
- b. Trenches shall be protected by such sheeting, shoring, bracing and the like as may be required to perform the excavations for safety, including the protection of persons, structures, utilities, etc., and to conform to existing laws.
- c. All excavations for building sewer laterals shall be adequately guarded with barricades and lights so as to protect the public from hazard. Sidewalks and other public property disturbed in the course of installing building sewers shall be backfilled within 48 hours from the beginning of excavation.

L. Prior to backfilling any trenches or covering any new sewer pipe, the applicant for the building sewer permit shall notify the VTMUA when the building sewer is ready for inspection and connection to the building sewer lateral. The connection to the public sewer shall be made under the supervision of the VTMUA representative.

M. Building sewers and building sewer laterals shall be subject to all tests set forth in the Plumbing Subcode of the Uniform Construction Code.

N. No person shall discharge or cause to be discharged any waters or wastes through any building sewer during construction of the building sewer without written approval of the VTMUA.

O. Prior to final approval and acceptance of the building sewer, a plan showing the location, depths, elevations or other information as required by the VTMUA shall be furnished and placed on file at the Sewer Department's office by the applicant.

P. No person shall discharge or cause to be discharged any waters or wastes through any building sewer prior to final approval and acceptance by the VTMUA without written approval of the VTMUA.

Q. Restoration of pavements. Consistent with the requirements of the Vernon Township ordinances, all sidewalk and roadway pavements and curbs directly or indirectly affected, disturbed or damaged in connection with the construction of building sewers shall be restored in accordance with Vernon Township standards to a condition at least equal to that which existed prior to the start of the installation work. Pavements and curbs so restored shall be of the same type as that existing and shall match and line up with

existing adjacent construction to the satisfaction of the DPW Supervisor, Municipal Engineer or their representatives.

R. Grease, oil and sand interceptors shall be provided as follows:

- a. Grease interceptors shall not be required for residential users.
- b. The requirements of this Section shall apply to both new and existing facilities generating fats, oils, or greases as a result of food manufacturing, processing, preparation, or food service. These facilities include but are not limited to restaurants, food manufacturers, food processors, hospitals, hotels and motels, prisons, nursing homes, and any other facility preparing, serving, or otherwise making any foodstuff available for consumption.
- c. No user may intentionally or unintentionally allow the direct or indirect discharge of any fats, oils, or greases of animal or vegetable origin into the Municipal Sanitary Sewer System in quantities above 100 ppm or in such amounts as to cause interference with the collection and treatment system, or as to cause pollutants to pass through the treatment works into the environment.
- d. The VTMUA has compiled a [grease management handbook \(372 KB\)](#), which may be updated from time to time, to assist the public in understanding best grease management practices and to aid in the enforcement of the rules and regulations relating to grease interceptors. *(R15-27)*

S. Installation and Maintenance Requirements.

a. Installations

- i. **New Facilities.** Food processing or food service facilities which are newly proposed or constructed, or existing facilities which will be expanded or renovated to include a food service facility, where such facility did not previously exist, shall be required to design, install, operate and maintain a grease interceptor in accordance with locally adopted plumbing codes or other applicable ordinances. Unless otherwise approved, grease interceptors shall be located a minimum of 20 feet from any potential hot water discharges. Grease interceptors shall be installed and inspected prior to issuance of a certificate, of occupancy.
- ii. **Existing Facilities.** Existing grease interceptors must be operated and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations and in accordance with these Model Standards, unless specified in writing and approved by the Municipal Sanitary Sewer System.
- iii. All grease interceptor waste shall be properly disposed of at a facility in accordance with federal, state, or local regulation.

b. Cleaning and Maintenance:

- i. Grease interceptors shall be maintained in an efficient operating condition at all times.
- ii. Each grease interceptor when cleaned shall be fully evacuated.

c. Self-Cleaning; Hydro-Mechanical Grease Interceptors Only

i. Grease interceptor self-cleaning operators must receive approval from the Municipal Sanitary Sewer System to remove grease from their own grease hydro-mechanical grease interceptors. The following conditions shall apply:

1. the grease interceptor is no more than 100 GPM size.
2. proper on-site material disposal methods are implemented (e.g. absorb liquid into solid form and dispose into trash);
3. the local solid waste authority allows such practices;
4. grease waste is placed in a leak proof, sealable container(s) located on the premises and in an area for the transporter to pump-out; and
5. detailed records on these activities are maintained.

ii. Grease interceptor self-cleaning operators must submit a completed self-cleaning request to the Municipal Sanitary Sewer System for approval. The written request shall include the following information:

1. Business name and street address;
2. Grease interceptor operator name, title, and phone number;
3. Description of maintenance frequency, method of disposal, method of cleaning and size (in gallons) of the grease interceptor; and
4. Signed statement that the operator will maintain records of waste disposal and produce them for compliance inspections.

iii. Self-cleaners must adhere to all the requirements; procedures and detailed record keeping outlined in their approved application, to ensure compliance with this ordinance. A maintenance log shall be kept by self-cleaning operators that indicates, at a minimum, the following information:

1. Date the grease trap/interceptor was serviced;
2. Name of the person or company servicing the grease trap/interceptor;
3. Waste disposal method used;
4. Gallons of grease removed and disposed of;
5. Waste oil added to grease interceptor waste; and
6. Signature of the operator after each cleaning that certifies that all grease was removed, disposed of properly, grease trap/interceptor was thoroughly cleaned, and that all parts were replaced and in operable condition.

- iv. Violations incurred by grease interceptors self-cleaners will be subject to enforcement action including fines and/or removal from the self-cleaner program.

d. Cleaning Schedules

- i. Grease interceptors shall be cleaned as often as necessary to ensure that sediment and floating materials do not accumulate to impair the efficiency of the grease interceptor; to ensure the discharge is in compliance with local discharge limits; and to ensure no visible grease is observed in discharge.
- ii. Grease interceptors shall be completely evacuated at least every thirty (30) days and more frequently when (a) twenty-five percent (25%) or more of the wetted height of the grease trap or grease interceptor, as measured from the bottom of the device to the invert of the outlet pipe, contains floating materials, sediment, oils or greases; or (b) the discharge exceeds BOD, COD, TSS, FOG, pH or other pollutant levels established by the Municipal Sanitary Sewer System; or (c) if there is a history of noncompliance. (R15-27)
- iii. Any person who owns or operates a grease interceptor may submit to the Municipal Sanitary Sewer System a request in writing for an exception to the thirty (30) day cleaning frequency of their grease interceptor, the Municipal Sanitary Sewer System may grant an extension for required cleaning frequency on a case-by-case basis when:
 - 1. the grease interceptor owner/operator has demonstrated the specific interceptor will produce an effluent, based on defensible analytical results, in consistent compliance with established local discharge limits such as BOD, TSS, FOG, or other parameters as determined by the Municipal Sanitary Sewer System, or
 - 2. less than twenty-five (25) percent of the wetted height of the grease interceptor, as measured from the bottom of the device to the invert of the outlet pipe, contains floating materials; sediment, oils or greases
- iv. In any event, a grease interceptor shall be fully evacuated, cleaned, and inspected at least once every 90 days.

e. Manifest Requirements

- i. Each pump-out of a grease interceptor must be accompanied by a manifest to be used for record keeping purposes.
- ii. Persons who generate, collect and transport grease waste shall maintain a record of each individual collection and deposit. Such records shall be in the form of a manifest. The manifest shall include:
 - 1. name, address, telephone, and commission registration number of transporter;

2. name, signature, address, and phone number of the person who generated the waste and the date collected;
 3. type and amount(s) of waste collected or transported;
 4. name and signature(s) of responsible person(s) collecting, transporting, and depositing the waste;
 5. date and place where the waste was deposited;
 6. identification (permit or site registration number, location; and operator) of the facility where the waste was deposited;
 7. name and signature of facility on-site representative acknowledging receipt of the waste and the amount of waste received;
 8. the volume of the grease waste received; and
 9. a consecutive numerical tracking number to assist transporters, waste generators, and regulating authorities in tracking the volume of grease transported.
- iii. Manifests shall be divided into five parts and records shall be maintained as follows.
1. One part of the manifest shall have the generator and transporter information completed and be given to the generator at the time of waste pickup.
 2. The remaining four parts of the manifest shall have all required information completely filled out and signed by the appropriate party before distribution of the manifest.
 3. One part of the manifest shall go to the receiving facility.
 4. One part shall go to the transporter, who shall retain a copy of all manifests showing the collection and disposition of waste.
 5. One copy of the manifest shall be returned by the transporter to the person who generated the wastes within 15 days after the waste is received at the disposal or processing facility.
 6. One part of the manifest shall go to the local authority.
 7. Copies of manifests returned, to the waste generator shall be retained for five years and be readily available for review by the Municipal Sanitary Sewer System.
 8. Alternative Treatment
- f. Bioremediation:
Bioremediation media shall only be used with approved Fog Disposal Systems ASME A112.14.4
- g. Compliance and Penalties:
All testing designed to satisfy the criteria set forth in Section III (3) shall be

scientifically sound and statistically valid: All tests to determine oil and grease. TSS, BOD, COD, pH, and other pollutant levels shall use appropriate tests which have been approved by the Environmental Protection Agency which are defined in Title 40, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 136. Testing shall be open to inspection by the Municipal Sanitary Sewer System, and shall meet the Municipal Sanitary Sewer System's approval.

h. Prohibited Practices:

No person shall introduce, or cause, permit, or suffer the introduction of any surfactant, solvent or emulsifier into a grease interceptor. Surfactants, solvents, and emulsifiers are materials which allow the grease to pass from the grease interceptor into the collection system, and include but are not limited to enzymes, diesel, kerosene, terpene, and other solvents.

i. Compliance Monitoring:

i. Right of Entry. The Municipal Sanitary Sewer System shall have the right to enter the premises of any user or potential user to determine whether the user is complying with all requirements of this chapter and any wastewater discharge permit or order issued hereunder. Users shall allow the Municipal Sanitary Sewer System ready access to all parts of the premises for the purposes of inspection, sampling, records examination and copying, and the performance of any additional duties.

1. Where a user has security measures in force which require proper identification and clearance before entry into its premises, the user shall make necessary arrangements with its security guards so that, upon presentation of suitable identification, the Municipal Sanitary Sewer System will be permitted to enter without delay for the purposes of performing specific responsibilities.
2. The Municipal Sanitary Sewer System shall have the right to setup on the user's property, or require installation of, such devices as are necessary to conduct sampling and/or metering of the user's operations.
3. The Municipal Sanitary Sewer System may require the user to install monitoring equipment as necessary such as FOG sensing and alarm devices complying with PDT G102. The facility's monitoring equipment shall be maintained at all times in a safe and proper operating condition by the user at its own expense.
4. Any temporary or permanent obstruction to safe and easy access to the Facility to be inspected and/or sampled shall be promptly removed by the user at the written or verbal request of the Municipal Sanitary Sewer System and shall not be replaced. The costs of clearing such access shall be borne by the user.
5. Unreasonable delays in allowing the Municipal Sanitary Sewer System access to the user's premises shall be a violation of this ordinance,

- ii. Search Warrants. If the Municipal Sanitary Sewer System has been refused access to a building, structure, or property, or any part thereof, and is able to demonstrate probable cause to believe that there may be a violation of this chapter, then the Municipal Sanitary Sewer System may seek issuance of a search warrant.

Section 3.8. Insurance Requirement, Performance and Maintenance Guarantees.

- A. Any person performing with the provision of these rules and regulations shall provide the Municipal Clerk or anyone else designated by the VTMUA with proof of public liability insurance for personal injuries and property damage arising out of the work authorized by permits in amounts not less than \$1,000,000 for property damage arising out of one accident and \$3,000,000 for personal injuries to all persons arising out of any one accident. Proof of such liability insurance shall be made by posting a certificate of an insurance company duly authorized to do business in the State of New Jersey, evidencing such coverage for a period of not less than six months from the date the application for a permit is filed and not less than six months from the time such person has commenced any work in order to make a house connection.
- B. “Performance guarantee” and “maintenance guarantee” shall mean either cash, third party surety bonds from a reputable insurance company or third party letters of credit from a financial institution having assets of One Billion dollars or more, in a form that is acceptable to the Authority.
- C. Prior to the commencement of any construction of on-site or off-site facilities that either will be dedicated to the Authority or will remain as private property (excluding laterals) the Applicant shall post with the Authority a performance guarantee covering said on-site and off-site improvements and for the cost of producing As-Built drawings in accordance with Section 110, for all on-site and off-site facilities to be constructed. The amount to be posted under the performance guarantee shall be 120% of the estimated cost of the improvements to be constructed plus the estimated cost of producing As-Built drawings. The Authority shall approve the form of the Performance Guarantee before it shall be accepted.
- D. The Applicant may request a reduction in the performance guarantee posted if at least 50% of the improvements to be constructed under the performance guarantee are satisfactorily completed and tested in accordance with VTMUA rules, regulations and specifications and if the improvements, in the opinion of the Authority, are adequately protected from future damage due to continuing construction. The Authority may allow up to a maximum of a 75% reduction of the dollar value of the improvements that are satisfactorily completed, tested and protected.
- E. Maintenance guarantees shall be posted upon final acceptance of the improvement for a two-year period in an amount of 10% of the estimated cost of the improvements constructed. Final acceptance of the improvements constructed in the section shall not occur until the date that the maintenance guarantee, in a form satisfactory to the Authority, shall be received by the Authority.

Section 3.9. Inspection of Construction.

- A. The Authority or its consulting engineers shall inspect the construction of all water systems and facilities and sewer systems and facilities to determine whether said systems and facilities are being constructed in the proper manner. The owner shall submit to the Authority, no less than two (2) weeks prior to the start of construction, an accurate construction schedule. The construction schedule will be used by the Authority to schedule the necessary inspections. Inspections required or requested during other than normal work hours will be charged at 1.5 times the regular fee. For purposes of this section, “re-inspection” is defined as an additional trip required because work was incomplete or rejected. If conditions warrant additional expertise or closer supervision, as determined by the Authority, inspections will be performed by the Authority’s Engineer in lieu of inspections by Authority personnel and at the Applicant’s expense. If Full-Time inspection is requested by the Applicant then said inspection shall be performed by the Authority’s Engineer and shall be scheduled in advance. Fees for inspections performed by the Authority are set forth in the Rate Schedule. The cost of inspection by the Authority’s Engineer shall be the amount charged to the Authority for said services which shall be based on the hourly rate or other agreed rate then in effect with the Engineer. The cost of the inspections shall be paid through the escrow account established by the owner or applicant. The Applicant shall submit additional escrow funds to cover the cost of inspections performed by the Authority’s Engineer.
- B. Regardless of the presence of an inspector during the construction period, the applicant shall be responsible for meeting all requirements of these Rules and Regulations and for constructing the water and/or sewer facilities in conformance with the plans and specifications approved by the Authority. Approval by the inspector during construction does not imply that the work shall not require further inspection.
- C. The Authority shall be under no obligation to provide water or sewerage service to an Applicant if the water and sewer systems and facilities are not built in accordance with the approved construction plans and the Authority’s rules, regulations and specifications. The cost of inspection shall be borne by the Applicant in accord with the Rate Schedule.
- D. No trench shall be backfilled until such time as the Inspector has checked each joint of the pipe and has authorized backfilling to proceed.
- E. Plugging of Sewer Lines During Construction
 - a. Sewer connections/extensions shall be plugged or rendered inactive during construction to prevent the entrance of material into the Authority’s sewer system. In the event that it is not feasible or possible to plug the Sewer System, the individual sewer connection may be plugged or the water main or service shall remain deactivated.
 - b. In the event that a plug is removed without authorization or becomes dislodged during construction and the Authority or its agents incur costs as a result of such occurrence, the applicant and/or its agents shall be responsible for reimbursing the Authority for such costs and the Authority may impose a use fee associated with the estimated quantity of any water that may have entered the sewer system from such source.

- F. The applicant shall be responsible for the prompt restoration of all property wherein any digging, work or installation is done and, wherever the same is performed within the right of way lines of a public street or other public place, the same shall be restored and maintained and any pavement or other improvement thereof or therein shall be restored and maintained in accordance with the specifications applicable thereto as adopted by the State, County or Municipality.
- G. In the event the applicant fails to perform construction work in a competent manner, or if faulty materials or methods of construction are employed, or if the Contractor fails to employ reasonable work methods outlined by the Inspector, or if the applicant or the Contractor or their agents cause damage to any portion of the Authority's water system or sanitary sewer system, the Inspector shall inform the Authority Engineer or Consulting Engineer who, acting on behalf of the Authority, has the right to stop construction until faulty materials or methods of construction have been removed or corrected, and proper materials or methods of construction are employed, and in the case of damage to the Authority's water system or sanitary sewer system, that the damage is repaired and the Authority and/or its agents are reimbursed for the costs incurred in connection therein. In the event a dispute between the applicant or the Contractor and the Engineer arises, the matter shall be submitted in writing to the Authority for resolution as may be required. All construction work shall cease during such disputes until a satisfactory agreement is reached by all parties concerned.
- H. Any approvals granted by the Authority shall be considered withdrawn until the Authority has determined that the damage to the system has been repaired, to the satisfaction of the Authority and its Engineer, and the applicant and/or contractor has paid any and all costs incurred by the Authority or its agents in connection with such damage and any fees imposed under these Rules and Regulations.

Section 3.10. Acceptance of Completed Construction.

- A. After construction has been completed, the Applicant shall request in writing that the Authority accept the systems and facilities. The Applicant shall, at the time of the request, submit to the Authority any and all completed documents, which are necessary to:
 - a. Dedicate all sewerage facilities including Mains, force Mains, pumping stations and any and all related appurtenances, to the Authority, which are located in the public right-of-way or in easement areas approved by the Authority. All of the above is to be conveyed to the Authority free and clear of all liens, encumbrances and debts. A Bill of Sale shall be included for all items conveyed which shall be illustrated on as-built drawings. The as-built drawings shall be provided in both paper and electronic format. The electronic file shall be in a GIS format acceptable to the VTMUA Engineer. A statement shall be included certifying that everything conveyed to the Authority has been paid for in full. A Corporate resolution authorizing conveyance to the Authority shall be required.
 - b. Deed (with warranties) at no cost to the Authority, all necessary titles or easements to lands necessary for the maintenance or operation of the sewerage

systems and facilities, including easements for extension of Mains to adjacent properties.

- c. Post a two-year maintenance bond in the amount of 10 percent of the total construction cost to cover cost of repairs for any latent defects discovered during the two-year period; and upon the completion of all of the requirements herein, the Authority shall determine whether said systems are constructed in accordance with the approved plans and rules, regulations and specifications and shall determine whether all supporting documents are in order. If all construction and submissions are approved, the Authority shall proceed to accept the systems and facilities so constructed and shall accept and have recorded, wherever necessary, the dedications, deeds, easements, bonds and as-built drawings. All costs for recording of documents shall be paid by Applicant. The responsibility for all construction, maintenance and cost of operations prior to acceptance by the Authority shall be borne by the Applicant.
- B. The Authority shall not accept any sewer facilities, which are not located in the public right-of-way or in an easement approved by the authority, even if the facilities were bonded improvements. In this event, the Authority shall approve final construction, but shall not accept the facilities, and the facilities shall remain the private property of and shall be maintained by the Applicant.

Chapter 4: Sewer Fees

Section 4.1. Payment of Fees.

- A. The effective date for the beginning of the annual service charge for any existing building shall begin upon connection of the building to the public sewer. The effective date for the beginning of the annual service charge for any new building shall be the date of the issuance of a temporary or permanent certificate of occupancy. For efficiency of billing purposes, the VTMUA may round off the effective date of the annual charge to the first day of the month after the effective connection date.
- B. Sewer charges shall be due quarterly, as of March 1st, June 1st, September 1st, and December 1st of each year. In the event that the bill is not paid within the 10 days of its due date, interest shall accrue from the actual date of the bill to the date that payment is received by the Vernon Township Municipal Utilities Authority at the highest rate of interest permitted by pertinent New Jersey statutes.

The interest rate so fixed shall not exceed eight percent per year on the first one thousand five hundred (\$1,500.00) dollars, of the delinquency and 18 percent per year on any amount in excess of one thousand five hundred (\$1,500.00) dollars, to be calculated from the actual date of the bill until the date that actual payment is made to the Vernon Township Municipal Utilities Authority. Furthermore, all payments shall be applied as follows: payments will be initially charged to interest amounts or penalty amounts, with the remaining balance of payment to be applied to the oldest standing principal balance.

Unpaid charges shall be a lien on the premises and shall be enforceable in the manner provided for real property tax liens pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:5-1 et. seq.(R12-24)

- C. Any person paying their sewer bill by check shall be charged \$20 for any dishonored check. (R13-29)

Section 4.2. Rates.

Connection fees and the annual sewer use and maintenance charge for all sewage hereinafter generated shall be based on Equivalent Dwelling Units or EDU. The schedule of EDU billing is set forth below. For allocation purposes, one EDU for commercial and other non-residential units shall equal 250 gallons per day. All EDU calculations shall be rounded to the next highest .25 increment.

The Annual Sewer User Fee, effective January 1, 2019 shall be \$1,305.00 per year per EDU.

Section 4.3. Schedule of Equivalent Dwelling Units.

For all residential structures the EDU schedule shall be as follows:

- One bedroom—.6 of an EDU
- Two bedroom—.8 of an EDU
- Three bedroom or larger—1.0 EDU (R12-18)

Unless the VTMUA adopt a a resolution to deviate, the Tax Assessor’s records shall control.

Commercial and other non-residential units shall be assessed an equivalent EDU based on the flow projections based on the latest version of N.J.A.C. 7:14A-23.3, where applicable, without exception. See Schedule A attached hereto.

Schedule A	
TYPE OF ESTABLISHMENT	MEASUREMENT UNIT
RESIDENTIAL DWELLINGS	
Single family homes, duplex units, townhouses, condominiums, apartments	1 EDU
TRANSIT DWELLING UNITS	
Hotels	Bedroom
Lodging houses and tourist homes	Bedroom
Motels and tourist cabins	Bedroom
Boarding houses (max. permitted occupancy)	Boarder
CAMPS	
Campground/mobile rec. vehicle/tent	Site
Parked mobile trailer site	Site
Children’s camps	Bed
Labor camps	Bed

Day camps–no meals	Person
RESTAURANTS (<i>including washrooms and turnover</i>)	
Average restaurant	Seat
Bar/cocktail lounges	Seat
Fast food restaurant	Seat
24-hour service restaurant	Seat
Curb service/drive-in restaurant	Car Space
CLUBS	
Residential	Member
Nonresidential	Member
Racquet club	Per Court per Hour
Bathhouse with shower	Person
Bathhouse without shower	Person
INSTITUTIONS (<i>includes staff</i>)	
Hospitals	Bed
Assisted living facility	Bed
Skilled nursing facility	Bed
Other institutions	Bed
SCHOOLS (<i>includes staff</i>)	
No shower or cafeteria	Student
With cafeteria	Student
With cafeteria and showers	Student
With cafeteria, showers and laboratories	Student
Boarding	Student
AUTOMOBILE SERVICE STATIONS	
Service stations	Per Filling Position
Service bays	Per Bay
Mini-market	Sq. Ft.
MISCELLANEOUS	
Office buildings (gross area)	Sq. Ft.
Stores and shopping centers (gross area)	Sq. Ft.

Factories/warehouses (add process wastewater)	Employee
Factories/warehouses with showers (add process wastewater)	Employee
Laundromats	Per Machine
Bowling alleys	Alley
Picnic parks (restrooms only)	Person
Picnic parks with showers	Person
Fairgrounds (based upon average attendance)	Person
Assembly halls	Seat
Airports (based on passenger use)	Passenger
Churches (worship area only)	Seat
Theater (indoor)	Seat
Dinner theater	Seat
Catering/banquet hall	Person
Sports stadium	Seat
Visitor center	Visitor
Multi-member swimming pool	Person

The values specified above are to be used in computing Vernon Township Municipal Utilities Authority (VTMUA) projected flow criteria Dwelling Units (EDUs). The specific measurement unit listed for each category shall be used as the basis for the projected flow.

Flow for facilities that have combined uses shall be determined by the summation of all appropriate projected flow values for each use.

The VTMUA recognizes that the above may not cover all establishments and facilities, and in particular, facilities that require an industrial use permit. In the event that a facility is not covered, the applicant shall propose the projected flow based upon operation of similar facilities or best available information. VTMUA reserves the right to accept, modify or deny the proposed flow values.

Section 4.4. Unpaid Charges to Constitute Lien on Premises.

The charges and rents shall draw interest and be a lien upon the premises until paid and the township may exercise the remedies for the collection thereof with interest, costs and penalties provided in N.J.S.A. 40:63-8 and as it has by law for the collection of taxes upon real estate. Charges for sewer use shall be a lien upon the premises as provided by statute.

[↑ RETURN TO TOP](#)

Chapter 5: Sewer Allocation and Reservation

Section 5.1. Sewer Allocation Permit Required.

- A. No sewer connection permit shall be issued to an owner of any property unless a sewer allocation permit has first been issued by the VTMUA.
- B. Existing connections which experience a change in use shall submit an additional allocation application in accordance with this Section 5.

- C. All sewer capacity within the Township of Vernon shall be under the control of and owned by the VTMUA. Owner or applicants provided with sewer allocations under this section have no legal rights to the township's sewer capacity other than those specifically provided under these Rules and Regulations. (R15-32)

Section 5.2. Applications for Sewer Allocation.

An owner of an existing connection that experiences a change in use SHALL, and an owner of an unimproved property may apply for a sewer allocation permit on forms prescribed by the VTMUA as follows:

- A. The name and address of the applicant.
- B. The address of the property and the tax lot and block designation.
- C. The dimensions and total area of the property.
- D. For single-family residential dwellings to be constructed, the total square foot area of the dwelling and the number of bedrooms.
- E. For multifamily residential dwellings to be constructed, a preliminary sketch plan showing the number of units and the number of proposed bedrooms in the units to be constructed.
- F. For all nonresidential uses, a preliminary site plan shall be submitted with the application showing the total square footage of the proposed building and the proposed use of the building.
- G. For all properties other than single-family residential dwellings, a certification by the property owner's engineer as to the number of gallons per day of sewage that will be generated by the property and the method of calculation and schedules used in computing said amount shall be submitted as part of the application.
- H. Any other information deemed necessary by the VTMUA or its designated agent. (R15-32)

Sewer allocations shall be based on the project flow criteria as indicated in N.J.A.C. 7:14A-23.3. Any flow allocation provided shall be considered 100% utilized upon connection of all proposed units.

Section 5.3. Sewer Allocation Application Fees.

Each property owner filing for a sewer allocation permit shall pay the following permits fees.

- A. Single-family residential dwellings: \$50.
- B. Multifamily residential dwellings: \$100.
- C. Nonresidential properties: \$100.
- D. All nonprofit properties: \$50.
- E. All properties owned by the township of Vernon or Board of Education: exempt.

Section 5.4. Sewer Allocation Application Escrow Fees.

The engineering review fee for all single family homes or small commercial properties shall be \$200.00. (R12-25) For all properties, other than specified, the applicant shall submit an escrow fee of \$500-5000 per project (the amount shall be determined by the VTMUA Engineer) with the application to offset the VTMUA's costs in evaluating and processing the application. In the event that the entire escrow is not utilized by the VTMUA in processing the application, any unused escrow shall be returned to the applicant within 90 days of the processing of the application. In the event that additional funds are necessary to complete the review of the application, the applicant will be required to replenish the escrow account in an amount sufficient to cover said costs.

Section 5.5. Issuance of Sewer Allocation Permit.

Upon the receipt of said application and required fee, the VTMUA Engineer shall review said application and determine whether or not there is sufficient gallonage available and make a recommendation to the VTMUA. In the event that the VTMUA approves the application, a sewer allocation permit will be issued by the VTMUA for a fixed number of gallons, the VTMUA shall issue written notice to the property owner of the approval of the sewer allocation permit. In the event that the application is denied, written notice thereof shall be provided to the property owner by the VTMUA.

Section 5.6. Sewer Allocation Permit Fees.

- A. Upon approval and prior to the issuance of a sewer allocation permit, the property owner shall pay to the VTMUA a nonrefundable allocation reservation fee of \$2.00 per gallon. The allocation fee shall be waived for any application filed prior to December 31, 2012. No sewer allocation permit shall be issued unless all application permit fees and escrow fees have been paid in full and all real property taxes for the property are current. The property owner shall pay the allocation permit fee within 90 days of notification by the VTMUA of the granting of the allocation or the allocation shall lapse.
- B. Approval of a sewer allocation permit shall not authorize the property owner to connect to the VTMUA's municipal sewer system. The property owner must secure a connection permit from the VTMUA and pay all applicable fee and charges.

Section 5.7. Expiration of Sewer Allocation Permits.

- A. All sewer allocation permits granted to single family houses or development projects of 5 units or less, shall expire one year from the date of issuance by the VTMUA. The VTMUA may grant extensions of a sewer allocation permit for a period not exceeding one year based upon the original expiration date at the VTMUA's discretion. As a condition for approval of the extension of a sewer allocation permit, the property owner shall pay the annual user charge for the one-year period based upon the number of gallons reserved for the property owner in the sewer allocation permit. The property owner shall receive no credit or other benefit for the payment of the sewer user charge other than the extension of the sewer allocation permit. The property owner shall connect the property to the municipal sewer system prior to the expiration of the sewer allocation permit or any extension thereof. Failure to do so shall result in the expiration of the sewer allocation permit. Upon expiration of a sewer allocation permit, the sewage allocation shall revert to the VTMUA.

- B. All sewer allocation permits granted to multi-units projects of more than 5 and non-residential projects units shall expire one year from the date of issuance by the VTMUA. The VTMUA may grant extensions of a sewer allocation permit for a period in one year increments not exceeding five years based upon the original expiration date at the VTMUA's discretion. As a condition for approval of the extension of a sewer allocation permit, the property owner shall pay 33.3% of the annual user charge for the first year of any extension, 66.6% for the second year, and 100% for the third year of the annual user charge for the gallonage reserved in the fifth year. Thereafter, the property owner may automatically extend the allocation permit by paying 100% of the annual user charge for the total gallons reserved. In the event, that the allocation is partially used, the annual user charge shall be based upon actual gallons used or allocated gallons based upon the schedule set forth above, whichever is higher. The property owner shall receive no credit or other benefit for the payment of the sewer user charge other than the extension of the sewer allocation permit. The property owner shall connect the property to the municipal sewer system prior to the expiration of the sewer allocation permit or any extension thereof. Failure to connect as required or failure to pay the charges set forth within 90 days of the due date shall result in the expiration of the sewer allocation permit. Upon expiration of a sewer allocation permit, the sewage allocation shall revert to the VTMUA.

Section 5.8. Voiding of Sewer Allocation Permits.

The VTMUA shall have the right to void sewage allocation permits from property owners under the following conditions:

- A. The VTMUA reserves the right to void any unused sewer allocation reservation permits in the event there are emergency requests for sewage by other property owners within the VTMUA and insufficient capacity to handle the emergency requests.
- B. The VTMUA may also elect at its sole option to void any unused sewage permits. This shall be accomplished by giving written notice to the permit holder stating the VTMUA's intention to void three months from the date of notice. The permit holder may request a hearing before the VTMUA in which he may provide testimony concerning the status of his project and his reasons why the permit should not be voided. The criteria for repurchasing sewage allocation permits by the VTMUA shall include the following (the order below does not constitute a priority for repurchasing):
- a. Inaction or unnecessary delay by the permit holder with regard to obtaining the necessary land use and other permits to proceed with the project.
 - b. The number of applications and amount of gallonage requests pending.
 - c. Whether the property owner has made all of its payments for the allocation in a timely manner.
 - d. Whether a project generally benefiting the VTMUA requires a sewage allocation.
 - e. Whether the applicant has obtained NJDEP approval that restricts the VTMUA's ability to void allocation.
- C. The void of any unused sewer allocation permits by the VTMUA shall be at cost and without interest.

Section 5.9. Prohibition Against Transfer of Equivalent Dwelling Units.

A unit assignment of an equivalent dwelling unit to any property in the Township of Vernon shall not be transferable. The foregoing prohibition shall also apply in the event that a particular parcel or premises does not utilize the EDU(s) or discontinues utilizing the EDU(s).

Chapter 6: Sewer Miscellaneous

Section 6.1. Relaxation; Waiver of Requirements.

The VTMUA shall have the authority to relax or waive in whole, or in part, any provision of this chapter to address any emergency situation regarding the municipal sewer system or when the governing body deems it to be in the best interest of the VTMUA to so relax or waive any such provision of this chapter.

Section 6.2. Violations and Penalties.

Any person violating any provision of this chapter shall, upon conviction, be punishable by a fine not exceeding \$2,000.00 or a period of community service not exceeding 90 days, or any combination thereof. Each violation of any of the provisions of this chapter and each day that such offense shall continue shall be deemed to be separate and distinct offenses.