

City of Olean

Office of the Plumbing Inspector

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Plumbing Installations---Homeowners Guide

Plumbing installations can be difficult. The City of Olean recommends you hire a licensed professional plumber. If you choose to personally install the plumbing work in your own one or two family, owner occupied dwelling, we offer the following guidelines.

1. All work must conform to the Plumbing Code of New York State.
2. A licensed plumbing contractor must be used to repair, replace or install water or sanitary services from the street to your building.
3. All inside underground work must be tested and inspected before it is covered.
4. Waste and vent lines above ground must be tested and inspected before being covered with sheetrock. To test, cap all openings and fill with water to a point ten feet above the highest fixture.
5. Water lines must be tested and inspected before covering with sheetrock. To test, cap all openings and introduce city pressure.
6. Plastic waste and vent lines must be supported at no more than four-foot intervals.
7. Copper water lines must be supported at no more than six-foot intervals.
8. A ball valve must be provided on both sides of the water meter.
9. All fixtures must have individual shutoff valves on the hot and cold water supplies.
10. No S-traps are allowed.
11. A final inspection is required after all fixtures are set and operating.
12. You, as the property owner, must be present at all inspections.

If you choose to do your own plumbing installation, it is your responsibility to design your plumbing system. The Plumbing Inspectors are not authorized to design the system for you. They can, however, provide you with information regarding application of the plumbing code. If you need assistance designing your plumbing system, we recommend that you contact a licensed plumbing contractor.