



Municipality of Anchorage



Handout AG.20

Sump Pump Discharge Requirements

There continues to be major problems with sump pump discharge to remove water from crawl spaces or structures. Discharge onto adjacent properties and discharge into streets causes glaciation and creates safety hazards and heavy damage to MOA Street Maintenance snow removal equipment. Under no circumstances can a sump pump be discharged into the Municipality of Anchorage sanitary sewer system, across property lines or impede public right-of-ways or cause glaciation on streets.

The following are approved locations and methods for discharging sump pumps from residential or commercial structures in the Municipality of Anchorage:

1. Tie in all discharge of sump pumps to storm drains where available.
2. Discharge may be directed to open drainage ditches as long as no glaciation onto streets or traveled roadways occurs.
3. If there is adequate natural ground covering to allow seepage into the soil, discharge may be made onto property as long as sheet discharge does not cross a property line.
4. The minimum distance away from a building that a sump may be discharged is three feet.

For engineered foundations requiring drainage, the following must be added to the plans to allow for approval:

- footing drains must be shown and installed with slope to sump location;
- sump must discharge to an approved location, see items 1-3 above;
- pump must have a ground fault circuit interrupter on the electrical circuit, and it must be shown on plans;
- crawl space access must afford/allow access for the maintenance and/or replacement of the sump;
- provide detail for sump enclosure, include diameter depth, material used as drainage filter.

Any deviation from these practices requires written approval from the Municipality of Anchorage Department of Public Works and/or Anchorage Water and Wastewater Utility.

Ron Thompson, Building Official

DATE: September 7, 2006

(Ref. 96-01, 97-06, 00-03; 06-02)