

THE PLUMB LINE

FALL 2025



PROTECTIVE HEALTH CODES STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS

We announced in the pervious issue, Ralph McClenahan, former Area I State Plumbing Inspector replaced Bill Sims position as the State Plumbing Inspector Supervisor. We are now excited to announce that Erin Anderson will fill Area I as the new State Plumbing Inspector.

FINES AND PENALTIES

Thomas Jeffery Cole-No License-Consent-\$2,000

Matt McReynolds-MP5559-No Permit- Consent-\$2,000

Derek Stowe-No License-\$1,500

Frank Swank-MP4989-No Permit-Consent-\$2,000

Bryce Gammill-No License-\$3,000

Undra Fletcher-No License-\$4,000

Kenneth Ketchens-No License-\$6,000 & \$1,000

Randy Fraser-MP5423-Utilizing Unlicensed Person-\$1,000

Edwin Calix Handyman Service-No License-Consent-\$1,000



THE LAW

§17-38-103. Scope of state plumbing code.

- (a) After adoption according to the Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act, § 25-15-201 et seq., the provisions of the state plumbing code or amendments to the code as adopted by the State Board of Health defining plumbing work and prescribing minimum requirements for design, materials, appliances, workmanship, and methods of installation shall have the effect and force of law in the form of minimum standards statewide in application. The provisions shall apply to all types of buildings, private or public, rural or urban, including buildings owned by the state or any political subdivision of the state.
- (b) All plumbing installations shall be made to conform to the state plumbing code.

ARKANSAS PLUMBING & NATURAL GAS DIVISION

MOBILE FOOD UNIT POLICY

Mobile Food Units are intended to provide food services to the public with a mobile-type unit, similar to many recreational vehicles. These units are designed and licensed for self-sustained operation through the utilization of onboard water and wastewater storage tanks and often fuel gas tanks for cooking. They are intended to be independent of water, sewer and gas building or service connections. Many of their design elements make them incompatible with the Arkansas State Plumbing and Fuel Gas Codes. They are prohibited from permanent or hard connections to external water, sewer or natural gas systems.

This policy outlines the minimum requirement for sites where a mobile food unit intends to remain parked and operate, while refilling the water tanks and/or dumping wastewater holding tanks, utilizing the parking site's plumbing systems. Local jurisdiction requirements may be more stringent. All plumbing will be subject to state review, local permitting and inspections. These and the following requirements are based on the Arkansas State Plumbing Code, Arkansas Fuel Gas Code , Arkansas Fire Code, Arkansas Mechanical Code , ADH Rules Pertaining to Public Water Systems and the Safe Drinking Water Act.

Potable Water Supply to Refill Storage Tanks

All potable water source outlets that are to be utilized for the filling of the freshwater tank of the mobile food units shall be equipped with approved backflow prevention devices or assemblies to isolate the potable water source from the unit's water holding tank. Connecting to a potable water system, even briefly, is a cross-connection and a potential public health hazard, unless the water source is equipped with an approved backflow protection assembly or device. A **Reduced Pressure Zone Assembly (RPZA)** is the only acceptable isolation method where a possibility of a cross connection with backpressure could occur.

Waste Tank Dumping Station

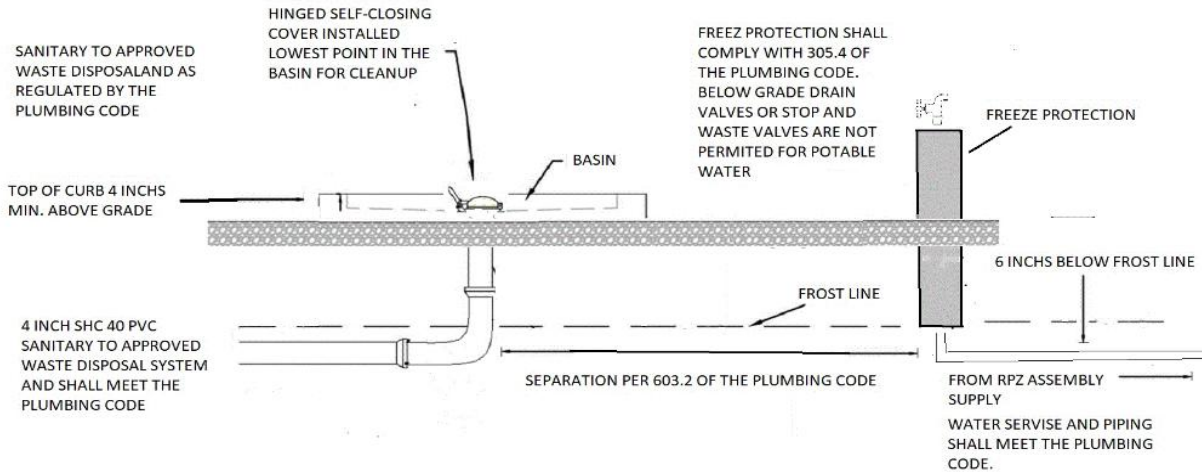
Plumbing code compliant sanitary waste receptors for mobile units shall be a minimum four-inch sewer riser pipe connected to the approved sewerage disposal system of the site. The waste receptor shall be surrounded at the inlet end by a concrete apron, or similar, sloped to the drain and provided with a suitable weatherproof, hinged self-closing cover that remains closed between uses. Grease laden waste shall not discharge into a sanitary waste system prior to an interceptor that meets state and local approval. **The unit's waste tank connection shall not remain affixed to waste receptor.**

No connections to a natural gas utility or building services shall be permitted

Where fuel gas is required, mobile food units shall utilize tanks of Liquid Propane (LP) or Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) in a manner outlined in the Arkansas Fire Code.

MOBILE FOOD UNIT SITE PROFILE

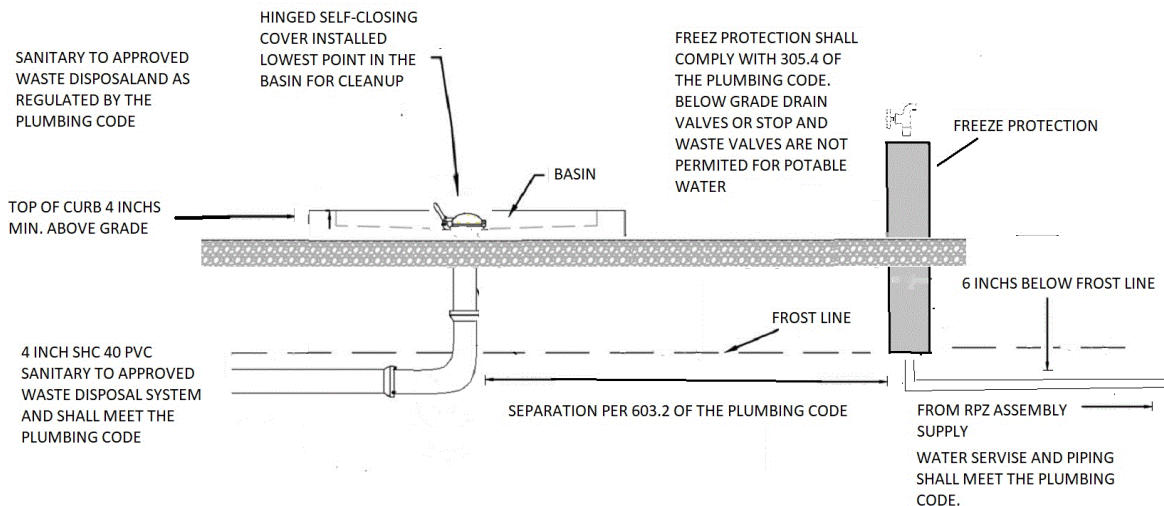
Sub grade self-draining hydrants ARE NOT PERMITTED



Mobile Food Unit sites should be similar to RV sites. **Key differences are that they require potable water, as they are a food service. External Restroom accommodations are required for the staff** and if seating is provided restrooms for customers as well. Grease laden waste shall be discharged into an interceptor prior to entering the approved waste disposal system.

PROFILE OF RV SITE

INDEPENDENT POTABLE WATER AND WASTE DISPOSAL PROVIDED



RV units water distribution systems do not meet the Plumbing Codes for installation and materials and the water holding tanks are equipped with pumps to supply pressure to the outlets. **The potable water system must be isolated by an RPZA. If below grade drain valves are used the outlets must be labeled "NON-POTABLE" as outline in the 2018 Arkansas Plumbing Code Chapter 13.** RV parks are plumbing systems and commercial, therefore State Plan Review is required.

RV PARKS
PROTECTIVE HEALTH CODE GUIDELINES

Water and sanitary piping within an RV park is plumbing and shall conform to the Arkansas State Plumbing Code. All piping shall be installed by a licensed plumber and inspected prior to covering.

Recreational Vehicle Parks **that provide both an approved water connection and sewer connection at each recreational vehicle space**, do not accept dependent recreational vehicles, and do not provide areas for tent camping; will **not** be required to provide a potable watering station, separate comfort station, or sanitary station. *

Recreational Vehicle Parks **that do not provide sewer or water hook-ups at each recreational vehicle space or do provide areas for dependent recreational vehicles or tent camping are required to provide a watering station, comfort station, and sanitary station** as addressed in Sections 4C, 5B and 7A of the Rules Pertaining to Mobile Home Parks.

*Owners of this type of RV Park will be required to provide a signed letter of intent to build and operate the RV Park as independent spaces only with water and sewer connections.

Plan review:

RV Parks with a connection to a non-centralized (onsite or discharging system) wastewater collection and treatment system will submit plan review to Plumbing with the required fees below. RV Parks utilizing onsite wastewater systems will include approval by letter from the Regional Environmental Specialist. RV Parks of 100 spaces or more proposed to connect to an existing water and/or wastewater utility will require capacity verification by the Engineering Section. RV Parks that contain design elements outside the scope of the Plumbing Code, such as larger than six-inch gravity sewer collection line and two-inch water distribution will be assigned to Engineering for plan review of those elements.

RV Park Dump Station:

- ◆ A means for flushing the immediate area and RV waste holding tanks shall be provided at each sanitary waste station. It shall consist of a properly supported water riser pipe, terminating two (2) feet above ground with a ¾ inch valved outlet which shall be protected against back siphonage and backflow by an approved vacuum breaker located downstream from the shut-off valve.
- ◆ A sign, constructed of durable material and not less than two (2) square feet, shall be posted adjacent to the water flushing outlet and inscribed with the warning: **“NON-POTABLE WATER, UNSAFE FOR DRINKING.”**

Water Station:

A water station for filling camping vehicle water storage tanks shall be provided at a rate of one (1) station for everyone hundred (100) campsites. These shall be located not less than fifty (50) feet from a sanitary station. The station shall be posted with signs of durable material, not less than two (2) square feet, which state: **"POTABLE WATER (DRINKING WATER)- DO NOT USE TO FLUSH VEHICLE WASTE TANKS."** Such water stations shall consist of at least a three-quarter-inch pipe and valve outlet and shall be protected against the hazards of backflow and back siphonage by an approved vacuum breaker located downstream from the shutoff valve. The fill hose shall be suspended so that no part of hose and its appurtenances will come into contact with the ground.

* From the Environmental Health Rules for RV Parks.