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BUILDING REGULATIONS  
Article 7. Plumbing Code

**§9-701 PLUMBING CODE; ADOPTED BY REFERENCE:** There is hereby adopted for the purpose of establishing rules and regulations for plumbing and/ or drainage construction and maintenance, including permits and penalties, that certain plumbing code known as the Uniform Plumbing Code, 2009 Edition, with all of the City of Lincoln, Lancaster County, Nebraska, Uniform Plumbing Code Amendments and all other amendments thereto, and the same is hereby adopted and incorporated as fully set out at length herein, and the provisions thereof shall be controlling in regard to the installation, alteration or repair of all plumbing or drainage systems including the practice, materials and fixtures used in the installation and appurtenances thereto within the corporate limits of the City of Crete and within two (2) miles thereof and outside the limits of any other incorporated city or village. That portion of the Lincoln Plumbing Code referred to therein as Administration and appearing as sections 24.10.030 through 24.10.050 are specifically not incorporated by reference herein except as provided for above for the schedule of fees to be paid for each plumbing permit. No less than one (1) copy is to be on file at all times in the office of the City Clerk for the information of and reference to same by interested Parties. *(Amended by Ord. No. 1108, 1/16/90; Ord. No. 1599, 12/16/03; Ord. 1845, 1/15/13)*

[Editor's Note: Sections 9-702 through 9-706 were adopted in their entirety by Ordinance No. 1053 passed on February 2, 1988]

**§9-702 PLUMBING; WELLS; PERMIT.** It shall be unlawful for any person or persons to dig, drill or construct a well within the zoning jurisdiction of the City of Crete, without having first obtained a permit therefor from the City of Crete. The application for private wells shall be submitted in writing, and shall set forth:

- A. Location of proposed well;
- B. Intended use of the water;
- C. Depth of the Proposed well;
- D. Size and kind of casing to be installed;
- E. Pumping equipment;
- F. Name, address and license of well driller;
- G. Well driller's certification that design meets Nebraska Department of Health regulations.

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Such application shall be accompanied with an application fee as listed in §9-201 of this code, which shall cover the cost of inspection and study of plans, no part of which shall be refunded if the application is denied. The provisions of this Section shall apply to test wells.

A well drilling log shall be filed with the City of Crete on completion of each well. This log shall contain at a minimum the strata encountered in drilling, the elevation at which there is a change in strata, and the static water level.

**§9-703 PLUMBING; WELLS; LOCATION AND USAGE.** No well drilled after the effective date of this regulation shall be located within twenty-five (25') feet of any sewer line, private or public. After the effective date of this regulation no permit will be issued if a septic tank or other wastewater disposal system not industrial in nature, is used on the premises, or within three hundred (300') feet of the proposed well.

**§9-704 WELLS; CROSS CONNECTIONS; PROHIBITED.** No water from any private well shall be plumbed or connected in such a manner that City water and well water are or can be connected to the same piping system or appliance either both at the same time, or each separately at different times. The Plumbing Inspector may enter on to and inspect the owner's premises at all reasonable times when necessary to determine that no such cross connection of cross connections exist. If any cross connections exist are found by the Inspector to exist, he or she may order the use of the private well to be permanently discontinued and/or the system permanently disconnected from the City water system. The owner, tenant and lessee shall be liable severally and jointly for all damages to the City water system and users caused by such cross connection.

**§9-705 PLUMBING; WELLS; REGISTRATION.** All owners and/or operators of water wells located within the zoning jurisdiction of the City of Crete shall register their wells with the City of Crete no later than sixty (60) days from the effective date of this Ordinance. All registration forms shall be in writing and shall set forth:

- A. Location of well;
- B. Use of water from well;
- C. Depth of well;

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- D. Size and kind of casing installed;
- E. Pumping equipment used;
- F. Sanitary seal description

No well shall be modified in any manner, without application for a well permit. This registration requirement shall apply to all uncapped and unsealed wells whether they are currently producing water or not.

**§9-706 PLUMBING; WELLS; SPECIFICATIONS; DISCONTINUANCE BY COUNCIL.** The City Council shall have the power and authority to refuse to issue well drilling permits, if it appears that the plan of drilling and construction is not sound, if the proposed driller does not have proper equipment, or if it appears that such well may endanger, impair or in any way interfere with the City water system.

**§9-707 BUILDING REGULATIONS; PROHIBITION OF LEAD PIPES, SOLDER, AND FLUX.** Any pipe, solders, flux used in installation or repair of any residential or non-residential facility which is connected to the public water supply system shall be lead free.

For purposes of this Section, lead free shall mean:

- 1) Solders and flux - not more than two-tenths (.2%) percent lead, and
- 2) Pipe and pipe fittings - not more than eight (8%) percent lead.

(Ref. LB 383, Nebraska State Legislature) (Ord. No. 1057, 5/3/88)

**§9-708 PLUMBING CODE; PLUMBING PERMITS.**

A. PERMIT ISSUANCE. No person licensed under the Crete City Code shall cause any plumbing work to be done within the city's zoning jurisdiction without having in his/ her possession, on site, a plumbing permit issued by the City of Crete and pursuant to this code containing the name of the master plumber contractor authorized to perform the work at that site.

B. PERMIT APPLICATION. Permits shall be applied for by the duly registered master plumber or water conditioner contractor. When such permit has been approved, it shall be signed and paid for by the duly registered master plumber or water conditioner contractor associated with the

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business firm, or corporation which has been previously approved by the City.

C. EXCEPTIONS. The provisions of this section shall not apply to any Federal, State, County or Municipal government or any subdivision thereof. (Ord. 1743, 1/5/2010; Ord. 1998, 2/21/2017)

**§9-709 REGISTRATION OF PLUMBERS; APPLICATION; CLASSIFICATIONS; NO PLUMBING WORK PERFORMED BY UNREGISTERED PLUMBERS.**

A. APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION.

Application for registration as a master plumber contractor, journeyman plumber, or plumber's apprentice shall be made in writing to the Building Inspector's Office on a form furnished for such purpose. Such form shall require the name and address of the applicant and such other relevant information as may be required by the Inspector's Office.

B. CLASSIFICATIONS.

There shall be three classes of registrations as follows:

(1) Master Plumber Contractor is hereby defined as any person skilled in material installation, excavation, planning, and superintending plumbing, drainage, and gas piping, and who is familiar with the ordinances and codes governing the same, and who is competent to install, repair, alter, or remove plumbing or drainage or gas piping with the full responsibility of supervision, in doing such work by himself/herself or employing journeyman plumbers and plumbers apprentices to assist him.

A master plumber contractor must have a minimum of three years of practical work experience as an apprentice, or the equivalent in formal education approved by the Building Inspector and a minimum of three years practical work experience as a licensed journeyman plumber and pass the written exam with a minimum grade of seventy percent.

(2) Journeyman plumber is hereby defined as any person employed by a master plumber contractor, other than a plumber's apprentice, whose principal occupation involves the installation, repair, alteration, or removal of plumbing, drainage, or gas piping. A journeyman plumber must have a minimum of three years practical work experience as a plumbers apprentice and pass the written exam with a minimum grade of seventy percent.

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(3) Plumber's apprentice is hereby defined as a person, other than a master plumber contractor or journeyman plumber, whose principal occupation is learning and assisting in the installation, repair, alteration, removal of plumbing, drainage, or gas piping as an employee under the direct supervision and on the same job as the master plumber contractor or journeyman plumber.

C. NO PLUMBING WORK TO BE PERFORMED BY UNREGISTERED PLUMBERS; EXCEPTIONS.

No person shall engage in or lend themselves out as engaging in the plumbing business in the city, or within two miles thereof, or install any piping, fixtures, or other apparatus for supplying water or install any plumbing fixtures, drainage, vents, water distribution systems, or gas piping system, unless;

1. He/she shall have been authorized to do so by registration in one of the classifications listed above.
2. Gas piping systems may be installed by any person holding an appropriate registration with a local gas utility company, within the bounds of their employment for said company.
3. Any person or company who holds a valid mechanical permit issued by the City of Crete may install gas piping within the relative scope of the aforementioned permit. Please note that fuel gas appliance installations or replacements may be subject to local utility company policies or codes which may not be reflected herein.
4. Any duly registered water conditioner contractor.
5. Any homeowner whom permanently and exclusively resides in a primary residence shall not be required to hold or maintain a city plumbing license certificate, in order to install or repair plumbing systems wholly contained within said residence; provided, that such person is required to apply for, and obtain, a plumbing permit and all workmanship and installation which he or she performs shall be performed in conformity with this Code and City Ordinances. In all cases the rules and regulations of this article shall be complied with and such individual shall notify the Inspector's Office of such work proposed, request inspection thereof and pay the appropriate permit fee. However, no individual shall be allowed to perform any

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plumbing work on new construction without first having passed the required examination and have provided the necessary insurance, bonding, and license certificate required by this article.

D. REGISTRATION OF CORPORATION, FIRM OR PARTNERSHIP.

Any corporation, firm, or partnership may be registered hereunder as a master plumber contractor in the name of such corporation, firm, or partnership provided that such corporation, firm, or partnership must have a master plumber contractor as a bona fide employee or partner who has submitted to the examination given by the Building Inspector and has thereby shown him/herself fit, competent and qualified to engage in the business, trade, or calling of a master plumber contractor, and who shall at all times be in actual charge of and responsible for all installation, removal, or repair of plumbing, drainage, or gas piping systems performed by such corporation, firm, or partnership. The registration certificate shall also be issued in the name of the employee or partner registered as a master plumber contractor. In the event the master plumber contractor employee or partner of a corporation, firm, or partnership possessing a certificate of registration shall withdraw therefrom and cease to be connected therewith, then in such an event he/she shall immediately notify the Inspector's Office, which shall forthwith revoke the certificate of registration of such corporation, firm, or partnership.

E. SAME EFFECT ON FIRMS OR CORPORATION.

A master plumber contractor certificate issued to an individual shall authorize a company or corporation to engage in such business or occupation during the time that the certificate holder maintains his connection with such company or corporation. A Certificate applied for under the requirements of this article shall be valid and in effect for one company, firm, or corporation as an active registration certificate, and shall not be assignable to any other company, firm, or corporation. (Ord. 1744, 1/5/2010; Ord. 1998, 2/21/2017)

**§9-710 REGISTRATION OF PLUMBERS; EXAMINATION FOR REGISTRATION; FEES; EXEMPTIONS.**

A. EXAMINATION.

Before any applicant shall be registered as a master plumber contractor or journeyman plumber, he/she shall pay

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an examination fee and shall be required to submit to and pass a written examination to determine his/her qualifications and fitness for executing the class of work. Such examination shall be administered by the Building Inspector as a three hour exam within three days of the initial request and at a time which is of the Inspector's choosing. Any applicant who fails to pass the required examination shall not be eligible to take another examination until at least one month has elapsed from the date of last examination.

B. EXAMINATION AND REGISTRATION FEES.

Each applicant for master plumber contractor or journeyman plumber registration shall pay to the Administrative Authority an examination fee as follows:

Master plumber contractor examination fee       \$50.00

Journeyman plumber examination fee               \$50.00

Upon initial issuance or subsequent renewal of a registration certificate, a registration fee shall be paid annually to the Administrative Authority as follows:

Master plumber contractor registration fee       \$50.00

Journeyman plumber registration fee             \$20.00

Plumber's apprentice registration fee           \$10.00

C. EXEMPTION

Any person duly registered at the time of the adoption of this code shall be automatically registered under his appropriate classification of registration without submitting to an examination.

D. EXPIRATION AND RENEWAL OF REGISTRATION

Registrations shall expire on the thirty-first day of December following the date of issuance. Registration shall not be assignable. No registered master plumber contractor or journeyman plumber shall employ any person as a plumber's apprentice who is not registered as a plumber's apprentice within the City of Crete. No plumber's apprentice shall be permitted to work at the installation, alteration, repair, or removal of any plumbing, drainage, or gas piping except under the direct supervision and on the same job site of a duly registered master plumber contractor or journeyman plumber.

E. SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION.

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The Inspector's Office shall have the power to suspend or revoke any master plumber contractor or journeyman plumber certificate of registration if the same was obtained by error or fraud, or if the holder thereof is shown to be no longer qualified, or such holder fails, neglects, or refuses to comply with the provisions of this code.

It shall be unlawful for any registered plumber to allow his name to be used by any other person, directly or indirectly, to obtain a permit for the installation, alteration, or repair of any plumbing, drainage, or gas piping system. Violation of this section shall be sufficient grounds for suspension or revocation of said certificates of registration as provided herein.

F. CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE REQUIRED.

Before any master plumber contractor as herein defined may be issued a permit under the provisions of this code, such master plumber contractor shall be required to:

(1) At all times maintain public liability insurance coverage for all claims arising out of all work in the City of Crete and within two miles of the corporate limits thereof done by or under the supervision of the master plumber under the provisions of this code. Such insurance shall be in the form of a commercial or comprehensive general liability policy, or an acceptable substitute policy form as permitted by the City Attorney, with a minimum combined single limit of \$1,000,000.00 aggregate for any one occurrence on any job for which a permit is required under this code, provided the City of Crete shall be named an additional insured thereunder. The coverages required herein shall be subject to review and approval by the City Attorney for conformance with the provisions of this section.

(2) At all times keep on file with the Inspector's Office a current certificate of insurance signed by a qualified agent of an insurance company licensed to do business in the State of Nebraska and approved by the City Attorney for conformance with the provisions of this section evidencing the existence of valid and effective policies of insurance naming the city as additional insured for the coverage required by subsection (1) of this section, the limits of each policy, the policy number, the name of the insurer, the effective date and expiration date of each policy, the deductibles or self-insurance retainers of each policy, and a copy of an endorsement placed on each policy requiring



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thirty days notice by mail to the Inspector's Office before the insurer may cancel the policy for any reason, and upon request of the Inspector's Office or the City Attorney, a copy of any endorsements placed on such policies or the declarations page of such policies.

Any termination, reduction, or lapse of such insurance shall automatically terminate the master plumber contractor's privilege to be issued permits under the provisions of this code, unless other insurance meeting the requirements of this section is provided and in full force and effect at the time of such expiration or cancellation.

G. PAYMENT BOND.

Before any master plumber contractor, as defined herein, may be issued a plumbing permit, such master plumber contractor shall deposit with the Inspector's Office a \$3000.00 payment bond. Said bond shall provide that the master plumber contractor shall reimburse the City of Crete the cost of any unfinished or improper workmanship in or under the city's Right of Way. All excavation, backfills, and resurfacing shall be in accordance with the Department of Public Works policies. Failure to keep payments current for excavation backfills and resurfacing in accordance with the Department of Public Works policy shall be grounds for withholding further permits of any kind until such backlog of charges are paid in full. (Ord. 1745, 1/5/2010)

**(\$9-711.01 through \$9-711.13 enacted by Ordinance 1998 2/21/17)**

**§9-711.01 License required; License requirement.**

It shall be unlawful for any person to engage in the business of installing water conditioning apparatus without first having secured a license to do so from the Building Inspector.

**§9-711.02 Application.**

The application for a license, required by this article shall be made in writing to the Building Inspector on blank forms prepared and furnished by such Office and shall give the full name under which such business is to be conducted.

**§9-711.03 Examination.**

Water conditioning contractors/installers examinations shall be composed and given by the permits and inspections

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department, and the applicant must provide proof of the following:

1. Minimum of three (3) years practical work experience as an installer under a licensed contractor
2. Passed the written test with a minimum grade of seventy (70) per cent.

Formal education accrued from an approved educational institution may be submitted for consideration by the building official towards the practical work experience requirement.

**§9-711.04 Examination; Fee.**

Each applicant for a water conditioning contractor/installer's license shall appear before the Building Inspector upon notice and submit to such examination and test of his/her ability and qualifications as may be required by the city and shall pay to the City department an examination fee of fifty dollars (\$50.00).

**§9-711.05 License Fee.**

When an applicant for a water conditioning contractor/installer's license passes the examination and tests required to the satisfaction of the city' he/she shall pay a license fee of seventy-five dollars (\$75.00).

**§9-711.06 Certificate of insurance required.**

Prior to receiving a license under the preceding section, an applicant who has successfully passed the water conditioning contractor's/installers examination shall provide a certificate of insurance which provides combined coverage for bodily injury and property damage in a minimum amount of three hundred thousand dollars(\$300,000.00) and shall strictly comply with this code and any other ordinances of the city relating to the installation, alteration or repair of any water conditioning apparatus within the zoning jurisdiction of the city.

**§9-711.07 Issuance; term.**

At the time of approval by the city council and the payment of a license fee of seventy-five dollars the building official shall issue a license to do water

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conditioning contracting work in the city which shall be effective and valid through December 31st of each calendar year.

**§9-711.08 Renewal; fee.**

Before the expiration of any license issued from or by the Building Inspector, the holder may upon payment of a renewal fee in the amount of seventy-five dollars (\$75.00), make application to the Building Inspector for renewal of his/her license. Failure to make application and pay the renewal fee for renewal of a license before the expiration date thereof subjects the applicant to pay the renewal fee plus an additional late fee in the amount of twenty dollars (\$20.00) for each month or partial month since the expiration date of the license, up to and including three (3) months from such expiration date. If the application is filed and the fees are paid in accordance with the above, the building official shall issue a renewal of such license without examination unless there are revocations or suspension proceedings in progress against such individual. If the holder of a license fails to make application for renewal of his/her license within ninety (90) days from the expiration date, he or she shall lose all rights of his/her license and proceed in the same manner as if he or she had never held a license. If the building official has reason to believe that the licensee has violated the provisions of section 9-819, he/she shall have the power to impose any revocation or suspension clause contained within, the context of this article.

**§9-711.09 Examination to be basis for Issuance.**

When the applicant for a license required by department passes the required examination to the satisfaction of the Building Inspector, the building official shall notify the applicant of his/her score within fifteen (15) days of the examination. The building official shall provide the city council with the names of all successful applicants for licensing under this article with recommendations for issuance of such license. At the time of approval by the city council and the payment of a license fee of seventy-five dollars (\$75.00), the building official shall issue a license to do water conditioning work in the city which shall be effective and valid through December 31st of each calendar year.

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**§9-711.10 Permits.**

It shall be unlawful for any person to install, alter, remove, repair any water conditioning appliance , or cause the same to be done, without first obtaining a permit therefor from the permits & inspection department. No permit shall be required for minor repair work. Minor repair work is defined as repairing leaks in pipes, cleaning out supply or waste lines, repairing a water conditioning appliance.

A permit to install a water conditioning appliance may be issued only to a duly registered water conditioning contractor or registered master plumber. It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to cause or permit any water conditioning installation to be done on any property owned, managed, or controlled by such person, firm or corporation unless such work is done by said duly registered water conditioning contractor/installer or registered plumber. Application for a permit may be made in writing to the Building Inspector on a form furnished by the department for that purpose.

**§9-711.11 Same-Work done by person in his/her own residence.**

No licensed required under this article shall be required of any individual doing installation or repair of the water conditioning appliance in the residence in which he/she lives; provided, that such installation is done in conformity with this code and any other Ordinances of the city. In all cases the rules and regulations of this article shall be complied with and such individual shall notify the City of such work proposed, request inspection thereof and pay a permit fee to cover the cost of the inspection. Furthermore, this section shall only apply to those installations required for remodeling, additions and repairs. No individual shall be allowed to perform any plumbing work on new construction without first having passed the required examination and have provided the necessary insurance required by this article, and been issued a license to do such work.

**§9-711.12 Fees.**

A fee shall be paid to the City of Crete as follows:  
Base permit \$ 18.25  
For each water conditioning apparatus \$ 8.00

**§9-711.13 Installation and Inspection.**

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The water piping to any water conditioning appliance shall be of materials and methods of installation approved for water distribution in this Code. Piping from any water conditioning appliance to the city sewer system shall be of any material approved by the permits & inspection department.

All water conditioning installations shall be inspected by the permits & inspections department to insure compliance with all the requirements of this Code. It shall be the duty of the person doing the work authorized by the permit to notify the building inspection department orally or in writing that said work is ready for inspection, and for said person doing the work to provide access and means for proper inspection. It shall be the duty of the person doing the work to call for inspection of the water conditioning installation and arrange to meet the Building Inspector, on-site for the inspection, not later than three (3) days after completion of the installation.