
PLUMBING AND SEPTIC SYSTEMS

2024 Ontario Building Code Changes

These are highlights only. A digital copy of the 2024 Building Code Compendium is available on the provincial website.

PLUMBING

PLUMBING DESIGNED FOR SEISMIC FORCES

Plumbing systems in Part 3 buildings shall be designed and installed to accommodate seismic forces.

SHUT OFF VALVES

Pipes that convey water from a gravity water tank or from a private water supply system shall be fitted with a shut-off valve at the source of supply. All other buildings shut-off valves shall be provided on the water supply to every fixture or group of fixtures in the same room.

MAXIMUM FLUSH CYCLE

New restrictions on maximum amount of water used in a flush cycle for water closets and urinals. A new table has been added for maximum water flow rates.

NEW PROVISIONS FOR NON-POTABLE RAINWATER HARVESTING SYSTEMS

For the purposes of distributing rainwater from a storage tank by the way of plumbing appurtenances. Permitted to be used for water closets and urinals, clothes washers, floor-mounted service sinks and laundry trays, trap primers, irrigation systems, hydronic systems, make-up water systems for heat rejection systems, or any other system where the rainwater is not ingested. These systems must be designed, fabricated and installed in accordance with good engineering practices.

CATCH BASINS

New requirements for maintenance holes and catch basins.

TRAPS

Interceptors can now be used as a trap under certain parameters. A floor drain that drains to a storm drainage system shall be protected by a trap.

SUMPS OR TANKS

Provisions added for sumps or tanks that receive subsurface water from a subsoil drainage pipe, it shall be provided with a water-and-air-tight cover.

MAKE-UP WATER CONNECTIONS

Make-up water connections shall be equipped with backflow prevention devices.

SEPTIC SYSTEMS

Ontario has updated its standard for prefabricated septic tanks and sewage holding tanks, which will include a safety screen below cleanout covers. Ontario has also made changes related to Type A Dispersal Beds to distinguish materials used for the 'mantle.'