



540 West Hills Circle
Owatonna, MN 55060-4794
Ph. (507) 444-4370

City of Owatonna Policy

August 2, 2007

Contractors; Homebuilders; Plumbers.

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is intended to acknowledge a local practice of providing by-pass installations on all newly installed sump-pump installations in residential construction.

Within the past year's time frame it has come to the attention of the City of Owatonna's Building Inspection and Engineering Divisions that a potential problem exists related to the efficient installation and operation of sump-pumps. At various locations within the City of Owatonna it has been demonstrated that under heavy rainfall conditions residential sump-pumps will not effectively pump ground water into the storm sewer due to excessive water pressures within the storm sewer system. Therefore, city staff requested assistance from local plumbers to install by-pass piping up the side wall, through the rim joist and turned down above grade (or equivalent installations) to allow for above grade discharge of ground water if needed.

Cooperation with local plumbers has been great. Minimal costs are involved and it alleviates the potential flooding liabilities associated with basements and ground water intrusion. Therefore, **The City of Owatonna will continue to require this by-pass installation on all new or replaced sump-pump installations.**

Thank you for your assistance and cooperation in continuing these successful installation procedures.

Sincerely,

City of Owatonna Building Inspection and Engineering Divisions.

Effective date: Summer 2007