



Town of Franklin
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
257 Fisher Street
Franklin, MA 02038-3026
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Plastic Water Services Requirements and Regulations

If the following conditions are present for a proposed waterline service connections, plastic piping may be substituted and allowed for copper piping:

- The applicant requests in writing plastic piping instead of copper piping.
- The proposed water service (from curb stop to meter location is over 100 feet in length.
- The required water service size is at least 1 inch.

If allowed and approved, the proposed plastic water pipe and fittings must meet the following requirements:

- Applicant must provide a copy of the pipe manufacturer's written specifications.
- Plastic pipe must be AWWA C901 and ASTM D3350 and D2737 piping.
- Piping must have a "copper sized" outside diameter.
- Tracing wire must be attached to the outside of the piping, not incorporated into the plastic or separate from the plastic piping.
- Piping must be blue in color for identification purposes.
- Piping must be HDPE, SDR9, have a minimum 200-PSI working strength and a 600-PSI bursting test strength.
- Piping must be new, be one single piece, without breaks or couplers, unless service is over 500 feet. This condition applies for the next 500 feet of pipe and so on.
- Piping is to have a continuous ink stamp along pipe wall and clearly legible detailing manufacturer, pipe specification, date of manufacture, and pressure rating.
- Fittings for PE tubing shall be water works brass-compression style that meets or exceeds AWWA C-800 latest revision.
- Compression joints shall provide a watertight seal up to 300-PSI.
- Set-screw compression joints will not be allowed.

During installation, the following procedures will be followed:

- Piping from the water main to the curb stop is to be copper.
- The plastic piping from the curb stop to meter will be same diameter size as the copper piping from the water main to the curb stop.
- Piping is to be bedded and surrounded by 12 inches of sand.
- Tracing wire is to be exposed at ground level at the curb box and through the building's foundation.
- Blue Magnetic-Traceable Marking Tape with a minimum 2-inch width is to be installed 12 inches above the complete plastic water service line.
- Pipe must be attached and anchored to copper piping before attachment to the water meter.

Note: Plastic waterlines cannot be used for grounding out electrical services.

*These requirement and regulations are subject to change per the discretion of
the Franklin Department of Public Works.*