

## Information Bulletin

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# Depth of Burial for Underground Plumbing Pipes

**EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY**, the City will be strictly enforcing the Manitoba Plumbing Code requirements for the protection of buried pipe.

Manitoba Plumbing Code Sentence 2.3.5.1.(1) requires that where piping is installed underground, the backfill shall be carefully placed and tamped to a height of 300 mm (12 inches) over the top of the pipe, and be free of stones, boulders, cinders and frozen earth.

Excerpt from the Manitoba Plumbing Code:

### 2.3.5. Protection of Piping

#### 2.3.5.1. Backfilling of Pipe Trench

- 1) Where piping is installed underground, the backfill shall be
  - a) carefully placed and tamped to a height of 300 mm over the top of the pipe, and
  - b) free of stones, boulders, cinders and frozen earth. (See Note A-2.3.5.1.(1).)

The only allowable exception to the height of backfill will be for housing installations where the height of the main drain (at its highest point prior to entering the building) is not sufficient to allow for the full 300 mm (12 inches) of backfill. When this condition presents, the contractor shall ensure as much depth as possible as well as maintaining the minimum slope requirements and the City may consider a reduction in height of backfill to accommodate the condition, but under no circumstances will backfill less than 150 mm (6 inches) in height be considered acceptable.

The practice of installing two 45 degree fittings to raise the elevation of the pipe and reduce the backfill depth to less than 300 mm (12 inches) will not be accepted.