



Resilient Environment Department

BUILDING CODE DIVISION | BUILDING PERMITTING

2307 West Broward Boulevard, Suite #300 • Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33312 • 954-765-4400 • Broward.org/Building

SEPTIC TO SEWER CONVERSION PERMITTING PROCESS

- **Contact Development and Environmental Review to obtain a Septic-to-Sewer conversion certificate. Telephone: (954) 357-6666 or email: DERPlans@broward.org.**
- **Next, go to Broward County Building Code Division's Building Permitting located at 2307 W. Broward Blvd. Suite 300, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33312 to obtain plumbing permit with supporting documentation. Broward County Building Code Division's Building Department has permitting jurisdiction for properties in Unincorporated Broward County. Telephone: (954) 765-4400 Option 1 or Email: building@broward.org**
- **Dig a trench from the house to the sewer connection. At the high point (near the house). There must be a minimum of one (1) foot of cover over the pipe.**
- **If the building drain does not have the minimum of one (1) foot of cover over the pipe when it comes out of the building, roll it down at this point by using two 45-degree fittings.**
- **If the existing building drain is cast iron, purchase a transition fitting to go from cast iron to PVC. This is usually a 3" X 4" Fernco increaser.**
- **Slope the pipe from the house to the sewer connection at a minimum 1/8 of an inch per foot. Do not bend the pipe around any obstructions, use appropriate fittings.**
- **Purchase only approved PVC drainage pipe and drainage fittings.**
- **Use purple primer to clean PVC pipe and fittings before applying the PVC cement.**
- **Install a two-way clean out at the juncture of the building drain and building sewer + or - 30 inches beyond the building exterior wall. Install clean outs at each change of direction that is more than 45 degrees and every 100 feet.**
- **In some cases, you may have to run the pipe from the rear yard to the front yard or parallel to an exterior wall. Use caution not to undermine the foundation.**
- **Trench location. Trenches installed parallel to footings shall not extend below the 45-degree (0.79 rad) bearing plans of the footing or wall.**
- **The pipe shall be bedded to clean fill, no stones larger than 1/2 inch and supported for the entire length.**



- **Support of piping.** Buried piping shall be supported throughout its entire length.
- **Backfilling.** Loose earth, free from rocks, broken concrete, frozen chunks and other rubble, shall be placed in the trench in 6-inch (152 mm) layers and tamped in place. The backfill under and beside the pipe shall be compacted for pipe support. Backfill shall be brought up evenly on both sides of the pipe so that the pipe remains aligned. In instances where the materials manufacturer's installation instructions are more restrictive than those prescribed by the code, the material shall be installed in accordance with the more restrictive requirement.
- **After you have installed your sewer line, you must pump and abandon your septic tank. You must hire a licensed septic tank pumping company. You must have clean fill on site, upon sewer inspection. Keep and display the receipt with the permit card, so that when you call for a Sewer Inspection, it will be available for the Inspector to see. Once the septic tank is pumped out, a hole must be punctured in the bottom for the Inspector to see at the time of the Sewer Inspection.**
- **You should now backfill the trench and abandoned septic tank and request your Final Inspection.**
- **At all times, use caution and protective gear. Purchase construction safety tape to put around your open trenches and pumped out septic tank until they are backfilled.**