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# THE PLUMBLINE

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October 2009 Issue

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## Gas Code Typo

Section 406.4.2 (1) states that when testing consumer gas piping having an operating pressure of 1 psig or less; and then in (2) it says when testing consumer gas piping having an operating pressure of 1 PSIG or above. So if a system is to be operated at 1 psig, what test is to be used?

The answer is the test of any system with 1 pound and above should be done at 90 pounds. Anything less than 1 pound should be tested at 25 pounds. Sorry!!!! Our mistake...

Furthermore, when testing consumer piping having an operating pressure of less than 1 psig, the test shall be conducted with a 2.5 inch minimum diameter gauge with a minimum scale of 60 psig having increments of 1 psig or less...for a period of 15 minutes.

When testing consumer piping having an operating pressure of 1 psig and above, the test shall be conducted with a 2.5 inch minimum diameter gauge with a minimum scale of 150 psig having increments of 2 psig or less...for a period of 15 minutes.

## Another Gas Code Reminder

New to the current gas code is the requirement that an insulation shield is required when vents pass through insulated assemblies.

**Section 502.4 Insulation shield.** Where vents pass through insulated assemblies, an insulation shield constructed of not less than 26 gage sheet (0.016 inch) (0.4 mm) metal shall be installed to provide clearance between the vent and the insulation material. The clearance shall not be less than the clearance to combustibles specified by the vent manufacturer's installation instructions. Where vents pass through attic space, the shield shall terminate not less than 2 inches (51 mm) above the insulation materials and shall

be secured in place to prevent displacement. Insulation shields provided as part of a listed vent system shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's installation instructions.

## More Gas Piping Tidbits

Inspectors are often asked about the need for drip legs on gas piping. Because today's natural gas is not wet, the need for drip legs does not exist. However, section 408.4 of the Gas Code does require sediment trap if the equipment does not have one. The trap is to be installed downstream of the equipment shut off valve.

## Inspectors Must Bring Code Books to Training Classes

We are finding more-and-more that Inspectors attending code training sessions fail to bring their code books to class. Trainers are not equipped with extra code books for forgetful inspectors, and it makes teaching the code virtually impossible without books.

## Two New Appointments to the State Committee of Plumbing Examiners

The department is pleased to announce the appointment of Kenneth Harper from Gurdon as a master plumber representative, and the re-appointment of Courtney Swindler as the engineer representative to the State Committee of Plumbing Examiners. Both positions are appointed by the Board of Health for a 4-year term...expiring in 2013.

Congratulations to both Kenneth and Courtney!

## Water Heaters in Attics...20 foot rule

*More plumbing & gas code discrepancies...*

As hard as we try, we always find typo's and mistakes in the codes after publication. For example, sections of the gas code that address gas-fired water heaters makes no mention of 20 foot rule, but does require it in the plumbing code. Therefore, the 20 foot rule applies. These sections are 306.3.2 in the gas and sections 501.3 of the plumbing code.



## IMPORTANT 2010 TRAINING DATES FOR CITY INSPECTORS

There are ten (10) schools for 2010 scattered all over the state for the city inspector's convenience. Please mark your calendars to take advantage of a training session that fits your schedule and location.

Also, it is strongly recommended that the inspector try to take advantage of the nearest located school. There is no pre-registration requirement at this time and many schools exceed our occupancy limits.

Furthermore, you will note as of the date of this newsletter that several schools show **TENTATIVE**. We feel confident these schools dates & locations are set but please confirm before attendance.

<b>JANUARY</b> ---21 & 22 A.R.W.A Building 240 Dee Dee Lane	<b><u>LONOKE</u></b> <b>TENTATIVE</b>
<b>FEBRUARY</b> 11 & 12 200 Lake Nichols Dr	<b><u>NASHVILLE</u></b>
<b>MARCH</b> ---- 11 & 12 Paragould Community Cntr 3404 Linwood Dr	<b><u>PARAGOULD</u></b>
<b>APRIL</b> --- 8 & 9 Hughes Community Center 1000 E. Parkway	<b><u>RUSSELLVILLE</u></b>
<b>APRIL</b> 15 & 16 Baxter Co. Emrg Serv Trng Cntr 170 Dillard	<b><u>MIDWAY</u></b>
<b>MAY</b> --- 20 & 21 Roger Youth Center 315 W. Olive	<b><u>ROGERS</u></b>
<b>AUGUST</b> 19 & 20 ARWA , Dee Dee Lane	<b><u>LONOKE</u></b> <b>TENTATIVE</b>
<b>SEPTEMBER</b> --- 16 & 17 Hughes Community Center 1000 E. Parkway	<b><u>RUSSELLVILLE</u></b>
<b>OCTOBER</b> 14 & 15 Roger Youth Center 315 W. Olive	<b><u>ROGERS</u></b>
<b>NOVEMBER</b> 4 & 5 Paragould Community Center 3404 Linwood Dr	<b><u>PARAGOULD</u></b> <b>TENTATIVE</b>

### Did You Know?

Any and only piping listed in Table 605.4 may be used to drain T&P valves and water heater pans.

Section 504.6.2. Materials. Relief valve discharge piping **shall** be of those materials listed in Section 605.4 or shall be tested, rated and approved for such use in accordance with ASME A112.4.1. Piping from safety pan drains **shall** be of those materials listed in Table 605.4.

## State Committee of Plumbing Examiners 8-Month Report

<b>NAME</b>	<b>LIC. STATUS</b>	<b>FINE</b>	<b>CITY</b>
Willie Burks	Licensed	Revocation	Lonoke
David Kelly	Licensed	Revocation	Bella Vista
Travis Crenshaw	Licensed	\$1,000	Memphis
Mike Mumma	Unlicensed	\$ 400	Hot Springs
Leon Jones	Unlicensed	\$250	Melbourne
William Brewster	Unlicensed	\$1,000	Star City
Joe Magallanes	Unlicensed	\$250	Paragould
Steve Palmer	Unlicensed	\$500	Memphis
Hank Wedgeworth	Licensed	Revocation	El Dorado

### Air Admittance Valves

There is still much confusion over the use of air admittance valves. Please be advised that the code requires at least one 3" vent through the roof of **every** building...even the manufacturer's installation instructions state that the AAV's will not work without a vent to the atmosphere. Also, please make sure that when installing the valves in an attic, the valves are accessible for inspection and maintenance and are at least 6" above any insulation materials; and all attics where AAV's terminate must be properly ventilated.

### Gas Connectors

Section 411.1.3.1 Maximum length. Connectors shall have an overall length not to exceed 3 feet, except for range and domestic clothes dryer connectors, which shall not exceed 6 feet in overall length. Measurement shall be made along the centerline of the connector. Only one connector shall be used for each appliance.

### Tidbits of Information

- ✓ Plumbing plan review numbers are way down from the past 10 years. Only 1,734 plans were reviewed from July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009 as compared to over 2,300 the year before and over 2,500 the year before that. Just a sign of the economy...
- ✓ Plumbing & Gas Code Books are available from the state office...but supplies won't last long.

### Do You Wish To Continue To Receive The PlumbLine?

If you would like to access the *PlumbLine* for information from the Internet site, you may do so by logging onto <http://www.healthyarkansas.com/phc>. If you would like to offer comments, suggestions, or ideas for articles, please let us know. You may contact Bob Higginbottom @ 501-661-2642.

If you would like to discontinue receiving the *PlumbLine*, please let us know by writing us at the Arkansas Department of Health, Protective Codes, 4815 W. Markham St., Slot #24, Little Rock, Arkansas 72205-3867.