

# Part VII—Plumbing

## CHAPTER 25

# PLUMBING ADMINISTRATION

### SECTION P2501 GENERAL

**P2501.1 Scope.** The provisions of this chapter shall establish the general administrative requirements applicable to plumbing systems and inspection requirements of this code.

**P2501.2 Application.** In addition to the general administration requirements of Chapter 1, the administrative provisions of this chapter shall also apply to the plumbing requirements of Chapters 25 through 32.

### SECTION P2502 EXISTING PLUMBING SYSTEMS

⋮ **P2502.1 Existing building sewers and drains.** See *Florida Building Code, Existing Building*.

**P2502.2 Additions, alterations or repairs.** Additions, *alterations*, renovations or repairs to any plumbing system shall conform to that required for a new plumbing system without requiring the existing plumbing system to comply with all the requirements of this code. Additions, *alterations* or repairs shall not cause an existing system to become unsafe, insanitary or overloaded.

Minor additions, *alterations*, renovations and repairs to existing plumbing systems shall be permitted in the same manner and arrangement as in the existing system, provided that such repairs or replacement are not hazardous and are *approved*.

### SECTION P2503 INSPECTION AND TESTS

**P2503.1 Inspection required.** New plumbing work and parts of existing systems affected by new work or *alterations* shall be inspected by the *building official* to ensure compliance with the requirements of this code.

**P2503.2 Concealment.** A plumbing or drainage system, or part thereof, shall not be covered, concealed or put into use until it has been tested, inspected and *approved* by the *building official*.

**P2503.3 Responsibility of permittee.** Test equipment, materials and labor shall be furnished by the permittee.

⋮ **P2503.4 Gravity sewer test.** Gravity sewer tests shall consist of plugging the end of the building sewer at the point of connection with the public sewer, completely filling the building sewer with water from the lowest to the highest point thereof, and maintaining such pressure for 15 minutes. The building sewer shall be water tight at all points.

**P2503.5 DWV systems testing.** Rough and finished plumbing installations shall be tested in accordance with Sections P2503.5.1 and P2503.5.2.

**P2503.5.1 Drainage and vent water test.** A water test shall be applied to the drainage system either in its entirety or in sections. If applied to the entire system, all openings in the piping shall be tightly closed, except the highest opening, and the system shall be filled with water to point of overflow. If the system is tested in sections, each opening shall be tightly plugged except the highest openings of the section under test, and each section shall be filled with water, but no section shall be tested with less than a 5-foot (1524 mm) head of water. In testing successive sections, at least the upper 5 feet (1524 mm) of the next preceding section shall be tested so that no joint or pipe in the building, except the uppermost 5 feet (1524 mm) of the system, shall have been submitted to a test of less than a 5-foot (1524 mm) head of water. The water shall be kept in the system, or in the portion under test, for at least 15 minutes before inspection starts. The system shall then be tight at all points.

**P2503.5.2 Finished plumbing.** After the plumbing fixtures have been set and their traps filled with water, their connections shall be tested and proved gas tight and/or water tight as follows:

1. Water tightness. Each fixture shall be filled and then drained. Traps and fixture connections shall be proven water tight by visual inspection.
2. Gas tightness. When required by the local administrative authority, a final test for gas tightness of the DWV system shall be made by the smoke or peppermint test as follows:

2.1. Smoke test. Introduce a pungent, thick smoke into the system. When the smoke appears at vent terminals, such terminals shall be sealed and a pressure equivalent to a 1-inch water column (249 Pa) shall be applied and maintained for a test period of not less than 15 minutes.

2.2. Peppermint test. Introduce 2 ounces (59 mL) of oil of peppermint into the system. Add 10 quarts (9464 mL) of hot water and seal all vent terminals. The odor of peppermint shall not be detected at any trap or other point in the system.

**P2503.6 Shower liner test.** Where shower floors and receptors are made water tight by the application of materials required by Section P2709.2, the completed liner installation shall be tested. The pipe from the shower drain shall be plugged water

tight for the test. The floor and receptor area shall be filled with potable water to a depth of not less than 2 inches (51 mm) measured at the threshold. Where a threshold of at least 2 inches high does not exist, a temporary threshold shall be constructed to retain the test water in the lined floor or receptor area to a level not less than 2 inches deep measured at the threshold. The water shall be retained for a test period of not less than 15 minutes and there shall be no evidence of leakage.

**P2503.7 Water-supply system testing.** Upon completion of the water-supply system or a section of it, the system or portion completed shall be tested and proved tight under a water pressure of not less than the working pressure of the system or, for piping systems other than plastic, by an air test of not less than 50 psi (345 kPa). This pressure shall be held for not less than 15 minutes. The water used for tests shall be obtained from a potable water source.

**P2503.8 Inspection and testing of backflow prevention devices.** Inspection and testing of backflow prevention devices shall comply with Sections P2503.8.1 and P2503.8.2.

**P2503.8.1 Inspections.** Inspections shall be made of all backflow prevention assemblies to determine whether they are operable.

**P2503.8.2 Testing.** Reduced pressure principle backflow preventers, double check valve assemblies, double-detector check valve assemblies and pressure vacuum breaker assemblies shall be tested at the time of installation, immediately after repairs or relocation.

**P2503.9 Test gauges.** Gauges used for testing shall be as follows:

1. Tests requiring a pressure of 10 psi or less shall utilize a testing gauge having increments of 0.10 psi (0.69 kPa) or less.
2. Tests requiring a pressure higher than 10 psi (0.69 kPa) but less than or equal to 100 psi (690 kPa) shall use a testing gauge having increments of 1 psi (6.9 kPa) or less.
3. Tests requiring a pressure higher than 100 psi (690 kPa) shall use a testing gauge having increments of 2 psi (14 kPa) or less.