



Orange Water and Sewer Authority

OWASA is Carrboro-Chapel Hill's not-for-profit public service agency delivering high quality water, wastewater, and reclaimed water services.

PRECONSTRUCTION COMMENTS

Project Name: _____

This document shall be executed at a preconstruction conference prior to beginning any water and sanitary sewer utility construction. If the utility contractor who will be performing this work is not present, a separate preconstruction conference will be required and must be coordinated with the OWASA Inspector. **OWASA Inspector will not provide any services until this document is fully executed.**

1. **OWASA line break numbers.** Any leak or line break shall be reported immediately by calling **(919) 968- 4421** between 8:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. and (919) 369-1460 between 3:30 p.m. and 8:00 a.m.
2. The Utility Contractor shall have in their possession a copy and follow the current OWASA Standard Specifications, any other governing ordinances and policies, and drawings that have been stamped *Approved for Construction* by OWASA prior to beginning construction. **Only drawings showing OWASA's approval for construction shall be used for water or sewer utility construction.** All revisions shall be approved by OWASA before changes are made in the field.
3. In accordance with 15A NCAC 18C .0303, any project involving extension of a public water main permitted by the NDDEQ Public Water Supply Section shall have **the Authorization to Construct permit posted at the primary job entrance of the job site** throughout the project construction without exception.
4. The Utility Contractor responsible for installing public water and sewer mains must be licensed the State of North Carolina to install public water and/or sewer mains.

License Number: _____

5. Contractor shall notify OWASA inspector when water and sewer materials/ products have arrived on the jobsite for inspection prior to installation. All water and sewer utility materials/products that will be installed for the project shall comply with OWASA Standard Specifications. OWASA Construction Inspector shall inspect all components listed below before burying, and complete all testing before activating lines:
 - a) utility crossings and separations and portions of: installed sewer/water piping, bedding, and backfill;
 - b) *installation or adjustment* of system components, including tapping sleeves; valves; air release valves; fittings; blocking; backflow piping; fire hydrants; manholes; fire lines and fire line riser room piping; remote read boxes; meter vaults, drains and meters; sewer plugs, including removal; water/sewer taps and services;

- c) *abandonment* of all meters, mains, manholes, and services, and
- d) *testing*, including air testing, vacuum testing, and flashing of sewer lines/manholes; pressure testing, chlorinating, and dechlorinating water lines.

Note: Burying these installations prior to inspection will result in uncovering for OWASA to inspect!

6. Sewer lines under construction shall be plugged with a mechanical plug at the first manhole upstream from the point of connection. Plug shall be placed in the outlet connection and secured with a steel cable. Plug shall remain in place until acceptance of lines by OWASA. The Owner and Contractor shall be responsible for any damages to the OWASA Sanitary Sewer System and any fines imposed by the State of North Carolina Division of Water Resources due to sewer spills or overflows. **Contractor's identity with telephone number and contact shall be affixed to plug in a manner acceptable to the OWASA Inspector.**
7. Contractor is responsible for verifying existing valve at the point of connection to the OWASA system is adequate for performing and passing hydrostatic pressure and leakage tests. Contractor may, at their expense, replace valve or install a new valve for the purpose of performing a pressure test for new main installation. If Contractor elects to pressure test against existing valve, Contractor accepts responsibility for ensuring passing pressure test in accordance with OWASA requirements. In any case, no claim whatsoever shall be made against OWASA for failure of a pressure test.
8. Existing valves shall be operated by OWASA personnel only. **Valves separating sample-approved water and unapproved water are to remain closed at all times.** Valves may be temporarily opened for loading and flushing only by the OWASA inspector. All meter bypass piping in meter vaults shall be locked and secured by Contractor with a chain and lock provided by OWASA.
9. It is the Contractor's responsibility to anticipate needed testing and/or inspections and to arrange for these services with the OWASA Inspector a **minimum of 3 working days in advance**. Requests for **purity sampling or valve operation** shall be made a **minimum of 5 working days in advance**. Requests for **planned water outages** shall be made a **minimum of 10 working days in advance**. Leaving a voice mail for the OWASA Inspector does not constitute proper notification and is not an acceptable substitute for direct communication to arrange for inspection services. The contractor is responsible for dechlorinating all chlorinated water, regardless of the concentration. All super-chlorinated water requires a dechlorination plan that must be submitted to and approved by OWASA. This plan must describe how and where the water will be discharged, with supporting calculations.
10. After passing testing and inspection of **water lines**, purity testing will not begin until site is ready for the flushing, including containment and dechlorination of flushed water, pavement, and curb and gutter. No meter shall be set nor lines placed into service until all required close out materials (including as-builts, Engineer's Certification, easements, third-party agreements, fees, letter of dedication, asset letter, and State final approval) are received and in-service sewer is available.
11. After passing testing and inspection of **manholes and sewer lines**, the lines shall not be placed into service until all required close out materials (including as-builts, Engineer's Certification, easements, third-party agreements, fees, letter of dedication, asset letter and State final approval) are received.

12. To ensure the safety of the water supply, OWASA may require any public water main, service, or fire line that has previously passed purity testing but has not been placed into service to implement additional procedures or testing, to include flushing, bacteria sampling, full purity testing, or disinfection. Such determination will be made on a case-by-case basis, considering such factors as the length of time the line has been out of service, the degree of stagnation, the complexity of the distribution system piping and appurtenances, and the difficulty in passing initial testing. Charges assessed for these services shall be based on labor time, materials, and laboratory testing costs.

13. _____

NOTE: This brief summary is in no way intended to substitute for reading and following the OWASA Standards and Specifications.

OWASA Construction Inspector	Signature	Date
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The undersigned acknowledge receipt of a copy of these Orange Water and Sewer Authority Preconstruction comments and agree to comply with regulations governing construction set forth in the OWASA Standard Specifications:

Owner/Developer:

Name/Company	Authorized Signature	Date
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Engineer:

Name/Company	Authorized Signature	Date
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General Contractor:

Name/Company	Authorized Signature	Date
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Utility Contractor:

Name/Company	Authorized Signature	Date
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