

TO: Development Services Customers

SUBJECT: **INFORMATION BULLETIN 184**
Non-water Urinal Installation Requirements

DATE: May 27, 2010/ *Revised March 19, 2012/August 1, 2014*

CREATED BY: Field Services Division

Purpose:

As a customer service initiative, the Development Services Department (DSD) created this **revised** bulletin to update Information Bulletin (IB) 184 on non-water urinal installation requirements. This bulletin has been updated to incorporate the department's new format for Information Bulletins.

This IB is to inform the public of the process for submitting applications and obtaining permits to install non-water urinals. The International Plumbing code (IPC), Section 419.1 Urinal Approval and Chapter 15 Referenced Standards allow non-water urinals to be installed within structures in the city of San Antonio.

Scope:

DSD does not recommend utilizing this design alternative. Bacteria from human urine can precipitate uric acid salt and cause a hard scale build up in urinals, drainage piping and fittings. This can increase if water does not frequently flush away the urine. Allowing uric acid salts to build up can cause odors and can reduce the capacity of drain pipes which is not in compliance with **Section 701.5 Damage to the drainage system or public sewer** in the International Plumbing Code. This can be a costly problem to repair, especially in buildings where the drain pipes may be inaccessible, or their location unknown. The lack of a water flush down valve on non-water urinals could cause a potential drain line problem.

If non-water urinals are proposed within the City limits, to help alleviate any potential drain line problem, DSD will require water flow (drainage) to be introduced into all non-water urinals (ASME A112.19.19-2006) drain lines by means of a vertical wet vented active (Lavatory) plumbing fixture drain discharge, to reuse the lavatory gray water drain discharge to reestablish water flow (drainage) through all vertical and horizontal portions of the non-water urinal drain lines. Other engineered design alternatives to introduce water flow into vertical and horizontal drainage piping may be considered on a case-by case basis by DSD.

In addition, there are several manufactures of non-water urinals and each manufacture requires a specific maintenance protocol to ensure sanitary operation of their product.

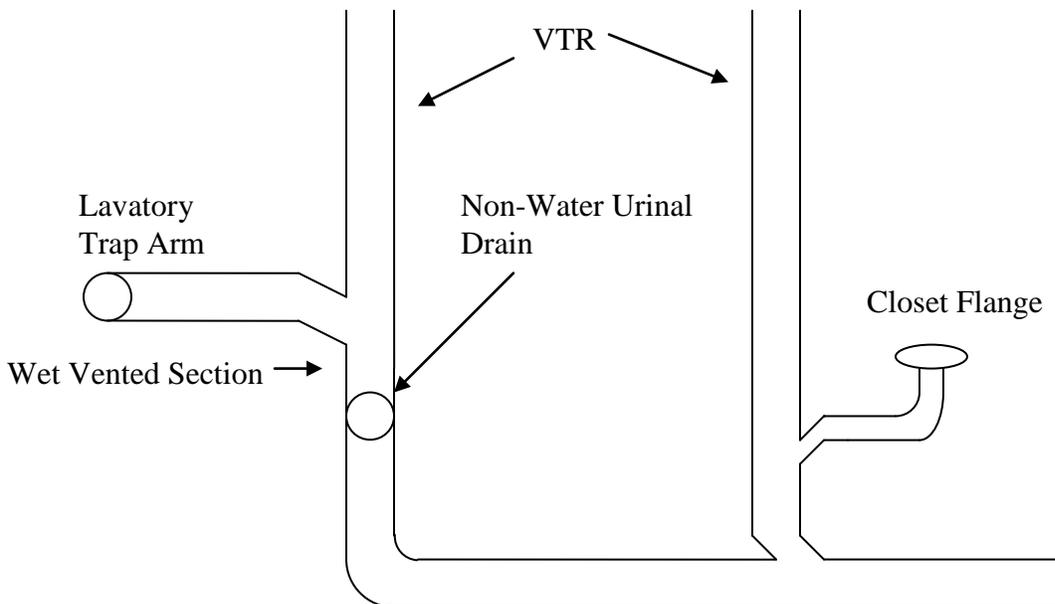
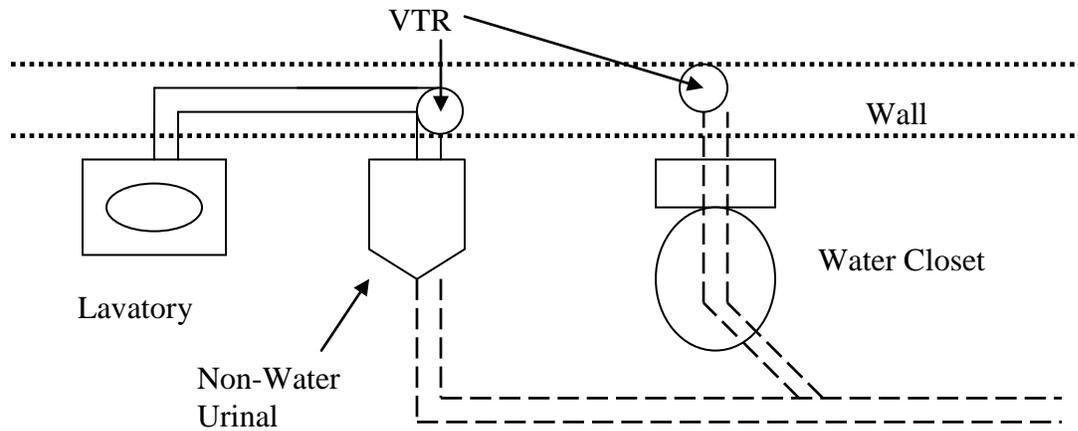
Texas House Bill 2667 (Legislative Session 81(R) that took affect September 1, 2009) has additional requirements:

- The non-water supplied urinal must comply with ASME A112.19.2/CSA B45.1, ASME A112.19.19 or CSA B45.5/IAPMO Z124.
- Non-water urinals shall provide a trap seal that complies with the building code of the local jurisdiction.
- Non-water urinals shall permit the uninhibited flow of waste through the urinal to the sanitary drainage system.
- “A person who installs a non-water supplied urinal shall install water distribution and fixture supply piping sized to accommodate a water supplied urinal to an in-wall point immediately adjacent to the non-water-supplied urinal location so that the non-water supplied urinal can be replaced with a water-supplied urinal if desired by the owner or required by a code enforcement officer.”

Therefore in order to obtain permits to install non-water urinals in new and existing buildings within the City of San Antonio, the following is required to obtain a permit:

- Non-water urinals shall conform to with ASME A112.19.2/CSA B45.1, ASME A112.19.19 or CSA B45.5/IAPMO Z124.
- Non-water urinal installations shall be designed to have an active (Lavatory) plumbing fixture drain discharge by means of a vertical wet vent above the urinal drain tee. Refer to section 912.1.1 Vertical Wet Vent Permitted in the International Plumbing Code.
- The non-water urinal must be maintained in accordance with the manufacturer’s maintenance protocol specifications for drain flush, trap cartridge replacement and liquid seal to ensure a sanitary plumbing fixture. A letter from the property owner is required to be submitted to the department stating their understanding of, and their commitment to follow the manufacturer’ maintenance protocols.
- Installation of appropriate sized water distribution and fixture supply piping must be installed in the wall at a location immediately adjacent to the non-water urinal so that a water-supplied urinal may be placed at a future date.

Attached is an example piping detail of a Lavatory drain trap arm in the wall wet venting into and above the vertical drain tee which serves the non-water urinal.



Should you have any questions or concerns regarding this information bulletin, contact the Plumbing Inspections Supervisor at (210) 207-8279.

Summary:

This Information Bulletin is for informational purposes only.

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