

## Chapter 126

### ELECTRICAL STANDARDS

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[HISTORY: Adopted by the Mayor and Council of Pocomoke City 1-8-1996 as Ord. No. 335. Amendments noted where applicable.]

### GENERAL REFERENCES

Building construction -- See Ch. 101.

Housing standards -- See Ch. 146.

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#### § 126-1. Conformity with chapter required; exceptions.

- A. After the effective date of this chapter, within the corporate limits of Pocomoke City, no electric wiring for light, heat, power or any other purpose shall be installed in any building or structure or for any outdoor electrical displays or signs or in any yard or open air lot, nor shall any major alteration or extension of an existing electric wiring system be made, except in conformity with the provisions of this chapter, nor shall an existing electric wiring system be maintained within said corporate limits in a defective and unsafe condition within the meaning of the code provided for in this chapter.
- B. After the effective date of this chapter, no electric utility company shall connect to any consumer's property within the corporate limits of Pocomoke City (unless the wiring thereof was done before the effective date of this chapter) until either the electric wiring has been inspected and approved pursuant to this chapter or the consumer has requested immediate connection and has warranted that he or she will furnish evidence of inspection and approval of such electric wiring within thirty (30) days.
- C. Provided, however, that this chapter shall not apply to emergencies or to federal government buildings or to electric wiring and installations in railway cars or automotive equipment or the installation of equipment employed by a railway, electric or communication utility or a communication transportation system and located outdoors or in buildings used exclusively for that purpose.

**§ 126-2. Permit and inspection required; emergencies; cut-in cards; exceptions.**

- A. Permit required. No person shall install any new or used electrical wires, conduits, machinery, apparatus or any kind of electrical equipment, fixtures, appliances or devices or perform work on electrical systems (except as hereinafter provided) without obtaining a permit and having such work or installation inspected as herein provided.
- B. Issuance. A permit for any such work shall be obtained from the Pocomoke City Manager or City Housing Inspector before commencing such work. A fee may be charged for such permit. In the case of a bona fide emergency where danger to life and property is present, work may be commenced; provided, however, that a permit must be obtained within twenty-four (24) hours of the next time the City Hall is open for business.
- C. Cut-in card required for connection. No light or power company, whether public or private, shall connect any current, light or power to any property without first obtaining a permanent or temporary cut-in card from the Middle Department Inspection Agency, Inc., except in case of an emergency when service may be restored by a licensed electrician prior to obtaining such cut-in card. No permanent or temporary cut-in cards shall be issued unless said cut-in cards are requested by a licensed electrician, except for work being done or which has been done by persons who are not required to be licensed under the provisions of this chapter.
- D. Permit exception. A minor electrical installation shall not require a permit or inspection. "Minor electrical installation" shall mean a single electrical installation which is single phase, of fifty (50) amperes/two hundred forty (240) volts or less and installed in an existing structure.

**§ 126-3. Licensing regulations; definitions; exceptions.**

- A. The provisions of §§ BR 2-207 through BR 2-217 of Subtitle II of Title 2 of the Building Regulations Article of the Code of Public Local Laws of Worcester County, Maryland (1995 Edition, as amended), are hereby adopted by reference thereto as the Pocomoke City local licensing regulations.
- B. Definition of terms. Terms not otherwise defined in this chapter shall have the meanings set forth in § BR 2-202 of Subtitle II of Title 2 of the Building Regulations Article of the Code of Public Local Laws of Worcester County, Maryland.
- C. Any person licensed in accordance with this section, including any person licensed by the State of Maryland as a master electrician, shall be qualified to provide electrical services within the corporate limits of Pocomoke City, Maryland, without obtaining an additional license from Pocomoke City, Maryland.

#### **§ 126-4. National Electrical Code adopted.**

Except as may be provided otherwise in this chapter, the current requirements of the National Electrical Code, as revised from time to time, being the regulations of the National Board of Fire Underwriters for electric wiring and apparatus, shall be deemed to be the requirements imposed by this chapter, said National Electrical Code, as revised from time to time, being hereby adopted by reference as the Electrical Code of Pocomoke City and being herein incorporated in its entirety by reference<sup>1</sup>

#### **§126-5. Acceptable appliances.**

Except as may be provided otherwise in this chapter, the materials, fittings and devices enumerated in the List of Inspected Electrical Appliances of Underwriters' Laboratories, Inc., as revised from time to time, shall be acceptable as suitable for use under this chapter, said List of Inspected Electrical Appliances, as revised from time to time, being adopted by reference as the approved list of acceptable appliances of Pocomoke City and said list being incorporated herein in its entirety by reference<sup>2</sup>

#### **§ 126-6. Inspections and tests; right of entry; correction of defects.**

- A. The Middle Department Inspection Agency, Inc., shall, during installation of an electric wiring system, make or cause inspections to be made to assure compliance with the National Electrical Code.
- B. The Middle Department Inspection Agency, Inc., shall, within forty-eight (48) hours after notice of the completion of electrical wiring or request for inspection, make or cause to be made an inspection of such work and such tests as may be necessary to determine that it conforms to the provisions of the National Electrical Code and shall make or cause to be made a reinspection of an electric wiring installation whenever it deems it necessary in the interest of public safety.
- C. For the purpose of making any inspection, test or report necessary for the proper administration and enforcement of this chapter, the City Manager or the City Housing Inspector or, at the written direction of either, the Middle Department Inspection Agency, Inc., shall have the authority, during reasonable hours, to enter in and upon any building or premises, and no person, firm or corporation shall prevent, obstruct or interfere with the performance of any inspection or test made pursuant hereto.
- D. The City Manager or the City Housing Inspector shall have the power to stop electrical work when he or she is notified by the Middle Department Inspection Agency, Inc., that such work being installed does not conform to the National Electrical Code.

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<sup>1</sup>Editor's Note: A copy of the National Electrical Code is on file in the city offices.

<sup>2</sup>Editor's Note: A copy of the List of Inspected Electrical Appliances is on file in the city offices.

- E. If any existing electric wiring system, upon inspection, is found to be defective and unsafe, upon notification by the City Manager or City Housing Inspector, the licensee or holder of the permit shall disconnect such system from service until it has been corrected, made to conform to the requirements of the National Electrical Code and approved by the Middle Department Inspection Agency, Inc., provided that, for safety reasons, in making any such disconnection, any wiring on the line side of the service disconnect mains is to be handled by utility company personnel only.

### **§ 126-7. Violations and penalties**

Any person who shall perform any electrical work as described herein contrary to any of the provisions of this chapter shall be deemed guilty of a municipal infraction and subject to a fine as set forth in the Fees, Charges and Rates Schedule, adopted by resolution of the City Council from time to time<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> Editor's Note: The current Fees, Charges and Rates Schedule is on file in the City Clerk's office.