



This document approved by the Broward County Water and Wastewater Services Technical Standards Committee.

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WATER & WASTEWATER ENGINEERING DIVISION

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GUIDELINE FOR MINIMUM CLEARANCES BETWEEN POTABLE WATER/ SANITARY SEWER FACILITIES AND OTHER FEATURES

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No guideline can completely cover all possible clearance circumstances. The intent of this document is to provide information that covers most circumstances. The Water and Wastewater Engineering Division (WWED) reserves the right to act in the best interests of its existing customers. See Standard Details 14, 16A, 16B and 16C for additional, sometimes more stringent, criteria.

1. The minimum horizontal clearance below grade between a Water and Wastewater Services (WWS) pipeline and other buried features running more or less parallel to the WWS pipeline is 18 inches. Other agencies may have more stringent rules, such as the clearance between a source of pollution and a potable water facility.
2. The minimum horizontal clearance above grade between a WWS pipeline and structural surface features (walls, permanent fences, large signs, structures, etc.) is 1.5 times the depth of the WWS pipeline, with a 7.5 foot minimum. Within this horizontal clearance zone, WWS requires a minimum clearance of 12 feet between final grade and any overhead obstruction.
3. WWS pipelines are not allowed below or through structural features. The one exception to this is conflict structures for drainage pipes. WWS pipelines are allowed under buried duct banks.
4. WWS pipelines shall not be buried under more than 3 feet of non-structural fill without being cased. The height of the fill is measured from the surrounding final grade.

5. WWS pipelines shall be installed in a casing or a trench with removable access where WWS pipelines are buried under more than 8 inches of asphalt or reinforced concrete pavement. This guideline applies to newly constructed WWS facilities purposely installed under more than 8 inches of pavement. It does not apply to situations where successive pavement layers have accumulated to more than 8 inches.

6. Maximum casing length(s) shall be limited to 300 feet. All terminal ends of said casing(s) shall have an accessibility zone to allow maintenance equipment to service the carrier pipelines as required. This zone shall be appropriately designed to allow removal of pipelines if necessary, and/or to allow repair operations without hindrance. Minimum roadway requirements shall be in accordance with the FDOT Utilities Accommodation Guide or as specified by WWED Engineer in unique situations.

7. Substantial landscaping shall not be planted in the horizontal clearance zone described in #2 without the specific written approval of WWED.