

['commission] COUNTY is further empowered[, subject to the approval of the county commissioners,] to enter into contracts with any municipality for the joint acquisition, construction, ownership, and operation of any water [supply], sewerage, or drainage system or any portion thereof.

[10A-6.] 10A-12.

(a) Before any plumbing, waterworks, or sewer construction is done in any building or upon any private property within [the sanitary district] FREDERICK COUNTY, the person, firm, or corporation doing the construction shall first obtain a permit from the [commission] COUNTY and pay therefor such reasonable sum as the [commission] BOARD may prescribe. The work shall be done under and pursuant to such rules, regulations, and requirements as the [commission] BOARD may from time to time formulate, and subject to such inspection as it may deem necessary; provided[,] that, to avoid duplication of supervision, the [commission] BOARD may waive this provision if the [department of health] STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE issues the permits and makes the inspections required by this subsection in a manner satisfactory to the [commission] BOARD.

(b) [No private or public water supply or sewerage installation intended for use of two or more buildings or premises shall be constructed, nor shall any existing system be extended in the sanitary district unless the person, firm, or corporation doing the work has first obtained a permit from the commission and paid a reasonable charge therefor. The plant then shall be installed, maintained, and operated under such rules and regulations as the commission may require or devise.] The [commission] COUNTY shall have full and complete jurisdiction over all fire hydrants connected with its water system; and no person, firm or corporation may operate, use, or make connection with the system without the written authority of the [commission] BOARD, except that no restriction shall apply to any bona fide fire department in the discharge of its duties. [Outside the bounds of incorporated towns, the commission, upon a determination that public safety will be served, may require the installation of fire hydrants to public or private systems existing or to be constructed, and may prescribe such rules and regulations for the use and maintenance thereof as it deems necessary. The commission is authorized to enter into any agreements with the owners or operators of such systems designed to install fire hydrants or other fire protection equipment as may be considered in the public interest.] No person, firm, or corporation may tamper with, deface, damage, or obstruct any fire hydrant. A violation of any of the provisions of this section is a misdemeanor, punishable under section [10A-23] 10A-30 OF THIS CHAPTER.