

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

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CITY OF KITCHENER NEWS BULLETIN

**MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE REQUIREMENTS
FOR RESIDENTIAL HOT WATER HEATERS**

October 2011

Re: Ontario Building Code requirements for hot water heater installations

The Kitchener Building Division has been notified recently of a number of instances where replacement water heaters have been installed without consideration of the maximum temperature requirements as outlined in the Ontario Building Code.

This bulletin serves as a reminder of the requirements for residential water heater installations:

Under 7.6.5. of the Ontario Building Code, it states the maximum temperature of hot water supplied by fittings to fixtures in a residential occupancy shall not exceed 49C (120F), except for dishwashers and clothes washers. This requirement applies to both new and existing residential properties, and has been in effect since September 2004.

Setting the thermostat on the water heater to 49C (120F) will not be considered sufficient for compliance. Compliance is achieved by one of the following:

- Installation of an anti-scald mixing valve at the outlet of the water heater to lower temperature to 49C (120F), or
- Installation of pressure-balanced or thermostatic-mixing shower valves for shower heads and an anti-scald valve at each hot water faucet

Please note that failure to comply with this may result in Orders being placed on properties that are not in compliance. Please also note that any plumbing work is to be carried out by a Plumbing Contractor licensed by the City of Kitchener. Licensing inquiries may be directed to Licensing at (519) 741-2275.

Thank you for your cooperation in this manner. If you require any additional information please feel free to contact the undersigned.

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