



Community Development  
Department

## WATER HEATERS

### Permit Procedure:

1. A permit is required (\*R-105.1).
2. A contractor must be used for all commercial and other rental properties.
3. If a contractor is used, they must be licensed with the Village.
4. A letter of intent shall be included with all plumbing permit applications. The letter shall be written on the licensed plumber of record's business stationery and shall include the license holder's signature and, if the license holder is incorporated, the license holder's corporate seal. If the license holder is not incorporated, the letter must be notarized.
5. In April 2010, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (USEPA) new rule, the Renovation, Repair and Painting (RRP) rule, requires contractors performing renovation, repair and painting projects that disturb lead-based paint in homes, child care facilities, and schools built before 1978 to be certified by the USEPA and to follow specific work practices to prevent lead contamination.

### Specifications:

1. A full port (3/4" valve) must be located on the cold water side. No valves are allowed on the hot water side (Section 890-1190D - \*ILP).
2. A water heater must be tied in with dielectric unions if dissimilar metals are used (Section 890.350b - \*ILP).
3. All soldering must be done with a lead-free solder (Section 890.320d - \*ILP).
4. All copper pipe shall be type L Rigid pipe, no flexible connectors (Section 9-3-2-42(D) - \*VC).
5. Any re-piping shall be done by a licensed plumber or the owner occupying the property (Illinois License Law, Chapter 111 - \*ILP).

6. All gas pipe shall be solid, no flexible connectors, with an easily accessible gas valve tied in with a union and a drip leg (Section 890, Appendix I, Illustrations L and M - \*ILP).
7. A relief valve pipe or tube shall be of full size (3/4") and extend to within six inches (6") above floor and discharge to a suitable drain and must be galvanized or copper (Section 890.1230d - \*ILP).
8. All flue pipe shall have three screws at each joint. The draft diverter shall also be screwed down. The contractor shall certify that the existing flue or B-vent is in good condition (Section \*R-1601.3.1).
9. If water heater is located in a closet or other enclosed space, the space must be ventilated, usually with a vent opening at both the top and bottom of the space. Each opening must be 100 square inches (Section \*R – M-1702.2).
10. A new heater should be located in the same general area as the old heater, and if on a platform shall again be installed on a platform of the same elevation as the original heater. A gas heater in a garage must be raised eighteen inches (18") above the floor (\*R – M-1307.3).
11. The water heater shall be installed in accordance with the Illinois State Plumbing Code.
12. If an electric water heater is installed, it must conform to the appropriate electrical codes.
13. The proper clearance must be provided between a gas heater and combustible material, as specified by the manufacturer (\*R – M-1306).
14. A pan is required under the water heater for all water heaters located on the second floor.

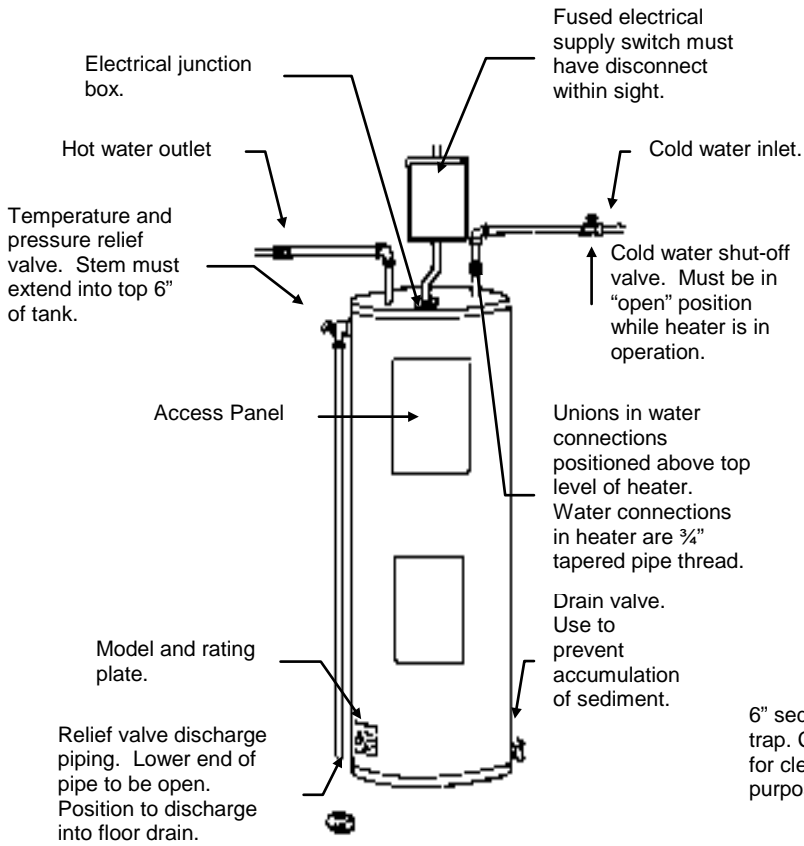
**References (revised 3/11):**

\*ILP = Illinois Plumbing Code (2004)

\*R = International Residential Code (2006)

\*VC = Village Code

**Recommended installation for typical electric water heater**



**Recommended installation for typical gas water heater**

