

West Virginia Alcohol Beverage Control Administration

BEER DRAFT LINE CLEANING



Draft Line Cleaning is addressed in W.Va. Code §11-16-18(a)(5), and §11-16-18(a)(7) and the rule at 176 CSR 1 - 8.4.

I. RESPONSIBILITY and FREQUENCY OF CLEANSING:

It is the responsibility of the retail licensee to ensure draft lines are cleaned **at least every two (2) weeks**.

II. REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS:

Every person, firm or corporation conducting a business in the state of West Virginia which involves the cleansing of beer coils and barrel tubes shall register with the health department in the county in which the establishment is located. Retailers who cleanse their own lines must register in the same manner.

III. FURNISH, SELL, INSTALL, OR MAINTAIN DRAFT LINES

A. ROLE OF DISTRIBUTOR (or RESIDENT BREWER acting as a DISTRIBUTOR of their own product):

A distributor or resident brewer (acting as a distributor of their own product) may, independently or through a subsidiary or affiliate, furnish, sell, install, or maintain draught line equipment, supplies, and cleaning services to a licensed retailer so long as the furnishing or sale of draft line services may be negotiated at **no less than direct cost**. Direct cost rates are not determined by the WVABCA. Each company determines their own fee schedule based on labor and materials. Draft line cleaning must be separately invoiced and charged.

Further, a distributor or resident brewer (acting as a distributor of their own product) may furnish, rent, or sell directly or indirectly or through a subsidiary or affiliate to any licensee engaged in selling products of the brewing industry at retail, **at no less than direct cost**: equipment, fixtures, signs, services, or supplies.

B. EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS:

Beer lines must be: vinyl, polyethylene, or similar materials. The use of rubber hose or tubing or any kindred products is prohibited. ***ALL MATERIALS USED MUST BE "FOOD GRADE"**

C. CLEANSING REQUIREMENTS:

- Lines must be cleaned every two weeks.
- All compounds used must be approved by the health department in the county where the establishment is located.
- After cleansing, lines shall be rinsed with "potable water" until all chemicals have been removed.
- Water shall be obtained from approved sources, which meet the minimum standards of the WV 64 CSR, Public Water Systems.

D. RECORD KEEPING:

All persons, firms or corporations engaged in the business of cleansing beer coils and barrel tubes shall maintain a written record, along with the licensee, for two years. A licensed retailer who cleanse their own draft lines shall maintain and keep a record card in the same manner. *A form for use or example to follow on next page.

The record card shall show:

- the date of each cleansing
- the method and compound used in the cleansing
- signed by the person who performed the cleansing

Written records must be maintained and available for inspection. The card in use shall be kept upon the licensed premises and shall be available at all times for inspection by health department and agents and employees of the WVABCA.

*All persons, firms or corporations engaged in the business of cleansing beer coils and barrel tubes shall maintain proof of registration with the county health department.

The following link provides contact information for each of West Virginia's 55 counties as found on the WVDHHR page:
<https://dhhr.wv.gov/localhealth/pages/map.aspx>

