



12/1/2025 Issue 2

A Bi-Annual Newsletter by Trench Drain Supply (www.trenchdrainsupply.com)

Stop Plumbing Emergencies Before They Start

Simple upgrades and quick checks to keep water moving the right way, inside and outside your building.

Hi there,

You usually only notice plumbing when something goes wrong, a backed-up floor drain, a cold shower, or a mystery damp patch that wasn't there last week. This newsletter is about flipping that script.

With a few smart choices and simple checks, your plumbing can quietly protect your property 24/7, instead of surprising you at the worst possible time.

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Drainage: It's more than just trench drains
- Hot water: Tank vs tankless in plain English
- Protection: Backflow, maintenance, and early warning signs
- Quick checklist: 60-second self-inspection

1) DRAINAGE: MORE THAN JUST TRENCH DRAINS

Trench drains get all the attention, and they should. They're your first line of defense anywhere water needs to move away quickly.

Where trench drains shine:

- Driveways and garages: Keep rain and snowmelt out of your building.
- Loading docks and warehouses: Reduce puddles and slip hazards.
- Patios, pool decks, and walks: Protect finishes and prevent ice in winter.
- Commercial kitchens and wash-down areas: Move water away fast and safely.

But they're only part of the story. Your building also relies on:

- Floor drains in basements, mechanical rooms, and garages.
- Roof drains and scuppers to get water off your roof.
- Sump pumps where gravity can't finish the job.



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QUICK DRAINAGE CHECK

- Does water linger around floor or trench drains instead of disappearing quickly?
- Do you hear gurgling when fixtures drain?
- After heavy rain, do floor drains burp or back up?
- Do you notice musty smells in low areas?

If you answered “yes” to any of these, it might be time for a closer look at your drainage design and maintenance.

2) HOT WATER & WATER SUPPLY: COMFORT WITHOUT SURPRISES

Half of plumbing is getting clean water to the right place at the right pressure, and temperature.

PRESSURE

You want steady, comfortable pressure, not a trickle and not a fire hose. Good pressure depends on:

- Proper pipe sizing so fixtures don’t compete.
- Pressure-reducing valves (PRVs) to tame high city pressure.
- Clean, modern piping that’s not choked with corrosion.

If pressure changes wildly when multiple fixtures run, it may be a design or valve issue, not “just old plumbing.”

HOT WATER: TANK VS TANKLESS

Traditional tank heaters:

- Pros: Lower upfront cost, simple, familiar.
- Cons: Standby heat loss, big footprint, can run out during peak use.

Tankless (on-demand) heaters:

- Pros: Heat water only when needed, save space, virtually endless hot water when right-sized.
- Cons: Higher upfront cost, need proper gas/electric and venting, sensitive to hard water scale.



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The right solution depends on your building, usage patterns, and utilities—not just what’s trendy. A quick review of your current setup can reveal if an upgrade would actually save money and headache.

3) PROTECTION & MAINTENANCE: QUIET GUARDIANS OF YOUR SYSTEM

BACKFLOW PREVENTION

Backflow is when water flows the wrong way, back toward your clean water supply. Without proper devices, fertilizers, chemicals, or dirty water can be pulled into potable lines.

Common backflow protection points:

- Irrigation systems.
- Exterior hose bibbs and spigots.
- Fire sprinkler systems.
- Commercial equipment like dishwashers and mop sinks.

Many areas require annual backflow testing. It’s not just red tape, it’s a safety barrier for you and everyone using your water.

MAINTENANCE THAT PAYS FOR ITSELF

A simple plumbing maintenance plan might include:

- Annual camera inspections and cleaning of main drains.
- Scheduled grease trap service (for commercial kitchens).
- Water heater checkups, flushing tanks, descaling tankless units.
- Regular backflow testing.
- Walk-through inspections to spot corrosion and small leaks early.

This isn’t overkill; it’s how you avoid “shut the building down today” emergencies.

4) FAST PLUMBING HEALTH CHECKLIST

Take 60 seconds and scan your space for:

- Slow or recurring clogs (especially if multiple fixtures are affected).
- Water stains on ceilings, walls, or near baseboards.



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- Random damp spots on floors or outdoors near the foundation.
- Sewer or “rotten egg” smells inside the building.
- Discolored water or flakes coming from taps.
- Banging or hammering noises when fixtures shut off.

Each of these is your system waving a little red flag.

READY WHEN YOU ARE

Great plumbing is almost invisible, until you need it most. Trench drains, floor drains, water heaters, and backflow devices all work together to keep your building dry, comfortable, and safe.

If you're:

- Dealing with recurring drainage or hot water issues,
- Planning a renovation or new build, or
- Just tired of surprise plumbing problems,

now is the perfect time to have your system reviewed instead of waiting for the next emergency.

Reply to this email wbonafe@newmarkcorp.com or call us at (804) 937-2662 if you need a trench drain. To schedule a plumbing checkup or discuss upgrades that fit your building, budget, and timeline call a reputable Plumbing Contractor.

Thanks for reading,
Trench Drain Supply