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MPC 8TH ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

A SWINGING SUCCESS!

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Reflecting on the second quarter of 2025, we are excited of the accomplishments pushed forth as steppingstones in our common goal of increasing education in every facet of our industry.

We have completed the development of a program to educate our customers on the important topics that are relevant to their livelihood. This includes providing information regarding new rules, and laws for which they must comply with. We have done this through the creation of the bill stuffer now called the "Pipe Line," and have made them available to our membership for distribution to their customers free of charge. They are available to our members just by asking.

We have had manufacturer-ran courses and license training courses held at our state-of-the-art training facility during this time. These have proven to be very valuable to our members to keep them on the cutting edge of technological changes.

Additionally, we are now faced with a new challenge of becoming an accredited course provider set forth by NYC Department of Buildings. We are meeting this situation head on and will accomplish this goal that will enhance our position as a credible trainer to serve our industry in ever expanding ways in the coming years.

We continue to work with our industry partners and the New York City Council to pass Intro 429. This bill will obtain important amendments that will clarify and ease many of the confusing points of our plumbing code.

Our 8th Annual Golf Outing can be called nothing short of a spectacular event. Our members, affiliates and industry partners have come together to create a truly wonderful time to be had. The comradery and the enjoyment of being together was seen everywhere. I myself can't wait for our next outing. Thank you to all those that made this happen.

Together we can make our industry better.

Daniel Vessio
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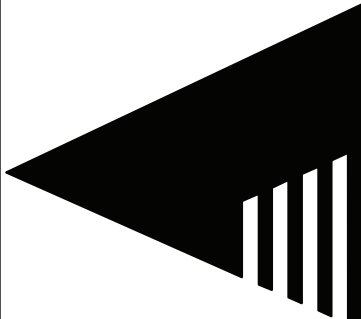
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The MPC made donations to both Make-A-Wish Foundation and Tunnel to Towers,
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WITH PRE-WAR BUILDINGS, IT ALL COMES DOWN TO HYDRAULICS...

Everyone loves the charm of a pre-war building, don't they? It's the century of history reverberating through its halls, the ornate architecture with decorative cornices and gleaming marble floors, and the undeniable prestige. But for the licensees working in these buildings, we understand that a century of history often comes with century-old infrastructure and a host of code compliance issues.

One of the biggest culprits is the laundry room - specifically, improper or nonexistent sprinkler coverage. When the Department of Buildings (DOB) spots this, out comes the note pad and, just like that, the building faces a hefty fine, a court date, and residents are stuck lugging their laundry to the local laundromat. So, the property manager gives a call over to you, their trusted house plumber / fire suppression contractor, to install a few sprinkler heads and bring the building into compliance. It's not a particularly large room so two or three should suffice. That makes it a limited area sprinkler system. Easy, right? So, you give them a budgetary number thinking this is going to be a quick job. Not so fast. This is a pre-war building.

The NYC Construction Codes recently enforced certain clarifications to how we implement limited area sprinkler systems. Section 903.3.8 of the 2022 NYC Building Code governs these systems and there are key distinctions that affect their installation:

1. Section 903.3.8.1 defines limited area sprinklers as six or fewer sprinkler heads in any single fire area. This is a change from 2014 NYC Building Code which allowed up to twenty sprinkler heads to be considered limited area sprinklers. In this case, we're only talking about three or four sprinkler heads, so this change doesn't impact the project.
2. Section 903.3.8.3 requires limited area sprinklers to be supplied by an automatic wet standpipe system unless the building lacks one. If no standpipe exists, the sprinklers may be supplied by the plumbing system provided that the plumbing system is capable of simultaneously supplying domestic and sprinkler demands. This requirement is unchanged from the 2014 code but remains vital.
3. Section 903.3.8.5 mandates limited area sprinklers demonstrate adequate flow and pressure through hydraulic calculations. Previously, the pipe schedule method could be used to establish adequacy. In general, hydraulic calculations are always preferable as they provide precise analysis of the system and allow designers to select appropriate pipe sizes, however, the calculations are much more detailed and intensive.

So, how often are limited area sprinklers hydraulically inadequate? More often than you'd think. Consider this example:

The building you service is a 16-story, pre-war co-op in the Upper East Side with a laundry room in the cellar. The building has a roof tank serving the building's domestic water with a separate fire tank for the standpipe with no other sprinklers. The standpipe is only 4-inches in diameter as this is pretty common for pre-war buildings of this size. The engineer determines that two standard pendent sprinkler heads to be taken off the existing standpipe will provide adequate coverage for the dryers. You're in luck. The hydraulic calculation finds that the most hydraulically demanding sprinkler has a residual pressure of 16 psi - sufficient, since this particular sprinkler only requires 12 psi to operate. This setup creates a combination standpipe and sprinkler system, which is allowed to be 4 inches in diameter for retrofitted systems per 2016 NFPA 14 Section 5.4.1.3 (note that new combined standpipe and sprinkler systems require a 6-inch diameter as per 2016 NFPA 14 Section 7.6.2). But what if four or five heads are needed for proper coverage? That's a different story and could significantly increase costs.

Then what are your options if the hydraulics don't work out? Upgrading the standpipe to 6-inches? Unlikely. Removing the dryers? Good luck convincing the residents. Your best bet may be to ask for a variance from the Department of Buildings by filing a Construction Code Determination (CCD1), but even that's no guarantee. At the end of the day, since every building is unique there is no one-size-fits-all solution, especially for pre-war buildings where standpipes weren't designed for additional sprinkler loads. With that in mind, building owners and managers must understand that pricing heavily depends on hydraulic calculations and installing a few sprinkler heads isn't as simple as it seems.

Okay, let's give you the benefit of the doubt and assume that after your client spends the money for a CCD1, the Department of Buildings has granted you a variance to take the sprinklers off the 4-inch standpipe. Are you in the clear? Not quite. As noted, the sprinklers must be supplied by an automatic wet standpipe if available, creating a combined standpipe and sprinkler system. As such, you, as the fire suppression contractor, are required to pull both a sprinkler and standpipe permit to conduct the work. Additionally, all signage and paint must be updated to reflect this and superintendents and resident managers will need to get additional FDNY Certificates of Fitness (COF).

The takeaway? Limited area sprinklers can snowball into a major project with significant budget and timeline implications. This is particularly true for pre-war buildings whose existing infrastructure is not prepared for the rigors of modern Code requirements. Honest conversations and realistic expectations with building owners and property managers are crucial to navigating these challenges but, ultimately, it all comes down to hydraulics...

Article authored by:

Christian Meszaros, P.E., Principal of Meszaros Engineering, PLLC.

Eric Grant, Meszaros Engineering, PLLC.



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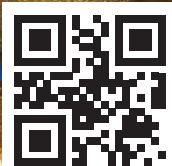




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Labor Law 240 – What is it and How Does it Affect my Business?

New York has one of the most challenging insurance markets for construction companies in the country, where on average the insurance cost can be two to five times more expensive than in other states. The driving force behind these higher insurance costs can be attributed to New York Labor Law 240.

Labor Law 240

Labor Law 240, aka “Scaffold Law”, is a New York specific law that pertains to gravity related injuries. The law states that if a worker is injured due to a fall from height or a falling object, the property owner and general contractor on that jobsite are absolutely and strictly liable for that claim. Unlike most personal injury claims, there is no comparative negligence. This means that the worker can never be at fault for the injury occurring. Even if a worker were to disregard standard job safety protocols, such as wearing provided PPE or being under the influence while at work, the contractor and property owner are still liable. What New York considers “height” is not fully described in the law, but there have been cases where a fall of just one to two feet have held up in court. The settlements in these cases can very easily reach into the millions and many have gotten as high as \$10 Million. This law is the main reason for high insurance premiums in NY and why it seems there are less and less carriers offering contractor insurance in the five boroughs.

How to Prevent Labor Law Claims

While it seems there is no way to avoid Labor Law, or Action-Over, claims, there are precautions contractors can take to prevent NYLL 240 claims.

Robust Jobsite Safety Measures

It is vital contractors take all possible precautions to protect against NYLL240 claims. Some of these precautions include:

- Train workers thoroughly on fall protection protocols and proper equipment use

- Use OSHA-compliant scaffolding, ladders and fall protection systems
- Conduct regular safety inspections of all equipment and work areas
- Document all safety procedures and compliance

Subcontractor Risk Management

While the majority of NYLL 240 claims come from a company’s own workers, they can also come from a subcontractor, if the risk is not transferred properly to your sub. In order to transfer risk properly, a contractor must do two things:

1. *Execute an indemnity/hold harmless agreement*
2. *Vet the sub’s insurance*

Any indemnity agreement a contractor gives to their subs must have proper risk transfer wording and must be signed prior to work commencing. The sub’s insurance also needs to be vetted to ensure there are no problematic or restrictive exclusions. There are many insurance carriers in NY who offer policies that exclude labor law coverage, so you must have an insurance professional review the policies for proper coverage. If either one of the above steps is not followed correctly, you could be left paying for your sub’s claim, even if it did not have to do directly with your work.

These Labor Law claims can have an enormous effect on your insurance premiums, causing your rates to either go up, or even having your carrier non-renew your policy. While it seems like these claims may seem like they are inevitable, there are ways in which contractors can minimize these claims, thus keeping your total cost of insurance down.

For additional information, contact Pat Williams, Vice President at USI Insurance Services, at Patrick.williams@usi.com or (516) 589-4176.



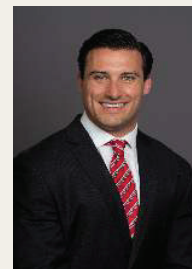
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CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2025 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS!



Pictured left to right:
Konstantinos Nathanail, Andreas Nathanail, Robert McManus (Scholarship Committee Chair), Gavin Wagner, Michael Sobolow, Brooke Cummins, Alexandra Skinner, Daniel Vessio (President)

We are thrilled to announce the recipients of this year's Scholarship Awards!
\$2000 was awarded to each deserving student pursuing their education goals.



Elizabeth Bateman

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Andreas Nathanail
Brooke Cummins
Elizabeth Bateman
Julia Vitello

Konstantinos Nathanail
Maria Vasylets
MaryAnn McManus
Michael Sobolow
Gavin Wagner



Julita Vitello

Stay tuned for details about our 2026 scholarship opportunities!

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2026 BOARD MEMBERS

At our June Membership Meeting, the MPC hosted our annual elections for the 2026-2028 Board of Directors. Congratulations to our newly elected Board Directors!

Pictured left to right:

Robert Giuliante

I currently work for Senid Plumbing and have a licensed background in mechanical engineering. I'm looking forward to working alongside this talented group to make the MPC an even safer and healthier place for all its members. Here's to a prosperous and forward-thinking year ahead with the board!

Owen Williams

I have been working full-time in the plumbing industry since 2005, and am the third generation in my family to become a licensed Master Plumber. I received my license in 2015, and work for McCreedy & Rice Plumbing Inc. I look forward to contributing to the continued growth of our industry!

Joseph Caiazzo

I've worked for J. Caiazzo Plumbing & Heating for over 23 years. I love this industry and work alongside so many great tradesmen. I've worked under my father, Tony Caiazzo, who has offered me a well-rounded education in plumbing, which also brought me to work alongside the Department of Buildings and Utilities. I am a family man who is blessed with an amazingly supportive wife and 3 troublesome but loving children. My goals for 2026 are to work hard alongside all the great people in my life and support the plumbing industry in the safest and most effective manner, so that more can learn the trade, and so it can thrive and grow.





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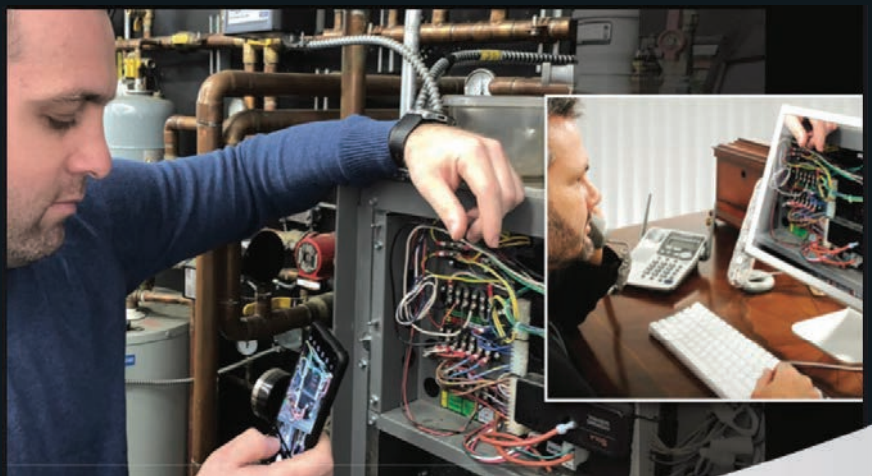


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A certified Master Plumber license from the 1950's issued by the Department of Health.

Submitted by David Balkan; Balkan Sewer and Water Main Service



Vintage Advertisement for Orangeburg Pipe, which was made from wood pulp and pitch (hot tar). It was widely used in the mid-20th century.

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SPOTLIGHT: JEFF SCHULTZ, NATIONAL SUPPORT MANAGER, WALLACE EANNACE

“I grew up with a wrench in my hand,” says Jeff Schultz, national support manager for Wallace Eannace, who was shadowing his grandfather on job sites before he was old enough to read a blueprint. For the Schultz clan, plumbing wasn’t just the family business—it was the family bond—stretching all the way back to his great-grandfather, who started Sam Schultz Plumbing and Heating in Rockaway in 1909.



Jeff Schultz of Wallace Eannace, grandson of Bertram Schultz

Jeff was a fixture at his grandfather’s side from as early as he can remember. “I loved every minute of it and my grandfather taught me everything I know. By fifteen, I could’ve been a licensed Master Plumber,” said Jeff. “I’d run job sites so young that I grew a goatee just to look old enough for customers to take me seriously. People would call my grandfather to make sure ‘the kid’ really knew what he was doing.” He laughs, but there’s pride in his voice—pride in being part of a legacy.



What began as “Sam Schultz Plumbing and Heating” became “Schultz and Sons” as each generation joined the ranks. Jeff’s grandfather, Buddy, and his brother carried on the business, eventually renaming it “Buddy Schultz Plumbing” and, later, “Buddy Schultz and Sons” when Jeff’s father came aboard. “I was in the shop before I could walk, taking apart copper and brass in the back while my grandfather ran the business,” Jeff remembers. “He taught me the trade, but more importantly, he taught me how to treat people—with decency, patience, and integrity.”

That early immersion came with real responsibility. Jeff’s grandfather didn’t just teach him how to turn a wrench, he taught him how to run a business, how to work with customers and employees, and how to do things the right way. “He was a stickler for safety and doing things by the book. He always said, especially when you’re dealing with gas or high-pressure steam, you’ve got to get it right. He cared about the legacy of the trade as much as the family.”

As with many family businesses, there’s sometimes a little drama. In the late ‘70s, a falling out led Jeff’s father to start Michael’s Plumbing, while his grandfather continued with Buddy Schultz Plumbing. At their peak, they ran nearly ten trucks between the two companies. Eventually, his father returned, and the family reunited under “Buddy Schultz and Sons,” with Jeff and his brother learning every step of the way.

But life threw Jeff a curveball when a back injury at nineteen forced him to rethink his future. “I went from lifting 400 pounds to being limited to 50. That was tough.” He shifted into sales and mortgages for a stint, but after the financial crash, he found his way back to plumbing—this time from the supply side. “A friend got me a job at Bruce Supply (now Ferguson), and that’s where I started to really learn the business from a new angle.”

His career path after that unfolded step by step. At Bruce Supply, Jeff worked inside sales, learning the ropes from one of the owners. He then





Bertram Schultz with his Past President plaque from 1983-1984.

moved to Blackman, quickly taking on more responsibility and managing major accounts. His next move was to Gil Meyerowitz, where he became executive sales director, overseeing large projects for Yankee Stadium, Citi Field, MetLife, and the World Trade Center rebuild—work that made him proud to play a part in shaping New York itself. “I have a piece of cast iron from the World Trade Center from the rebuild on my desk,” he says. “I’ll never forget 9-11.”

After that, Jeff managed a local supply house, CNL Plumbing in Lynbrook, before being recruited by Wallace Eannace. “They needed someone who knew the business inside and out, someone who could be the bridge between inside sales, outside sales, distributors, and customers. I’ve been here five years now, and it’s been a great fit.”

Through all the twists and turns, Jeff’s grandfather remained the biggest mentor in his life. Buddy Schultz wasn’t just a Master Plumber—he was a leader, serving as President of the Master Plumbers Council in the early 1980s, a role he treasured. “That was his proudest achievement. He helped other plumbers become masters, taught them to do the work safely and with honesty, and was the guy everyone turned to for advice. He made a difference not just for our family, but for the industry.”

Although Jeff isn’t allowed to have an official leadership position at MPC because he works on the distribution side, he is very active in the professional community. “It’s funny how things turn out. Now I’m the manufacturer’s rep for the same product lines my grandfather and great-grandfather used to install all over the city. The irony is not lost on me.”

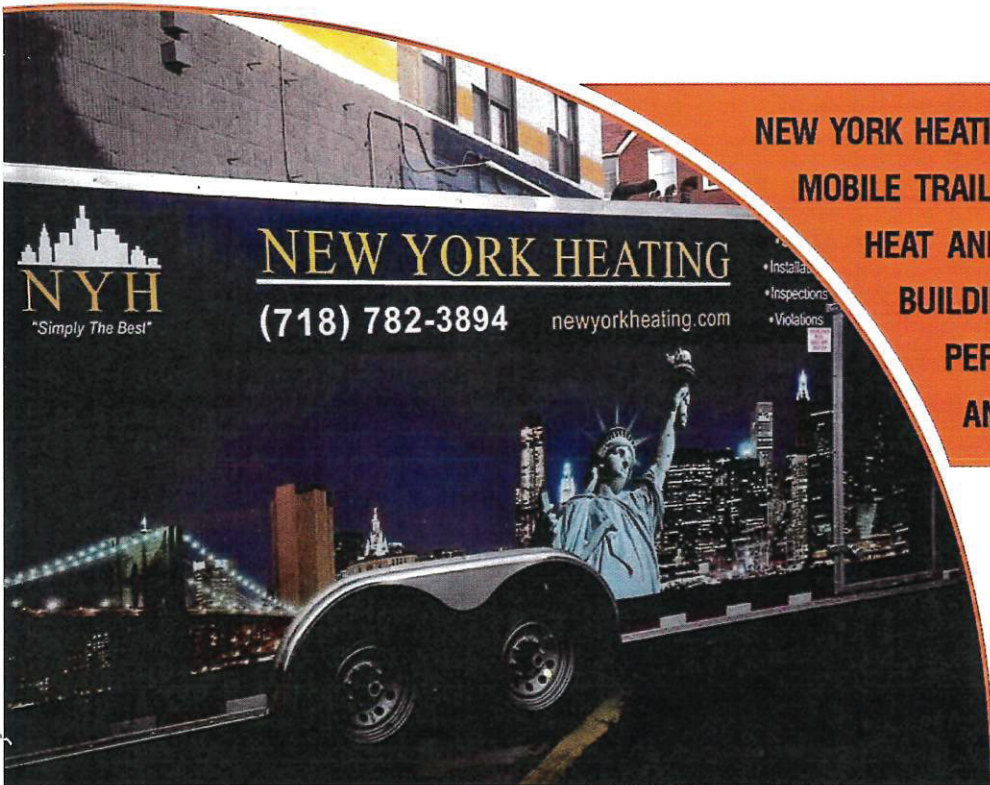
When asked about his proudest moments, Jeff doesn’t hesitate: “Keeping the Schultz legacy alive, passing on what I learned from my grandfather and father, and teaching it to my own kids.” With his wife, Lisa, and their sons Eli and Dean, Jeff’s often reminded of his own childhood—catching Eli with a screwdriver at age two or bringing his boys to job sites just like his grandfather did with him. “I want them to think like engineers, be curious, and always look for solutions.”

For Jeff, the real legacy isn’t just about plumbing, it’s about the values his grandfather passed on: honesty, patience, and integrity. Those are the things he carries with him every day, whether he’s working with customers, mentoring colleagues, or raising his sons. Even if Eli and Dean choose a different path, Jeff hopes they’ll take those same values with them. “That’s what matters most,” he says. “What my grandfather gave me wasn’t just a trade, but a way of treating people and doing things right. That’s what I want to pass on—no matter what they decide to do.”



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Tuesday, October 28th, 2025

5:30pm – 7pm

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To be successful in your business, you need important and timely insights on building codes, technological changes, workplace laws and regulations, and much more - all of which the MPC provides for its members. MPC members are made aware of industry changes and issues as they are happening, allowing for members to have the time and knowledge to make the proper adjustments, so that business can continue to run smoothly.

Member Types

- Master Plumber Member
- Master Associate Member (sub-member)
- Employee Co-Member (sub-member)
- Industry Affiliate Member
- Professional Member

Member Benefits:

Committees to Answer your Questions:

MPC Members has access to contact all association committees for a plethora of resources. These committees are comprised of hardworking member volunteers, who are experts in their given areas.

Network of Fellow Industry Professionals:

Join a network of fellow industry professionals who all have the same goal, to be successful and to promote our industry. Many of our board and committee members have built outstanding relationships with various key persons at city agencies.

Up to the Minute Industry Updates:

MPC offers outstanding resources to members that keeps them up to date on everything related to our industry, such as informative monthly membership meetings and daily emails with the latest industry updates.

Access to Training Resources:

Take one of many training courses at MPC's very own Robert John Daly Memorial Training Center, which opened in 2019. Courses include backflow courses (certification & re-certification), operator qualification courses, gas appliance courses, and more!

Your Voice is Heard:

Various city agencies connect with the MPC and its committees regularly to discuss issues that are important to the plumbing industry. Members are consistently asked to send their questions so that they can be brought to the appropriate party for answers, and MPC's lobbyist works diligently to provide us with the opportunity to have a meaningful dialogue with the appropriate entities that regulate our industry.

These benefits only scratch the surface of what MPC does to support its members and their businesses.

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