

Sewer Lateral Responsibility

Residents and/or property owners are responsible for the maintenance of sewer laterals from their home or building to the main sewer line, which is typically in the street.

The property owner is responsible for re-construction of the sewer lateral from the first joint after the property line to the home. The Town is responsible for re-construction from the first joint after the property line to the main sewer line.

For a detailed diagram depicting these responsibilities, please review diagram on back of this page:

How to Prevent Sewer Backups and Backflows

There are a number of ways you can help prevent sewer backups:

Do not put cooking grease down the drain.

Cooking grease that hardens in the sewer pipes and creates a plug causes most blockages - hot water will not melt fat away.

Use the garbage disposal sparingly.

Put food scraps in the garbage, or compost them to reduce the amount of garbage in your trash can.

Refrain from planting trees or large shrubs near sewer lines.

Roots grow toward breaks and cracks in search of a water source. If roots get inside the pipes, they often form "root balls" that clog a line.

Inspect backwater valves annually (if one is installed).

A backwater valve is a plumbing fixture that acts as one-way stopper. It allows wastewater to leave your property, but prevents it from coming back in when there is a blockage.



**SEWER LATERAL DIVISION
OF RESPONSIBILITY**

ENGINEERING DIVISION

