

REPAIR PROCEDURE

(as per Engineering Development Standards Feb. 2014)

- Should the sewer lateral blockage be too difficult for rod-ding, the blockage is on the Town's property and requires excavation for repair; the following procedure will be followed:
 - The Owner will provide a deposit in the amount of \$500 to the Town, and sign a Sewer Servicing Agreement prior to the commencement of any work.
 - If the blockage is found to be caused by poor workmanship or negligence on the part of the Town, or a failure of pipe material on Town property, the damage will be repaired and the deposit fully refunded.
 - If the blockage is found to have been caused by the Owner, the actual cost of the work to a maximum charge of \$1,000 will be charged to the property owner.
- Should the sewer lateral blockage found to be on private property, the Owner will be notified and be responsible for any required repairs.
- Review your residential insurance policy or contact your agent to determine if your policy covers damages due to sewer backups and/or water damage. In many cases this additional coverage can be purchased at a minimal cost to cover your home in the event of a sewer back up incident.

TOWN OF MIDLAND WATER & WASTEWATER

SANITARY SEWER CLEARING POLICY

The purpose of this policy is to interpret and communicate the responsibilities of the Town of Midland and property owners in regards to Sanitary Sewer Clearing.

DEFINITIONS

TOWN – Means the Corporation of the Town of Midland

TOWN RIGHT-OF-WAY – Shall mean the entire street allowance dedicated as public roadway, including the traveled portion of the roadway, sidewalk and boulevard area, extending from property line to property line.

PRIVATE PROPERTY – Shall mean all property outside the legal limits of the Town right-of way except Town owned land.

SEWER LATERAL – A Sewer Lateral refers to the section of pipe extending from a property line to the main sewer, typically located below the municipal road allowance.

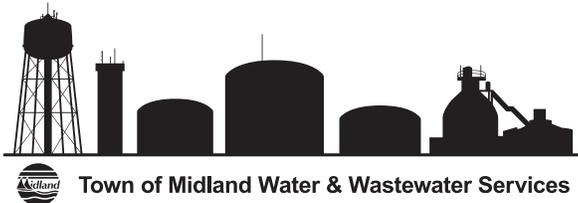
SEWER LATERAL INSPECTION – A sewer lateral inspection may include the use of closed circuit TV (CCTV) or other methods to determine condition and location of blockage or defect.

QUALIFIED PLUMBER – Means a qualified plumber or company, undertaking the execution of the sewer lateral connection work for the private property Owner.

MAIN SEWER – Often larger diameter sewer buried within the Town Right-of-way.

OWNER – Means the legal Owner of the private property where the sewer blockage has occurred.

SEWER SERVICING AGREEMENT – Is a legal contract between the Owner and the Town. It details the responsibilities for either party. This agreement defines responsibility of services provided.



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MIDLAND.CA

OWNER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

Use the private sewer lateral in a responsible manner to maximize its life and efficiency. This includes clearing, cleaning and or inspection of blocked private sewer lateral regardless of cause or location.

Where a private sewer lateral is repeatedly found to be blocked, the Owner shall forthwith undertake such corrective measures.

In order to minimize the required maintenance, refrain from discarding any of the following into the sewer;

- Paper towels, diapers and feminine hygiene products. These products do not deteriorate quickly like bathroom tissue and should be disposed of in your garbage bin.

Avoid pouring cooking oil and grease down the sewer drain. There is a common misconception that it is okay to wash grease down the drain with hot water. In fact, the hot water will help to carry the grease down the drain, but quickly cools off as it flows into the sewer drain. As it cools, it can solidify and clog the drain resulting in a sewer backup.

TOWN'S RESPONSIBILITIES

The Town will assume the following maintenance responsibilities;

- The Town will offer a Sewer Lateral Inspection. The intent is to assist the owner in troubleshooting and assessing the quality of their private sewer lateral. Offer alternative solutions in dealing with the blockage. Please note the sewer has to be cleared before an inspection can take place.
- The Town is responsible for all Main Sewer lines.
- The Town replacement of the Sewer Lateral from the Main Sewer line to property line as part of any Town road reconstruction and/or sewer main line replacement if, to the satisfaction of the Town, such replacement is technically practical and fiscally responsible.
- The Town will repair damage to the sewer lateral at no cost to the Owner, if the cause of the blockage is found to be on the Town's property, and caused by poor workmanship or negligence on the part of the Town.
- The Town will repair damage to the sewer lateral at no cost to the Owner, if the cause of the blockage is found to be a failure of the pipe material, on the Town's property.
- Maintenance Responsibilities not assumed by the Town

The Town will not assume the following maintenance responsibilities;

- The Town assumes no responsibility for any defects within the Sewer Lateral.
- The Town shall not be required to cleanup any sewage or water backup in the basement or other areas of the Owner's property. The Owner acknowledges and recognizes that the Town has no prior knowledge to when a private sewer lateral will have a blockage and a sewer backup could occur.
- The Town assumes no responsibility for any maintenance of the Private Sewer Lateral (equipment rental costs and/or contractor costs, routine rodding, cleaning) regardless of the determined cause or location of blockage or failure.

What to do in the event of a backup?

- The property owner should first confirm that the back-up is coming from a sanitary sewer outlet (i.e. toilet or floor drain) as opposed to ground water or plumbing leak. If the material is entering the house from a sanitary sewer outlet, the property owner is responsible to determine what is causing the blockage and should call a qualified plumber to investigate the blockage.
- It is recommended that at least two pieces of information should be recovered by a qualified plumber and provided to the property owner:
 - What is the cause of the blockage is (i.e. root intrusion into the line, a break or belly in the line, grease build up etc.), and
 - Where the problem is located.
- If the problem causing the back-up is determined to be in the sewer lateral although possibly in the main sewer, the Town of Midland Water and Wastewater Services should be contacted at 705.526.4275, extension 4207. When you call please provide as much information on the issue as possible.
- A Town representative will be dispatched to the area to inspect the main sewer and discuss the problem with the property owner. We also suggest calling the Town of Midland Water and Wastewater Services and request a Sewer Lateral Inspection to be scheduled and recorded for the property owner's records.