



INFLOW & INFILTRATION: WHAT IS IT?

Inflow & Infiltration (I&I) Reduction in the Sanitary Sewer System is a big issue in Lawrence.

To reduce I&I in the City's sewer system, the sewer department routinely inspects

the public sanitary sewer mains, manholes and other components and performs routine maintenance such as cleaning and CCTV inspection.

During these inspections, crew members

and contractors may also identify problems within the building sewer, also referred to as a sewer lateral.

VARIOUS ELEMENTS OF A SEWER SYSTEM

The building sewer, or private sanitary sewer lateral, is the pipe that transports wastewater from a home or business to the connection to the public sanitary sewer main. The private lateral is the responsibility of the property owner to maintain. It is the pipe from the structure served to all the way to the public main (City ordinance §5-1-1-2 (A) (11)).

Section §5-1-2-7 Building Sewer Responsibility states "It shall be the responsibility of the property owner(s) whose property is benefited to.....make all necessary repairs, extensions, relocations, changes, or replacements thereof and of any accessories thereto..."

Lateral lines with breaks, partial collapses, offset joints, broken cleanout caps, and other defects can allow the introduction of I&I into the public sanitary sewer system, which is a violation of city ordinance §5-1-2-2. With more than 177 miles of sewer main and thousands of service connections throughout the sanitary sewer system, there's plenty of opportunity for I/I to enter the system.

What is a clean-out? The clean-out is an access point for plumbers to clear sewer blockages and to perform camera inspections of the building sewer. The clean-out cap is typically located at the ground surface near the house or structure

served. Sometimes contractors leave them sticking up so they can be easily located. These caps can be easily damaged during landscaping projects or when mowing the lawn, so it's important for homeowners to inspect them often. Keeping your clean-out properly capped will prevent rainwater from entering the sanitary sewer system. This will also prevent debris from entering your lateral and possibly causing an unwanted backup.

Stormwater and groundwater do not need to be treated at the wastewater treatment facility and its introduction into wastewater systems can be very costly in many ways.

This extra flow:

- ▶ Contributes to sanitary sewer overflows, which contaminate surrounding areas.
- ▶ Contributes to backups into homes, businesses, and other buildings.
- ▶ Reduces sewer capacity for existing and new development connections; and
- ▶ Increases the cost of wastewater treatment for all sewer customers.



CITY & PROPERTY OWNER RESPONSIBILITIES

What is City of Lawrence sewer department doing? Here are just a few of the many tasks our Sewer crews perform in maintaining and operating the city's sanitary sewer system:

- ▶ Routine cleaning and maintenance of sewer mains.
- ▶ Using robotic cameras to inspect main pipes and building sewers for cracks and roots.
- ▶ Installing liners in old pipes to eliminate I&I and extend the pipes useful life.
- ▶ Digging up and replacing pipes that are broken beyond repair.
- ▶ Repairing cracks, holes and other defects in manholes; and
- ▶ Raising manhole covers in areas that are prone to flooding.

How can Property Owners Help?

- ▶ Inspect and repair damaged sewer lines.
 - ◆ Damaged laterals can allow dirt and roots to enter the pipe which and cause

- unwanted sewer backups.
- ▶ Replace older clay pipes that are beyond their useful life.
 - ◆ Old clay pipe can crack and break easily which allows dirt and roots to enter the pipe which and cause unwanted sewer backups.
- ▶ Make sure sump pumps and down spouts are not connected to your sanitary sewer system.
 - ◆ Downspouts and sump pump discharge pipes are prohibited under section §5-1-2-2 of the city ordinance and cannot be connected to sanitary sewer laterals. They must be directed to storm sewer pipes or ditches.
 - ◆ Check your cleanout cap. Make certain that your cleanout pipe is sealed, and cap is secure.

Please help us eliminate these unwanted sources of rain and groundwater from our sanitary sewer system and avoid possible code enforcement action by being proactive about taking care of the portion

of the sanitary sewer system that is your responsibility as a property owner.

Also, please remember to call our After-hours On-Call number at 317-260-0220 if you are experiencing sanitary sewer issues at your home or business located in Lawrence. It could save you money if the issue turns out to be something in the public main rather than with your sewer lateral.

We can also help if the issue is determined to be damages resulting from a 3rd party contractor who was working in the area. There has been an increase in the number of sewer laterals damaged by contractors installing underground fiber optic lines for the new 5G cable upgrades. If you hire a contractor to come out and they determine it is an issue with the public main, we do not reimburse those contractor costs.

Best to call us first!

UPCOMING CITY EVENTS

BBQ & Blues

September 16th

Noon to 5 PM

Fort Harrison State Park



Lagers in Lawrence

Sept 23rd

2 to 6 PM

Fort Ben Cultural Campus

Ticket website: event.ontaptickets.com/events/lagers-in-lawrence-oktoberfest-2023-9-23-2023



Día Latino de Lawrence

Sept 30

Save the Date