

# THE LAWRENCE LIFT

MAY 2025



**LAWRENCE**  
**UTILITIES**  
NEWSLETTER

## IRRIGATION SYSTEMS AND BACKFLOW DEVICES

As we enter the Spring/Summer season I would like to remind all our customers that have irrigation systems for watering their residential and commercial properties. **Your backflow preventer must be tested by a certified tester every year and the completed test report must be sent to the Lawrence Utility office.**

You may send completed test reports to [backflow@cityoflawrence.org](mailto:backflow@cityoflawrence.org).



## IMPORTANCE OF REDUCING INFLOW & INFILTRATION (I&I) FROM SANITARY SEWER LINES

I cannot stress how important this issue is for the City of Lawrence residents. I know I have mentioned this in several of the newsletters over the past months, but it merits repeating so you, as the residents of Lawrence, understand how this directly impacts you.

The City of Lawrence does not have its own sewage treatment facilities. The sewage from Lawrence is conveyed to Citizens Energy Group (CEG) through piping for treatment at their facilities. All this sewage flow is metered, and the City of Lawrence is then billed off the gallons of sewage sent to them for treatment. Lawrence customers are then charged for sewage based off the amount of water used based on your meter readings.

The issue that impacts all of our customers directly is that inflow and infiltration of ground water and rainwater that enters into the sanitary sewer system through missing lateral clean out caps, residential & commercial sump pumps that are illegally connected to the sanitary sewer laterals, and defects in aged and failing infrastructure all goes to CEG for treatment but these flows are outside of what is accounted for through metering and monthly billing creating a shortfall in funds available to pay for treatment.

This unnecessary flow from rain and ground water can then result in the need for sewer rates to be increased to cover these treatment costs, directly impacting you as the customer. As we all know,

costs continue to rise for products and services and sewage treatment costs are no different.

Lawrence Utilities have made inflow and infiltration elimination projects a priority, but we need everyone in Lawrence to help do their part.

Please make sure that your sump pumps are not connected to sanitary sewer lines and residential sewer lateral clean out caps are secure, undamaged, and not allowing rain/groundwater to enter the sewer system.



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## CHECK OUT THE LAWRENCE NEIGHBORHOOD HUB



Your neighborhood is more than just a place to live—it's a community, a home, and a voice that deserves to be heard.

Neighborhood associations bring people together, giving you direct access to important information and real action in your community.

By organizing, you create a bridge between your neighborhood and local government, ensuring your concerns are heard where it matters most.

From safety improvements to beautification projects, when neighbors

come together, real change happens. Want to make a difference? Start or join a neighborhood association today! A stronger Lawrence starts with you.

Learn how to get registered on the Lawrence Neighborhood Hub at [cityoflawrence.org](http://cityoflawrence.org)!

## UPCOMING CITY EVENTS

### FOREVER YOUNG CLUB

GAME DAYS: EVERY THURSDAY • 11AM-12PM

FITNESS CLASS: MAY X • 11AM-12PM

COMMUNITY CENTER - 5301 N. FRANKLIN RD.



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### INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL

MAY 10, 2025 • 12PM-4PM

CIVIC PLAZA - 5710 LAWRENCE VILLAGE PKWY



### FORT BEN FARMER'S MARKET OPENING DAY

THURSDAYS, JUNE 5 - OCT. 2, 2025 • 4PM-7PM

FORT BEN CULTURAL CAMPUS - 8920 OTIS AVE.



Check out more info at [VisitLawrenceIndiana.com](http://VisitLawrenceIndiana.com)