

**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANITOUWADGE
POLICY**

SECTION: PUBLIC WORKS	POLICY #: PW2007-003
POLICY: PLUGGED SEWER LATERAL	
PURPOSE: Determination of maintenance responsibility for plugged sewer lateral.	
POLICY: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The Township of Manitouwadge operates and maintains a sanitary sewage collection and disposal system for the benefit of property owners and residents whose premises are connected to it. The operation and maintenance are carried out, by the Township or others, in compliance with the current standards for such systems. <p>This includes all reasonable efforts to</p><ol style="list-style-type: none">1.1 ensure that the system operates without interruption or incident; and,1.2 mitigate to the greatest extent possible the impacts of any system failure, of which the most common type is physical obstruction of a pipe in the collection system. 2. Municipal and Private Components<ol style="list-style-type: none">2.1 Ownership <p>The sanitary sewage collection system consists of facilities owned by private property owners and facilities owned by the Township of Manitouwadge. For ownership purposes, in general, the dividing line between the two components is the property line dividing the private property from the street or other public land, right-of-way or easement on which the municipal sewer mains are installed.</p> 2.2 Maintenance Responsibility<ol style="list-style-type: none">2.2.1 The owner of any premises connected to the sanitary sewer system is responsible for maintenance and repair of the portion of the lateral pipe from the premises to the property line at the street, right of way or easement on which the municipal sewer mains are installed. 2.2.2 The municipality is responsible for maintenance and repair of all mains and other components of the system such as manholes, lift stations, force mains, etc, and for the portion of any lateral installed under a street, right-of-way or easement.	

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2.2.3 Notwithstanding the preceding, if, in the opinion of the Township Superintendent, a repair to the private portion of a lateral has been necessitated as a result of work on a main carried out by the Township, the Township will assume responsibility for such repair.

2.3 The Township will respond as promptly as possible to all reports of sewer obstructions.

- Call received from home/business owner regarding a plugged sewer. Municipal Employee directed to location to investigate.
- Employee upon arrival opens street man holes - one upstream and one downstream.
- Employee assesses if there is a continuous running of sewage, between manholes or not.
- If evaluation concludes a non-interrupted sewer flow between manholes in the street, the problem is between the street and home/business owners building (their lateral).
- Home/business owners are informed of the situation, the plugged sewer line determined to be their lateral. They are informed to call a plumber at their own cost to rectify the problem.
- Where obstructions occur within the area of the Township's maintenance responsibility, the cost of clearing the lines will be borne by the Township.

LIABILITY FOR DAMAGES

The Township operates and maintains the sanitary sewage system in accordance with current standards, and makes all reasonable efforts to ensure that the system operates without interruption or incident. The Township therefore will not accept liability for damages to private property arising from blockages in the sanitary sewer system.

Approval: 	Resolution #2007- 253
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Municipal Manager Clerk <input type="checkbox"/> Treasurer	Council Meeting of: 11/072007
Supersedes Policy # _____ Dated: ___/___/___	Original Issue: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Revised Issue: <input type="checkbox"/>

SEWER LATERAL OVERVIEW

A Service Contract is documentation supplied by the property owner or occupant which outlines the roles and responsibilities of the property owner or occupant and Township with respect to the Sewer Lateral. The property owner or occupant must sign the Service Contract before any of the work is performed.

Understanding the terminology

The Sewer Lateral is the length of pipe that runs from the building to the Township's main sewer.

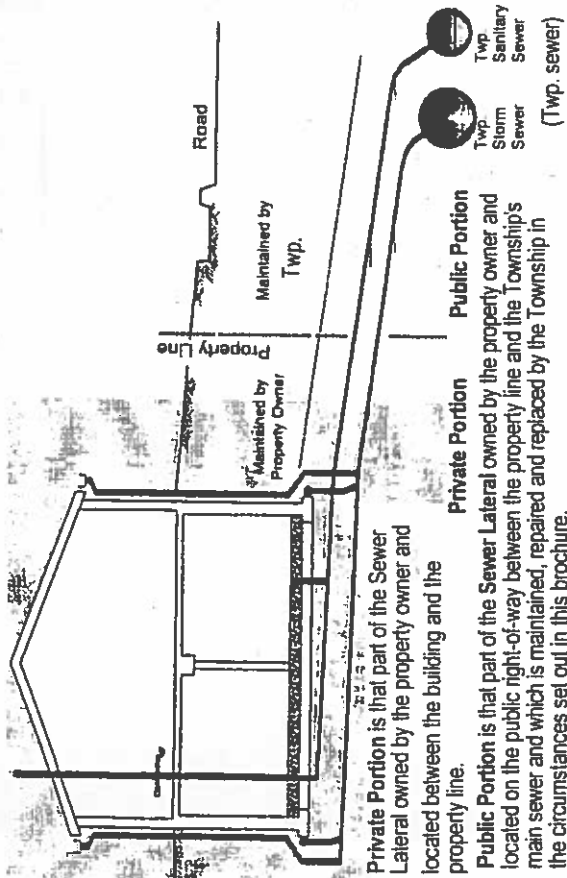
SEWER LATERAL

Who's responsible for maintenance, repairs and replacements?

The property owner or occupant will be responsible for all costs associated with reinstating sewer service in a Sewer Lateral where it is determined that the loss of sewer service is the result of Sewer Lateral Negligence.

The Township is not responsible for any maintenance, repairs or replacements of the Private Portion unless the pipe has collapsed because of age and not from negligence.

Sewer Lateral Negligence is when a Sewer Lateral is improperly used to dispose of materials that are not intended to be in the sewer system such as grease, diapers and toys.



Private Portion is that part of the Sewer Lateral owned by the property owner and located between the building and the property line.

Public Portion is that part of the Sewer Lateral owned by the property owner and located on the public right-of-way between the property line and the Township's main sewer and which is maintained, repaired and replaced by the Township in the circumstances set out in this brochure.