

SEWER BACKUP INFORMATION

How to prevent sewage backups into your home or business:

- Avoid putting grease down your garbage disposal or household drain. It can solidify, collect debris and accumulate in Village lines, or build up in your own lateral (pipes).
- **NEVER** flush down the toilet any type of diaper-child or adult, baby wipes, feminine products, paper towels, shop towels, or grease.
- If the lateral line in your older home has a jointed pipe system, consider whether the roots of large shrubs or trees near the line could invade and break pipes. It is a good idea to know the location of your lateral line(s).
- If the lowest level of your home is below ground level, such as a basement floor drain, it may one day be affected by a backup. One way to prevent sewage backup through below ground areas is to install a "back-flow valve" on the lowest drain(s). You can also use a plumber's test plug to close these drains when not in use.
- For further information about preventive measures, contact a plumber or plumbing supply dealer.

What you should do if sewage backs up into your home or business:

- Take action to protect people and valuable property.
- **DO NOT** run any water down your drains or flush toilets until the blockage has been cleared.
- Keeping in mind that ceramic plumbing fixtures such as toilets are fragile, quickly close all drain openings with stoppers or plugs. Tub, sink, and floor drains may need additional weight to keep them sealed.
- Call the Village to check the Village's main line for blockages, if blockage is found it will be cleared; if the main line is clear, you will be advised to call a plumbing or sewer contractor to check your lateral line. Maintenance and repair of the lateral line is the owner's responsibility.
- To minimize damage and negative health effects, you should arrange for cleanup of the property as soon as possible.

Steps the Village takes to help prevent this problem:

- Every attempt is made to prevent backups in the public wastewater system before they occur. Sewer lines are specially designed to prevent accumulation and stoppages.
- In addition, the Public Works Department inspects and cleans wastewater lines throughout the Village on a regular schedule. One third of the sewer system is jetted and vacuumed each fall.
- Root killer and degreaser are put in the sewer system quarterly.
- Even with this maintenance schedule, backups are often beyond the Village's control.

Phone Number	Days	Hours
739-3182 - Village Office	Monday - Friday	8:00 am – 4:30 pm
739-3144 - Police Department	After hours, weekends, holidays	Emergency