

NOTICE TO TEST/REPAIR SEWER LATERAL

_____, 2022

Name
Address
Address

Property Address:

Dear Property Owner:

Please accept this letter as formal notification that all customers on the Municipal Authority of the Borough of Bedford's (MABB) Sanitary Sewer System will be required to participate in an upcoming project involving the need for all properties to perform pressure testing of private sewer lines and, where necessary, replacement of those private sewer lines. MABB is being required to remove sources of inflow & infiltration (I/I) from the sanitary sewer system in order to abandon the current Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) that discharges untreated wastewater to the Raystown Branch of the Juniata River during heavy precipitation events. The CSO must be abandoned by December 31, 2022 in accordance with a Consent Order & Agreement executed with the PA DEP.

You are hereby notified that you are required to complete any and all work necessary to have your sanitary sewer lateral pass the required air pressure testing and be in compliance with Bedford Borough Ordinance 2022-03, adopted March 7, 2022. A copy of the ordinance, and a copy of the Rules and Regulations of MABB, are available at the MABB office, or at www.bedboro.com.

The deadline for completion of testing is July 1, 2022 and the deadline for all required work and successful testing is November 30, 2022.

The following is a brief outline of the requirements prescribed within the Rules and Regulations:

AIR PRESSURE TESTING

1. All existing and/or newly installed buried piping between the exterior of the foundation wall and the sewer main must pass an air pressure test. A MABB representative must witness and approve the test in writing. The air pressure test is to 5 p.s.i for 15 minutes with no drop in pressure.
2. It is unlikely that terra cotta sewer laterals will pass a pressure test. Property owners may forego initial testing, and instead replace the sewer lateral, testing the newly installed lateral.
3. Prior to testing, customers should be certain that all required components of a sewer lateral exist, including a cleanout and a viewport. If any of those items do not yet exist, they must be installed prior to any pressure testing. If an existing improved property does not have a viewport, please contact the MABB office at 814.623.8192.

4. Generally speaking, the Authority will not require any under-slab testing or line replacement (unless a specific problem is known to exist and causing stormwater flow into the sanitary sewer system). Testing and replacement of the sewer lateral will only be required between the exterior of the foundation wall and the connection point. If stormwater is later detected in the sewer lateral by visual inspection, under-slab repair may be required.
5. Scheduling for inspection of work or witnessing a test must be made 72 hours in advance. The inspector will allow up to 30 minutes for a test. All preliminary hook up that precedes the actual test must be completed before the scheduled test. There is no fee for witnessing the initial testing during the calendar year 2022. After this date, a fee of \$25 shall apply. A fee shall be assessed for any required return trips.
6. Should a sewer lateral need to be replaced, an inspection shall be conducted by a MABB representative prior to backfilling. Please be advised that a \$200 inspection fee shall apply. This fee has been waived for the calendar year 2022.
7. Please contact the MABB office at 814.623.8192, Monday – Friday, 9 am – 4 pm to schedule an inspection or witnessing of a pressure test.
8. When witnessing a pressure test, the inspector shall also inspect the interior of the building in order to verify visually or through alternative types of testing that there are no illegal stormwater connections, including sump pumps, connected to the sewer lateral.
9. The Authority does not provide pressure testing. The Authority only witnesses the test and certifies the result.
10. A Certificate of Sewage Compliance will be good for ten years.

SPECIFICATIONS OF A SEWER LATERAL

1. All new pipe installed must be PVC ASTM 3034 with SDR 35, gasket joints only or ductile iron pipe, ANSI 2-21.51, AWWA C 151, gasket joints, Class 50 with cement mortar lining and bituminous seal coat.
2. No bend may exceed 45°.
3. All buildings shall be provided with a cleanout that is the same size as the sewer lateral, and a minimum 6" viewport. A trap (with a 4" vent pipe) and a backflow prevention device are optional but recommended. Any owner choosing to not install a trap and/or a backflow prevention device on the sewer lateral will be required to sign a waiver. The trap and cleanout shall be installed within or immediately outside the building. The viewport shall be installed at the property line with a steel casting, connected with a tee fitting, extended above the ground surface, and terminated in a threaded cap.
4. All sewer lateral pipe shall be placed on a 3" deep 2B aggregate base; and backfilled with 2B aggregate to at least 6" above the top of the pipe. All pipe shall have at least 48" of cover. All pipe is to be laid in a straight alignment and grade; avoiding summits and depressions which could collect air and sediment.
5. State law requires that PA One Call (800-242-1776 or 811) be notified three working days in advance of any excavation.

EXTENT OF EXCAVATION AND REPAIR

1. The customer shall be responsible to excavate to from the edge of the public right-of-way, or easement, to the building foundation as necessary to replace the lateral.

2. Current Rules and Regulations no longer allow sewer laterals to be shared. In any case in which a sewer lateral is shared, two new sewer laterals must be installed with new connection points (tapping fee waived).
3. Any industry-standard method of internal rehabilitation or trenchless repair of a sewer lateral is permitted, including methods such as pipe bursting or internal lining, so long as the rehabilitation successfully passes an air pressure test and conforms to the requirements of the Rules and Regulations.

STORMWATER DISCHARGES

1. The diversion or direct connection of storm or surface water to the Borough's separate stormwater collection system is prohibited. In no event is stormwater to be discharged upon or across public or private sidewalks and public or private streets or discharged onto adjacent property.
2. As sources of stormwater are disconnected from the sanitary sewer system, additional stormwater will likely accumulate on the property. If a sump pump is determined to be necessary, the sump pump may not discharge into the sanitary sewer system, or across public areas such as streets and sidewalks. Excess stormwater may be directed into yards or dry wells on the property.

AUTHORIZED WORKERS

1. Property owners are permitted to perform their own work, without engaging a contractor. All work shall be inspected and pressure tested.
2. The Borough does not provide recommendations of specific contractors. A list of contractors who have indicated a willingness to perform such work is provided as a courtesy at www.bedboro.com.
3. If the Borough becomes aware of a fraudulent act on the part of a contractor, such as attempting to evade proper pressure testing procedures, the contractor will be barred from performing any further work on the sewage collection system.

DEFINITIONS USED HEREIN

1. Back Flow Preventer — A device that prevents sewage from flowing in reverse and backing up into the building.
2. Cleanout — A 4" pipe with watertight cap installed at the building line, either inside or outside of the building, into which flushing and cleaning equipment may be inserted to clear obstructions in the lateral.
3. I / I — (Inflow & Infiltration). Any surface water or ground water which enters the sanitary sewer system by any means.
4. Lateral — All piping, including the viewport, between the customer's exterior foundation wall and the sewer main.
5. Viewport — A minimum 6" pipe with watertight cap installed at the property line at or above ground level through which a Borough representative may view the flow in the lateral. The viewport must be easily accessible to the Borough at all times.

FAILURE TO COMPLY

1. For those receiving this notice, the deadline for compliance with requirements of the applicable ordinance and the Rules and Regulations is November 30, 2022.
2. The Borough and Municipal Authority reserve the right to apply a surcharge to non-conforming properties, to discontinue water service to non-conforming properties, and to enter the property to correct any non-conforming conditions.
3. If for any reason an Owner is unable to comply with the applicable ordinance or the Rules and Regulations and make required repairs or connection within the six (6) month period, the Owner may submit a corrective action plan to the Authority. The plan shall include a signed contract with a prospective contractor as well as the specific date of repair. The scope of work must be sufficient, as determined by the Authority, to accomplish compliance with the Rules and Regulations. The approval of a corrective action plan will avoid any penalty described above during the approved term of said corrective action plan but will not negate the obligation to pay any and all service charges that would have otherwise been payable.
4. Any person who shall fail, neglect, or refuse to comply with any of the terms or provisions of the applicable ordinance, or of any regulation or requirement pursuant thereto and authorized thereby shall, upon conviction before any district justice, be sentenced to pay a fine of \$600.00 and costs of prosecution. Each day that a violation continues shall constitute a separate offense.