

EASTPOINTE SEWER INFORMATION

586-445-3661 option 5

The City of Eastpointe Sewer system is mostly a combined sanitary and storm system. The home or business owner is responsible for all maintenance repair or replacement of the building service to the public main sewer including the tap.

Sewer Back-up

If you discover a back up of the sewer system you should contact the Water and Sewer Department at (586) 445-3661 option 5. After regular business hours, call the Eastpointe Police Department's business phone at (586) 445-5100 ext. 5. The City will check the sewer main to see if the backup is caused by something past your building service connection. When you have a sewer backup, you always want to contact a plumber to snake your sewer line and perform a camera inspection if needed.

To Make a Claim on a Sewer Back-up:

Any Citizen having experienced an overflow or back up of a sewage disposal system or storm water system must file a written claim with the City of Eastpointe within 45 days after the overflow or back up was discovered or in the exercise of reasonable diligence should have been discovered.

Notice of your claim must be given to Beth Schroeder at City of Eastpointe, 23200 Gratiot Avenue, MI 48021; the phone number is (586) 445-3661 ext 2221. Your claim must contain the following information:

1. Your name, address, telephone number and address of affected property.
2. The date of discovery of any property damages or physical injuries.
3. A brief description of the claim.

After the City is notified of your claim and believes that a different government agency is responsible for your claim, the City has 15 business days after receipt to notify the other agency. Within 45 days of receipt of your claim, the government agency(s) involved may inspect your property or investigate your claim. The claimant or owner or occupant of the affected property shall not reasonably refuse the government agency the right to inspect or investigate the property or the claim. If government agency(s) and claimant cannot reach a compensation agreement within 45 days of the notice, claimant may start a civil action against the government agency.

Flooded Streets

There are a number of things you can do to reduce the likelihood of localized flooding: Keep your storm drain grates clean. Help elderly or disabled neighbors. Leave sewer maintenance manhole covers in place, and report any uncovered maintenance manholes that you see. Remember that when heavy rains fill up storm drains to capacity, the drainage system is intentionally designed to overflow into streets. This is to help alleviate basement flooding.

Top 3 Causes of Basement Flooding

- Sanitary Sewer Back-ups which can be caused from blockages in the lateral (private sewer line) or obstructions in the public sewer system.
- Groundwater seepage through the basement walls via cracks, poorly functioning sanitary sewer drains or footing drains.
- Surface runoff from poorly graded property can cause water to enter your home through exterior openings such as window wells and vents or exterior stairwells

Helpful Hints!

Never flush any products other than toilet paper! Baby wipes, medical wipes, facial tissues, paper towels and sanitary products do not break down as quickly as toilet paper, and will eventually cause blockages. Manufacturers often advertise these products as being “flushable”, but they actually do NOT break down quickly and are creating a huge problem for residential and municipal sewer systems.

Did you know??? COOKING GREASE is one of the main causes of residential SEWER OVERFLOWS!

Cooking grease may build up and block your pipes causing backups as well as bad odors. It can clog internal drain pipes as well as sewer lines.

Always wipe food scraps and oils before washing dishes and cookware. Use a strainer in your sink to catch food scraps and grease, and empty into the trash instead of the drain. Always collect hot grease in a metal can, let it cool, and dispose properly. NEVER pour grease down the sink, toilet or any drain.

Tips!

- Have your lateral sewer lines inspected for root intrusion and blockages on a regular (annual) basis.
- Check basement walls for cracks and repair and waterproof.
- Properly seal any exterior openings, including basement window wells and vents.
- Keep water away from your foundation by properly grading landscaping away from the house, and extending downspouts at least 5 feet from the foundation.
- Clean your gutters at a minimum of twice a year, in the Spring and Fall.

Please remember not to dump gasoline, oil, antifreeze, or any other hazard materials down storm drains, because they eventually end up in the lake or river where our drinking water comes from, or in a combined system they could enter someone’s basement during a back up.