



SEWER LATERAL PROGRAM GUIDELINES

These program guidelines are built on the assumption that the desire is to have a program that will be self-sustainable with the funds available from the \$28 per year, per residential unit tax collected from St. Louis County.

The City of Ferguson's Sewer Lateral Program significantly reduces the financial responsibility of sewer lateral repair for the homeowners of Ferguson. Some may ask "What is a sewer lateral?" A sewer lateral is a part of the building's drainage system that carries liquid and solid waste from the building to either the public sewer or an individual sewage-disposal system (septic tank). A lateral consists of sloped underground pipe extending from the building to a point of disposal. The system uses gravity to conduct the flow from the building to its point of disposal, usually the main sewer line which belongs to Metropolitan Sewer District (MSD). Since gravity is the primary force in draining the system, it is necessary that the lateral be large enough to handle the amount of waste being generated and void of cracks or breaks and foreign objects such as tree roots that reduce or block adequate flow.

The Sewer Lateral Program is a City program designed to help reduce the high cost incurred in the repair of sewer laterals. "Repair" is the operative word within the program. ***Repairing can occur without replacement of all sewer lateral sections of pipe.*** The program is not designed to be a maintenance tool. Maintaining a clear and unobstructed system is the primary responsibility of the property owner. The removal of tree roots and others clogs are classified as routine maintenance and do not qualify for the sewer lateral program. If sewer lateral repair is required, then the following guidelines will apply.

- The homeowner will complete the SEWER LATERAL REPAIR APPLICATION requesting consideration for sewer lateral repair.
- The homeowner is responsible for cabling and videotaping the line to determine the problem. An inspector from the Public Works Department will need to be present during the videotaping. The homeowner may contract any qualified contractor (videotaping does not require a licensed plumber). The distance (location) of the break must be pinpointed and marked in the video and accompanying documentation. However, the city reserves the right to refuse any videotape that is not sufficiently clear enough to determine the break.

- Upon determination that there is a break eligible for the program, the homeowner will be responsible for obtaining three (3) bids from the qualified contractor list provided by the City. All bids must be given to the Public Works Department to review and approve the lowest and best qualified bid.
 - The Public Works Department will provide a list of licensed plumbers for the homeowner to choose from for actual replacement work.
 - The Director of Public Works will make final determination of the scope of work to be performed and whether the work is reimbursable under the adopted guidelines.
 - The program is limited to lateral repair from the house to the main *only*. It is designed for the repair of specific break location(s) from the house to the main, but not for the replacement of the entire lateral line (unless evidence indicates this is necessary as determined by the Director of Public Works).
 - The homeowner is responsible for 25% of the estimated cost of the repair. The homeowner's portion of the repair must be paid to the City prior to the commencement of work and with the City's approval to begin the work. The City is responsible for 75% of the replacement cost.
 - Change orders and additional costs for repair may not be incurred without prior approval of the Public Works Director. Once approved, the homeowner will be billed for 25% of any overages above the original estimate.
 - Single family and multiple family units of six (6) units or less are eligible for the program.
 - The Public Works Department will document all inspections.
 - The decision of the Director of Public Works may be appealed to the Building Board of Appeals for a fee of \$50.00. In the event the appeal is upheld, the filing fee will be returned to the applicant.
 - Commercial properties and septic systems are NOT eligible for the program.
 - If there are any questions, please call the Public Works Office Manager at 524.5191 before signing any contract or authorizing any work.
- ** Any property owner in arrears to the City for any fees, taxes or other monies is ineligible to participate in the program.



City of Ferguson Department of Public Works
RESIDENTIAL SEWER LATERAL REPAIR PROGRAM
APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

1. Fill out the form titled "SEWER LATERAL REPAIR APPLICATION".
2. If the sewer lateral break crosses onto an adjoining property, the owner of the adjoining property must also sign an application giving consent for access to their property.
3. Submit the "MASTER PLUMBER/DRAINLAYER CERTIFICATION" completed by the Master Plumber/Drain Layer who verified the need for a sewer lateral repair along with the application and videotape. **City Inspector must be on site during videotaping process. Notify City Hall 24 hours prior to videotaping, to assure proper scheduling.**
4. Return completed application along with supporting documentation and video to:
City of Ferguson, Department of Public Works, 110 Church Street, Ferguson, MO 63135.
5. Questions regarding any of the above should be directed to the Department of Public Works office at (314) 524-5191 or (314) 521-7721.

Please see "SEWER LATERAL PROGRAM GUIDELINES" for details on the administration and eligibility requirements of the program. After an application is received, the following actions will take place:

1. Upon determination that there is a break eligible under the sewer lateral program, the homeowner will be responsible for obtaining three (3) bids from the list of qualified plumbing contractors to submit to the Public Works Department for review.
2. After a bid has been awarded, the applicant will be notified of the contractor who will be making the repairs.
3. Owner of the property shall deposit **25%** of contract estimate with the City of Ferguson Public Works Department. If additional work is required that entails added cost, owner will be required to deposit additional **25%** of added cost.
4. Licensed contractor will make the specified repairs. After the repairs have been made, the contractor will submit his invoice to the Department of Public Works for the City of Ferguson.
5. Inspections will be performed by all agencies permitting work.
6. Upon approval of the final inspection of the repairs and the receipt of all required documentation, the City of Ferguson will forward payment to the contractor.



City of Ferguson Department of Public Works
SEWER LATERAL REPAIR APPLICATION

Address of request for repair:

- Is the property owner occupied?
- Tenant occupied (**rental property**)?
- Adjoining property?

Owner Name:

Address:

City/State/Zip:

Daytime Phone: _____ Evening: _____

As owner/owner's agent of the property, I certify that I have the authority to and do consent to the performance of sewer lateral repair work on and about the property described in the application and will not interfere with the work to be performed by the contractor selected by the City of Ferguson Department of Public Works and shall reimburse the City for all expenses incurred by them on applicant's behalf in the event the applicant withdraws permission to proceed or otherwise interferes with performance of work authorized under this program.

As owner/owner's agent of the property, I certify that I nor anyone on my behalf will make any claim against or seek any relief from the City of Ferguson arising out of or in connection with any work done or any action taken in connection with the Sewer Lateral Repair Program.

As owner/owner's agent of the property, I also certify that the City of Ferguson is not responsible for the actions of the contractor making the sewer lateral repairs and agree to indemnify the City and hold the City harmless from any and all claims arising out the applicant's participation in, and work performed and actions taken in connection with, the Sewer Lateral Repair Program.

As owner/owner's agent of the property, I understand that sewer lateral repair includes only the patching or replacement of a defective sewer lateral line, including associated digging and replacement of dirt and seeding of affected areas, and does not include any replacement of landscaping or ornamental structures but only replacement of structural facilities required for safe occupancy or safe use of the property.

As owner/owner's agent of the property, I acknowledge that the City of Ferguson is a third party beneficiary to any contract for sewer repair work.

Owner/Agent Signature: _____ Date: _____

If signature is by agent, form must be accompanied by a notarized power of attorney.



**CITY OF FERGUSON SEWER LATERAL PROGRAM
CONTRACT/DEPOSIT ACCEPTANCE FORM**

I, _____ agree to deposit **25%** of the cost of the Sewer lateral repair bid in the amount of \$ _____ for my property at _____.

I understand that the City of Ferguson's acceptance of this deposit not constitute acceptance under the Sewer Lateral Program unless a break in the sewer line is clearly determined. If a break in the sewer line is determined to be the cause of the problem, I understand that I will be responsible for that portion of the repair work not caused by a break.

(Owner Signature)

(Date)

**CITY OF FERGUSON SEWER LATERAL
QUALIFIED CONTRACTOR LIST**

A. Brooks Co., Inc.
8409 Olive Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63132
(314) 569-3511

Ameridrain & Sewer Serv. Inc.
P.O. Box 1216
Arnold, MO 63010
Woody Jones
(636) 461-0099

Apple Plumbing
11286 Florence
St. Louis, MO 63074
(314) 298-7320

Beaver Plumbing Company
9028 Forest
St. Louis, MO 63114
Lloyd
(314) 521-8028

Bi-State Utilities
12894 Pennridge
Bridgeton, MO 63044
Fred Fetsch
(314) 209-0202

Don Rush Contracting
5147 Auriesville Lane
Hazelwood, MO 63042
Don Rush
(314) 291-0830

E & M Plumbing Co., Inc.
1411 Morton Ave.
St. Louis, MO 63133
Donald Drownes
(314) 261-1209

Phil Miller Plumbing
661 St. Ferdinand
Florissant, MO 63031
Patrick Miller
(314) 837-3351

Rescue Rooter
3990 Fee Fee Rd.
Bridgeton, MO 63044
Wendell Young
(314) 831-3770

Roto Rooter Services Co.
3041 Elm Point Ind. Dr.
St. Charles, MO 63301
(636) 947-3302 ext. 103

Sutter Plumbing
2436 Woodson Road
Overland, MO 63114
Stanley
(314) 427-0020

Tope Plumbing
8822 Natural Bridge Rd.
St. Louis, MO 63121
Glen Tope
(314) 890-0900