



Sewer Lateral Ordinance

Reduces sewer spills, protects the environment, and improves treatment plant efficiency.

What is a sewer lateral?

Residences have a sewer lateral pipeline that sends wastewater from your home to the main sewer pipeline in the street—eventually leading to the District's wastewater treatment plant.

What causes higher flows into the sewer system?

Illegal connections to the sewer lateral, such as sump pump discharges or gutter downspouts ("inflow"), cause unnecessarily high flows in the main sewer network. Another contributor is when an older sewer lateral, and/or one that is subject to tree root disruption, develops cracks that allow groundwater into the system ("infiltration").

Why are higher sewer flows a problem?

When an unusually excessive flow occurs, it increases the potential for sewer overflow spills, and requires the treatment plant to incur higher processing costs. To help decrease the potential for these problems by

reducing excess flows from private sewer laterals, the District Board of Directors adopted the Sewer Lateral Ordinance on November 21, 2019.

What does the Sewer Lateral Ordinance do?

This ordinance requires an evaluation of each residential property's sewer lateral for condition and potential illegal connections (see diagram). It's part of the District's philosophy of environmental stewardship and its focus on efficient infrastructure and operations. It will help keep your wastewater rates as low as possible while protecting the environment.

Who can inspect my sewer lateral?

A licensed plumber or PACP Certified Inspector can perform an inspection of your lateral and other related elements on the property. The District then evaluates that inspection report—District fees for the evaluation and final report are \$250 with a 10-day turnaround (or \$500 if you'd like 5-day processing).

What if my sewer lateral needs repair or replacement?

Repair or replacement of the sewer lateral is the responsibility of the property owner – but we can help! The District's Lateral Replacement Loan Program helps homeowners finance the work with a low interest (2%) loan of up to \$10,000.

For more information, visit www.lgvsd.org and click on "Sewer Lateral Assistance."

Description of General Elements of the Ordinance



Triggers

- Home sale or transfer
- Home remodel (\$30k or more valuation)



Inspection

- Hire a licensed plumber or a PACP Certified Inspector for CCTV inspection of lateral and inspect property
- Submit to District for review



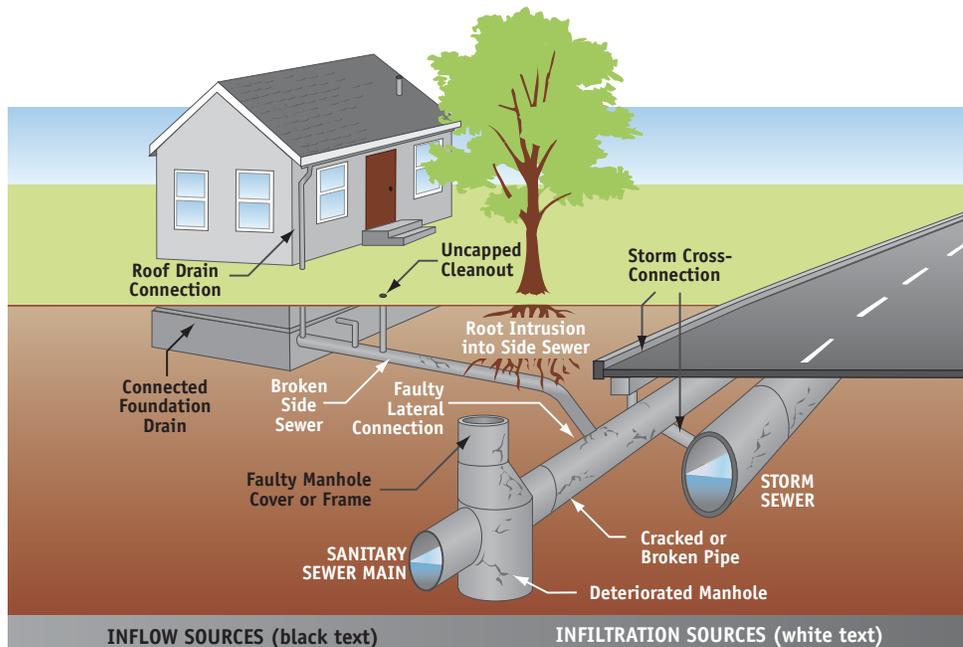
Evaluation

District will evaluate the CCTV inspection and provide a recommendation letter to current homeowner and realtor (if home sale)



Determination

- If a property owner chooses to replace their sewer lateral, they may utilize the District's Lateral Assistance Program.
- A notice of violation for inflow infractions may be filed with the County Recorder if they are not resolved within 90 days of discovery



Source: King County, WA