

Avon Lake Municipal Utilities

Lateral Resource Guide

Homes in formerly combined neighborhoods

Avon Lake Municipal Utilities is working hard to keep Lake Erie clean, but we need your help.

Here's the situation: In order for Avon Lake to comply with EPA standards, you must separate your foundation drain from your sanitary lateral. (If you are on a slab or have done foundation work in the last 7 years, you may be exempt.) Storm water will then go directly to Lake Erie, wastewater will go in a separate pipe to the treatment plant.

You should have already disconnected most of your clean water sources from your yard, such as downspouts.

Now you must disconnect foundation drain and any other clean water sources from your existing sanitary lateral, and most likely run a new storm lateral to the lateral stub at property line.

Disconnect foundation drain

- Assure cleanouts are capped
- Slope soil away from foundation
- Disconnect foundation drains from sanitary lateral
- Connect appropriate laterals to appropriate sewers
- Sanitary lateral → Sanitary sewer
- Foundation drain → storm lateral → storm sewer

Step 1: Home Evaluation Determine whether or not you need to build a new lateral. ALMU staff may be able to make this determination, but you might need to get a contractor involved in this step.

Step 2: Choosing a Lateral Type. The two options are (1) a gravity lateral and (2) an external sump pump with a new storm

lateral. Here's a little more information on both options.

Gravity Lateral

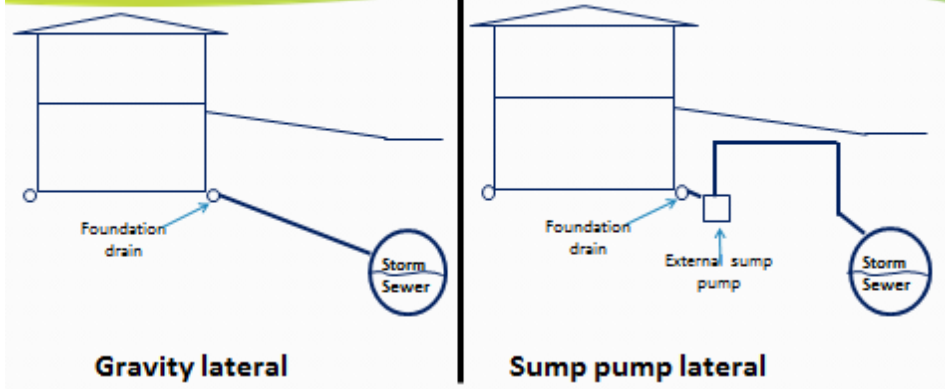
Disconnect house line from existing lateral and run new sanitary lateral to lateral stub at property line.

External Sump Pump/Storm Lateral

- Disconnect foundation drain and other clean water sources from existing lateral
- Install external sump pump
- Run new storm lateral to lateral stub at property line

(continued on reverse)

Lateral type pros and cons



| | Gravity lateral | External sump pump lateral |
|-------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Pros | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No maintenance required/slightly less expensive long term Can't fail mechanically | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pump allows more design flexibility, could be easier/cheaper to dig Prevents foundation flooding during heavy rains Decisively protects your home from storm sewer surcharges |
| Cons | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deeper/longer trench required (could mean more \$ upfront) Does not protect you from storm sewer surcharges. Heavy rains could mean foundation flooding (just around foundation of home); leaky basement walls put you at risk of basement water entry. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pump could fail from mechanical break or electrical outage (but backup pumps could mitigate problem). In case of failure, resulting foundation drain backup will likely only enter basement if walls are leaky. Even then, what comes in would be clean, and would include water from your foundation drain alone. |

Once you decide which option is best for you, you are ready to proceed.

Step 3: Choosing a contractor. Contact your neighbors to join together as a buying group, then identify a contractor who will give your group a good deal. Starting in late March, check our sewer separation program page on avonlakewater.org or call our offices at (440) 933-6226 for a list of ALMU-briefed contractors.

Step 4: Scheduling the job. The sooner everyone's laterals are connected, the better. We will try and remove storm drain restrictors early if all homes connect early. If your new lateral is ready by the time the new sanitary sewer line is complete, we will connect it for you at no charge.

Things you need to know

- Free grant money is available from Lorain County Community Development for lower-income households, but the offer expires in 2013. Call us at (440) 933-6226 for more information, or download the application from our website, avonlakewater.org.
- Your contractor will need permits from us and possibly The City of Avon Lake (if it impacts your storm water drainage), but **all permits will be free of charge.**
- Storm water coming from your yard/home must be removed from the sanitary sewer by February 1, 2018.
- All homeowners not receiving grant money will begin receiving \$1,000 in sewer bill rebates once they have two laterals, each connected to the appropriate sewer.

FAQs

Why am I being singled out on this lateral thing?

You're not. After the Clean Water Act was passed, everyone who built their homes (after 1972) paid for two laterals in the purchase price of their house. Plus, they also had to pay for their portion of the separate sewers installed in their new neighborhood as well, which you do not.

Is our neighborhood the only one affected?

No. Approximately 2,400 Avon Lake homes are going through this as well. Plus, millions of people around the country (including those in Cuyahoga County) are enduring similar projects to reduce the amount of wastewater their communities are discharging into fresh water sources. (See Sewer Separation Neighborhoods table on next page.)

Why is this happening now?

ALMU (along with water utilities across the country) is working to meet a hard deadline by the Environmental Protection Agency.

What are some other ways I'll be impacted by the project?

It is possible your sidewalk or driveway apron will be torn up during mainline sewer construction. That will be repaired at no cost to you once the sewer separation and storm sewer work is complete. (However, any damage caused during the construction of your new lateral will be up to you to fix.) Traffic in your neighborhood will be zoned for local traffic only, and most every road will be drivable (to local traffic) during construction.

Will anything need to be done inside my house?

Only if you and your contractor determine that is the easiest solution to your home's second lateral issue.

Will any permits be required?

Yes, but all permit fees will be waived. If you are hiring a contractor for the job, they will take care of getting permits, and with every permit request, we will be out to inspect and approve the work. If you are doing the job yourself, just call us at 440-933-6226 for permitting process information.

I can't afford this!

For qualified (lower income) homeowners, free grant money is available through Lorain County Community Development. The application is on our website on the Belmar project site. If you have trouble reading, getting around or don't have Internet access, Avon/Avon Lake CRS is partnering with us to help you complete and file your application. Other ways we are helping: (1) A \$1,000 sewer bill rebate after you connect your new lateral to the new sanitary lateral and (2) Giving you five years' notice to complete your lateral project.

Why can't I get my \$1,000 in one lump sum?

As your water company, we are extending you compensation for the benefit we receive from the lateral you've built and connected. We see this benefit over time, not all at once. Your individual lateral will save us approximately \$25/quarter in delayed capital improvements/debt service, electricity costs and equipment maintenance.

Have more questions? Come talk to our Chief Utilities Executive at one of Avon Lake's **upcoming ward meetings**. (You can go to any one, the presentation is the same each time.)

| Ward | Meeting details | Ward | Meeting details |
|------|-------------------------------------------|------|--------------------------------------------|
| 3 | March 6, 7 p.m., Troy Intermediate School | 4 | March 13, 7 p.m., Troy Intermediate School |

(more on reverse)

Sewer separation neighborhoods

| Neighborhood "name" | Streets included | Estimated start date | Estimated completion date | Estimated lateral connection deadline |
|---------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Belmar | Belmar, Ashwood, Mooreland, Artsdale, Redwood, Electric | Spring 2013 | Summer 2014 | 2/1/2018 |
| Moorewood | Moorewood, Crestwood, Vinewood, Parkwood, Beachwood, Rosewood | 2014 | 2015/2016 | 2/1/2018 |
| Avondale | Avondale | TBD | 2017 | 2/1/2018 |
| Fairfield/Berkshire (aka Brookfield/Inwood) | Fairfield, Berkshire, Inwood, Brookfield, Rosewood, Electric | TBD | 2018 | 2/1/2019 |
| The 45s | Lakewood, Oakwood, Forest, South Point, Tomahawk, Clifton, Overlook | TBD | 2019 | 6/30/2019 |

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