

Board of Municipal Utilities'
Sewer Lateral Path Forward
Revision Date: October 16, 2018

Background

Avon Lake is one of approximately 860 communities across the United States (72 in Ohio) served by combined sewer systems that collect both sanitary wastes and storm waters from residences and businesses. The 1972 Clean Water Act required communities to address combined sewer overflows, and several EPA policies since that time gave communities the ability to best choose how to do so. In 2004, Avon Lake and Ohio EPA came to agreement that all combined sewers within the city would be separated by 2020 so that storm water and sanitary wastes are captured and managed differently.

Initially, as sewers were being separated in Avon Lake, customers were allowed to keep their foundation drains connected to what became their sanitary lateral that discharged into the sanitary sewer. However, several extreme rain events led Avon Lake (through its Board of Municipal Utilities and Avon Lake Regional Water) to investigate and determine gravity foundation drains provide significant quantities of water to the sanitary sewer during rain events. This led to changes in Avon Lake Regional Water's Regulations to no longer allow foundation drains to be connected to the sanitary lateral and a City Council ordinance supporting the requirement.

Sewer Lateral Path Forward

For compliance with the Ohio EPA agreement, the Board of Municipal Utilities established the following Sewer Lateral Path Forward (updated October 16, 2018):

1. Customers must have a free inspection of their home by Avon Lake Regional Water, by the dates below, to determine if clean water sources such as foundation drains, yard and/or driveway drains, and downspouts are discharging into sanitary laterals:
 - a. November 30, 2018, for homes in the "Group A" area,
 - b. April 30, 2019, for homes in the "Group B" and "Group C" areas.
- The Group A area includes all homes on formerly combined sewer area streets not listed in Groups B and C (below) including the Belmar project area (Artsdale, Ashwood, Belmar, parts of Electric, parts of Lake, Mooreland, and parts of Redwood), the Moorewood project area (Beachwood, Crestwood, Parkwood, Moorewood, parts of Electric, parts of Redwood, and Vinewood), Avon Belden area (south of Redwood), Bellaire, Belle, Burton, Cherry, Dellwood, Drummond, Duff, Electric (parts), Glenview, Harvey, Inwood (south of Redwood), James, Jaycox, June, Lake (parts), Lear, Miller, Moore, Mull, Norman, Parkview, Redwood (parts), Woodstock (south of Electric), Yoder, and York.
- The Group B area entails homes in the Fairfield-Brookfield Sewer Separation Project (Berkshire, Brookfield, Fairfield, Inwood north of Redwood, parts of Lake, and parts of Electric), as well as homes on streets with formerly combined sewers that do not have storm access including Avon Belden (north of Redwood), Beachdale, Beck, Curtis, Fay, Forest Hill, Groveland, Hermann, Karen, Sunset, Vanda, Vineyard, and Woodstock (Electric to Lake).
- The Group C area entails homes in the 45 Area Combined Sewer Separation Project (Forest, Grove, Lakeview, Lakewood, Oakwood, South Point, and Tomahawk) and on Avondale.

During the inspection, if Avon Lake Regional Water is unable to confirm discharge of clean water into the sanitary lateral, then further inspection by Avon Lake Regional Water's contractor will take place. Work completed by the contractor may include sewer lateral camera inspection, digging at foundation footers, dye testing, and/or smoke testing to determine if clean water is entering into the sanitary sewer. Avon Lake Regional Water will repair or replace site conditions to pre-inspection equivalence at its expense. Upon completion of the contractor inspection, property owners will be advised that no further action is necessary or given guidance as to correction requirements. If corrections are necessary, owners will be eligible within limits for funding under Avon Lake Regional Water's Lateral Loan Program.

2. If Avon Lake Regional Water determines the homeowner must perform work to prevent clean water from entering the sanitary sewer, then the customer must complete all work by the following dates:
 - a. April 30, 2019, for homes in the "Group A" area,
 - b. June 30, 2019, for homes in the "Group B" and "Group C" areas.
3. If customers do not comply with the inspection deadline in Item 1 (above), the Board may seek an Administrative Search Warrant to gain access to the property in order to inspect to determine compliance. Additionally, by failing to comply with the appropriate deadline in Item 1, customers forfeit eligibility to receive the \$1,000 wastewater bill rebate.
4. If required, work has not been completed by Item 2 (above), documents will be filed with the court to:

Grant access to Avon Lake Regional Water, the City of Avon Lake, and/or its contractors to the property to perform work to remove all clean water sources from the sanitary lateral.

As described in the 2017 and 2018 Council resolutions, all costs for that work, plus an additional 5% will be assessed to the owner of the property where the work will be completed. Additionally, by failing to comply with the appropriate deadline in Item 2, customers forfeit eligibility to receive the \$1,000 wastewater bill rebate.

Future Work

Please note, the following streets are not part of this Sewer Lateral Path Forward and do not yet have a deadline:

- Armour, Avon Point (Electric to Lake), Bonnieview, Colony, Coveland, Electric (parts), Edgewood, Englewood, Gra Gull, Highland (north of Lake), Lake (parts), Maplecliff, Moore (parts), North Point, Parkland, Redwood (parts), Rice Park, Webber, West Shore, and others to be determined.

Avon Lake Regional Water and the City of Avon Lake will investigate these streets at a later time to determine whether homes are discharging clean water into the sanitary sewer and, if necessary, the appropriate deadline to prevent clean water from discharging into the sanitary sewer.