

## ERIE COUNTY SEWER DISTRICTS - LATERAL REPLACEMENT PROGRAM

The Department of Environment and Planning, Division of Sewerage Management (DSM) has an on-going infiltration and inflow (I&I) program aimed at minimizing and eliminating stormwater and groundwater from entering the sanitary sewer system. I&I takes away from the system capacity. It also increases the amount of flow conveyed through the system and adds to the cost to treat the flows. Ultimately, this impacts the taxpayer.

Building sewer laterals are the private sewerlines that a property owner is responsible for (from the building to the connection to the main sewerline). Older laterals (many built prior to 1975) are often made of clay tile pipe, asbestos, and orangeburg. These materials are susceptible to root intrusion issues through joints and fractures in the pipe allowing groundwater and wet weather infiltration into the sanitary sewer, thus increasing the overall flows in the system.

Legally the DSM cannot do repair work on private property. Due to the legal restrictions and the increase in I&I issues, the DSM has a program in place for all properties located in an Erie County Sewer District (ECSD) to replace older and deficient private property laterals. This program requires developers of new projects that will add sanitary sewage flow to the sewer system to remove I&I by replacing older or deficient laterals within that ECSD. Note at this time there is no proposed development in ECSD's 6 & 8, and only a small projected amount in ECSD 1. A developer will be given a specific number of laterals to replace, based on the size of their proposed project. The developer will furnish pipe material, stone, installation of the lateral, and fill the trench to a mounded formation to allow for settling. Private laterals in this program will be replaced to the main sewer (if it is before the edge of pavement) or close to the edge of pavement with a clean out access point (if the sewer is in the street), as road cuts are not part of the program. The property owner is responsible for all final restoration work and costs including, but not limited to: top soil, grass reseeding, watering, landscaping, sidewalks, pavement, fences, long term settlement (removing excess or adding additional fill), etc. However, the replacement of the lateral by the developer could save a property owner an average of \$5,000 in material and installation costs and increases the value of the property.

Existing ECSD property owners who may have older installations, leaking pipes, and/or chronic problems with their lateral may sign up for the program and provide receipts to become priority. To be part of the program, the owner needs to sign a release form with an DSM employee present, have a house inspection and possibly dye testing completed by the DSM to verify connections are in accordance with construction standards, and then they will be placed on a waiting list that is generated on a first come basis. **Please note that the DSM cannot determine the duration of the waiting period, as the work on your lateral is based on the developer's specific project construction schedule. Due to long wait times, as of April 2024 new candidates are not presently accepted.** Homeowner's should consider replacing their building sewer at their own cost to address issues with their lateral while waiting for the Developer's program to take place. There are no reimbursements involved with the program. The diagram to the right shows the placement of a typical building lateral and main sewerline.

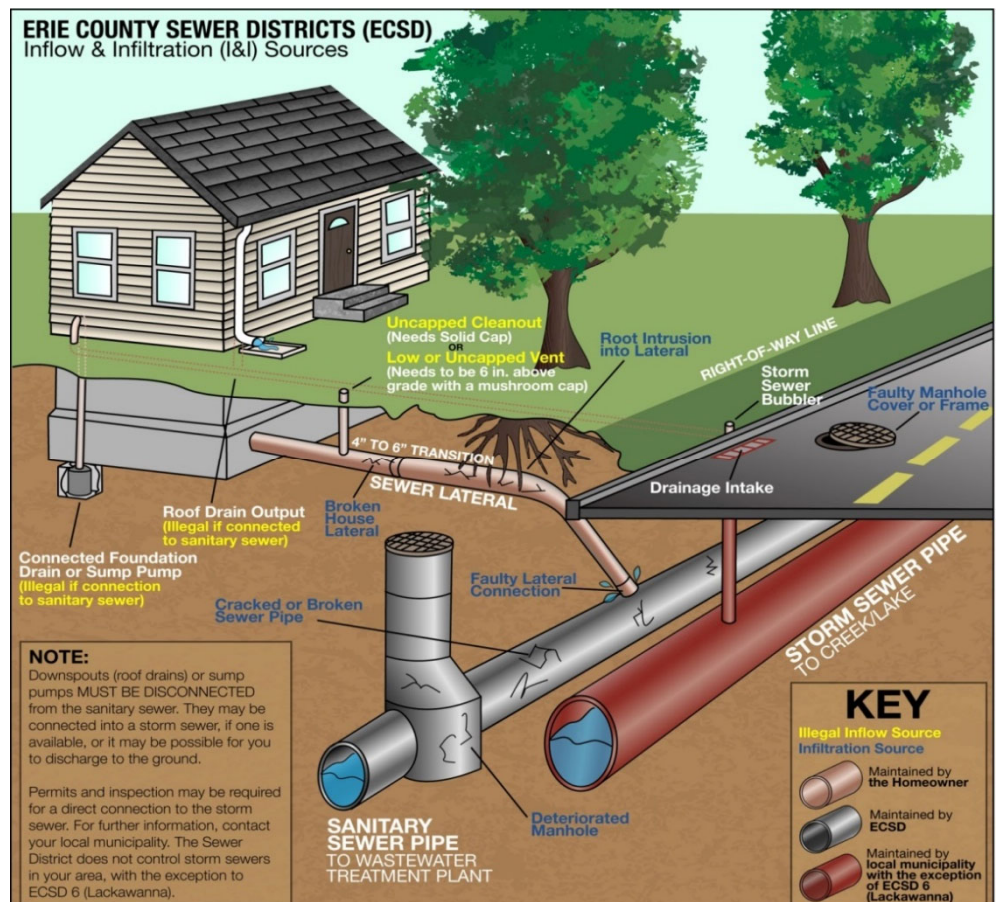
For more information please contact:

- DSM Downtown 716-858-8383  
email [DSM@erie.gov](mailto:DSM@erie.gov)  
Rath Building, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor,  
Buffalo, NY

Region offices information only:

- Central Region Office, ECSD 3-6-8  
3690 Lakeshore Rd, Buffalo  
716-823-8188
- Northern Region Office, ECSD 1-4-5  
3789 Walden Ave, Lancaster  
716-684-1234
- Southern Region Office, ECSD 2  
8443 Lakeshore Rd, Angola  
716-549-3161

[www.erie.gov/iandi](http://www.erie.gov/iandi)





# PERMISSION TO PERFORM WORK AND RELEASE OF CLAIMS - NORTHERN REGION

The undersigned individual(s), is permitting Erie County Sewer District Nos. 1, 4, or 5 (ECSD 1-4-5) Northern Region and/or its agent to replace, free of charge, the existing building sewer lateral at the premises listed below. The undersigned will accept the building sewer replacement as it will meet the ECSD Rules and Regulations. The backfill will be of native materials mounded and rough graded. The undersigned understands that the restoration part of the work (i.e. top soil, seeding, watering, long term settlement, sidewalks, landscaping, pavement, fences, etc.) will be their sole responsibility to be completed following the building sewer replacement, and/or as soon as the weather permits such work. The undersigned does hereby release and forever discharge, the County of Erie, Erie County Sewer Districts 1, 4, or 5, its agent, the contractor, and the sponsor of the work, their successors and assigns, from all lawsuits, controversies, trespasses, damage judgments and claims, in law or in equity, to and including the date hereof, particularly of and from all claims of every kind, nature and description to and including the date hereof for extras, or property restoration in connection with the project known as Development Building Sewer Replacement Program at the address listed below, located in ECSD \_\_\_\_\_, Mini System \_\_\_\_\_.

*(Attach a property sketch including description, all measurements, and special conditions.)*

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I (we) have hereunder set my (our) hand the

\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Owner's Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Owner's Name Printed)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Property's Street Address)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Property's Town, State, Zip)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Owner's Contact Phone(s))

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Owner's Email)

Owner Resides at Property       Owner Rents Property

In Presence of: \_\_\_\_\_ (ECSD 1-4-5 Name Printed)

\_\_\_\_\_ (ECSD 1-4-5 Signature)

List Notes and Special Conditions and Show on Sketch:

Owner's Initials:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

