

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 homeowner is responsible for having the line videotaped, and a Ferguson Public Works Inspector must be present. If a break is found, the City of Ferguson will reimburse the homeowner for the cost of the videotaping. (Videotaping does not require a licensed plumber). The City reserves the right to refuse a videotape that is not sufficiently clear enough to determine the break. The distance (location) of the break must be pinpointed and marked on the video or on an accompanying log. The cost of the video will be deducted from the homeowner's share of the lateral repairs.
- The Program will cover 85% of the repair cost, and the homeowner will be responsible for 15% of the repair cost. The homeowner will deposit their 15% of the estimated cost to the City prior to the City's authorization of work (less video cost).
- Change orders and additional cost for repairs may not be incurred without prior approval of the Public Works Director. If approved, the homeowner will be responsible for 15% of any overages above the original estimate.
- The Director of Public Works will make the final determination of scope of work to be performed and whether the scope of work meets the guidelines as adopted and amended from time to time.
- Upon determination there is a break eligible for the program; the homeowner will be responsible for obtaining three (3) bids from a list of qualified plumbing contractors approved by the City. The bids will then be submitted to the Public Works Department for review and selection of the contractor.
- Repairs are authorized for breaks only, not maintenance. (Roots growing through bells and joints are maintenance).
- Septic systems and commercial properties are NOT eligible for the program.
- The program is a repair of the specific break location, not replacement of the entire lateral line (unless evidence indicates this is necessary as determined by the Director of Public Works).
- Single family and multiple family units of 6 units or less are eligible for the program.
- The Public Works Department will be responsible for all inspections.
- The decision of the Director of Public Works may be appealed to the Building Board of Appeals for a fee of \$50. In the event the appeal is upheld, the filing fee will be reimbursed to the applicant.
- **Failure to follow the outlined procedure (i.e. doing work without authorization) will not be eligible for reimbursement.**
- Any property owner who is in arrears to the City for any fees, taxes or other monies is ineligible to participate in the program or receive any reimbursement from the program until all past due payments have been received in full.

If there are any questions, please call the Public Works office at (314) 524-5191 before signing any contract or authorizing any work.