



City of Ferguson Department of Public Works
(314) 521-7721

SEWER LATERAL CHECKLIST

The following items must be completed to be considered for the sewer lateral program.

- The homeowner is responsible for having the line videotaped and **requesting company to email video link and written scope of work to scobb@fergusoncity.com**. If a break is found, the City of Ferguson will reimburse the homeowner for the cost of the videotaping. The City will not reimburse for any other fees (cabling, service call, etc.) incurred.
- The program is limited to lateral repair from the foundation of the house to the main *only*.
- The homeowner will complete the **Sewer Lateral Repair Application**.
- The Public Works will submit the repairs for bids and choose the contractor with the lowest bid.
- The homeowner is responsible for 15% of the cost of the repair. The homeowner's payment must be paid to the City prior to commencement of work. The homeowner **should not** pay any funds to the contractor.

**FOR MORE DETAILED INFORMATION PLEASE
READ THE ATTACHED!**



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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 City of Ferguson's Sewer Lateral Program significantly reduces the financial responsibility of sewer lateral repair for the homeowners of Ferguson. Some may ask "What is a sewer lateral?" A sewer lateral is a part of the building's drainage system that carries liquid and solid waste from the building to either the public sewer or an individual sewage-disposal system (septic tank). A lateral consists of sloped underground pipe extending from the building to a point of disposal. The system uses gravity to conduct the flow from the building to its point of disposal, usually the main sewer line which belongs to Metropolitan Sewer District (MSD). Since gravity is the primary force in draining the system, it is necessary that the lateral be large enough to handle the amount of waste being generated and void of cracks or breaks and foreign objects such as tree roots that reduce or block adequate flow.

The Sewer Lateral Program is a City program designed to help reduce the high cost incurred in the repair of sewer laterals. "Repair" is the operative word within the program. **Repairing can occur without replacement of all sewer lateral sections of pipe.** The program is not designed to be a maintenance tool. Maintaining a clear and unobstructed system is the primary responsibility of the property owner. The removal of tree roots and others clogs are classified as routine maintenance and do not qualify for the sewer lateral program. If sewer lateral repair is required, then the following guidelines will apply.

- The homeowner will complete the SEWER LATERAL REPAIR APPLICATION requesting consideration for sewer lateral repair.
- The homeowner is responsible for videotaping the line to determine the problem. If a break is identified, submit a copy of the receipt and the City will reimburse the owner for the cost of the videotaping. The City will not reimburse for any other fees (cabling, service call, etc.) incurred. The homeowner may contract any qualified contractor (videotaping does not require a licensed plumber). **An inspector cannot be present due to COVID regulations. Ferguson Public Works highly suggests using the two companies listed for the sewer lateral for the videotaping.** The distance (location) of the break must be pinpointed and marked in the video and accompanying documentation. However, the City reserves the



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SEWER LATERAL PROGRAM GUIDELINES

- right to refuse any videotape that is not sufficiently clear enough to determine the break.
- Upon determination that there is a break eligible for the program, bids for repair are sent out to list of City approved contractors.
- The Director of Public Works will make final determination of the scope of work to be performed and whether the work is reimbursable under the adopted guidelines.
- **The program is limited to lateral repair from the house to the main only.** It is designed for the repair of specific break location(s) from the house to the main, but not for the replacement of the entire lateral line (unless evidence indicates this is necessary as determined by the Director of Public Works).
- **The homeowner is responsible for 15% of the estimated cost of the repair.** The homeowner's portion of the repair must be paid to the City prior to the commencement of work and with the City's approval to begin the work. The City is responsible for 85% of the replacement cost.
- Change orders and additional costs for repair 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.
- Single family and multiple family units of six (6) units or less are eligible for the program.
- The Public Works Department will document all inspections.
- The decision of the Director of Public Works may be appealed to the Building Board of Appeals for a fee of \$50.00. In the event the appeal is upheld, the filing fee will be returned to the applicant.



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SEWER LATERAL PROGRAM GUIDELINES

- Commercial properties and septic systems are NOT eligible for the program.
- If there are any questions, please call the Public Works Office at 524-5191 before signing any contract or authorizing any work.

** Any property owner in arrears to the City for any fees, taxes or other monies is ineligible to participate in the program.



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**RESIDENTIAL SEWER LATERAL REPAIR PROGRAM
APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS**

1. Fill out the form titled "SEWER LATERAL REPAIR APPLICATION".
2. If the sewer lateral breaks crosses onto an adjoining property, the owner of the adjoining property must also sign an application giving consent for access to their property.
3. Submit the "MASTER PLUMBER / DRAINLAYER CERTIFICATION" completed by the Master Plumber/Drain Layer who verified the need for a sewer lateral repair along with the application and videotape.
4. Return completed application along with supporting documentation and video to:
**City of Ferguson, Department of Public Works, and 110 Church Street,
Ferguson, MO 63135.**
5. Questions regarding any of the above should be directed to the Department of Public Works office at (314) 524-5191.

Please see "SEWER LATERAL PROGRAM GUIDELINES" for details on the administration and eligibility requirements of the program. After an application is received, the following actions will take place:

1. Upon determination that there is a break eligible under the sewer lateral program, the bids for repair are sent to the list of qualified plumbing contractors.
2. After a bid has been awarded, the applicant will be notified of the contractor who will be making the repairs.
3. Owner of the property shall deposit **15%** of contract estimate with the City of Ferguson Public Works Department. If additional work is required that entails added cost, owner will be required to deposit additional **15%** of added cost.
4. Licensed contractor will make the specified repairs. After the repairs have been made, the contractor will submit his invoice to the Department of Public Works for the City of Ferguson.
5. Inspections will be performed by all agencies permitting work.
6. Upon approval of the final inspection of the repairs and the receipt of all required documentation, the City of Ferguson will forward payment to the contractor.



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LATERAL REPAIR APPLICATION

Address of request for repair:

- Is the property owner occupied?
- Tenant occupied (**rental property**)?
- Adjoining property?

Owner Name:

Address:

City/State/Zip:

Daytime Phone: _____ Evening: _____

As owner/owner's agent of the property, I certify that I have the authority to and do consent to the performance of sewer lateral repair work on and about the property described in the application and will not interfere with the work to be performed by the contractor selected by the City of Ferguson Department of Public Works and shall reimburse the City for all expenses incurred by them on applicant's behalf in the event the applicant withdraws permission to proceed or otherwise interferes with performance of work authorized under this program.

As owner/owner's agent of the property, I certify that neither I nor anyone on my behalf will make any claim against or seek any relief from the City of Ferguson arising out of or in connection with any work done or any action taken in connection with the Sewer Lateral Repair Program.

As owner/owner's agent of the property, I also certify that the City of Ferguson is not responsible for the actions of the contractor making the sewer lateral repairs and agree to indemnify the City and hold the City harmless from any and all claims arising out the applicant's participation in, and work performed and actions taken in connection with, the Sewer Lateral Repair Program.

As owner/owner's agent of the property, I understand that sewer lateral repair includes only the patching or replacement of a defective sewer lateral line, including associated digging and replacement of dirt and seeding of affected areas, and does not include any replacement of landscaping or ornamental structures but only replacement of structural facilities required for safe occupancy or safe use of the property.

As owner/owner's agent of the property, I acknowledge that the City of Ferguson is a third-party beneficiary to any contract for sewer repair work.

Owner/Agent Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

If signature is by agent, form must be accompanied by a notarized power of attorney.



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CITY OF FERGUSON SEWER LATERAL VIDEO LIST

You can use any company you choose for the sewer lateral video.

A price comparison was done and the following two companies were the cheapest for the sewer lateral video of the ten contacted.

IMPORTANT – One of the Code Enforcement Inspectors must be Present at the time of the video.

A-Alpha – VIDEO ONLY \$140.00 flat rate 5415 Arsenal St. St. Louis, MO 63139 (314) 645-6650	SewerPro \$199.00 7525 Ravensridge Road St. Louis, MO 63119 (314) 821-1600
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**CITY OF FERGUSON SEWER LATERAL
CONTRACTOR LIST**

Once a break is found that qualifies for the Sewer Lateral Program, The City of Ferguson Public Word will submit the repairs to the contractors listed below for a bid.

Once we have three bids, we will contact you.

IMPORTANT – Only the contractors below are approved to complete the repairs.

A. Brooks Co., Inc. 8409 Olive Blvd. St. Louis, MO 63132 (314) 569-3511	Classic Aire Care, Inc. / Drain Team 10466 Baur Blvd Olivette, MO 63132 (314) 991-1137
Don Rush Contracting 5147 Auriesville Lane Hazelwood, MO 63042 (314)291-0830	E & M Plumbing Co., Inc. 101 Dreyer Eureka, MO 63025 (636) 938-1311
JL Contracting LLC 122 Powell Ave. Ferguson, MO 63135 314-568-5215	John Mess Plumbing Co., Inc. 4458 Chippewa St. Louis, MO 63116 314-353-3700
Bob Raeker Plumbing Company 9651 Lackland Road St. Louis, MO 63114 (314)429-0896	Sutter Plumbing 2436 Woodson Road Overland, MO 63114 (314)427-0020
Tope Plumbing 8822 Natural Bridge Rd. St. Louis, MO 63121 (314)890-0900	J. Smith Prop. Inc. 6881 Thorton Road Pacific, MO 63019 636-271-5415
AA Quick Electric Sewer Inc. 3012-A N. Lindbergh Blvd. St. Louis, MO 63074 314-429-7131	