

Homeowner Responsibilities for Sewer Lateral

Homeowner's own and are responsible to maintain the entire lateral from their home to the sewer main, including portion of the lateral that may be located within the public right-of-way (under pathway and asphalt) or easement (Ref. Los Altos Hills Municipal Code, Section 6-4.443 (7)).

Maintaining the lateral includes keeping the lateral line flowing and free of debris such as roots, or grease.

For Emergencies Call 911

Non-Emergency to Sheriff - **408-299-2311**

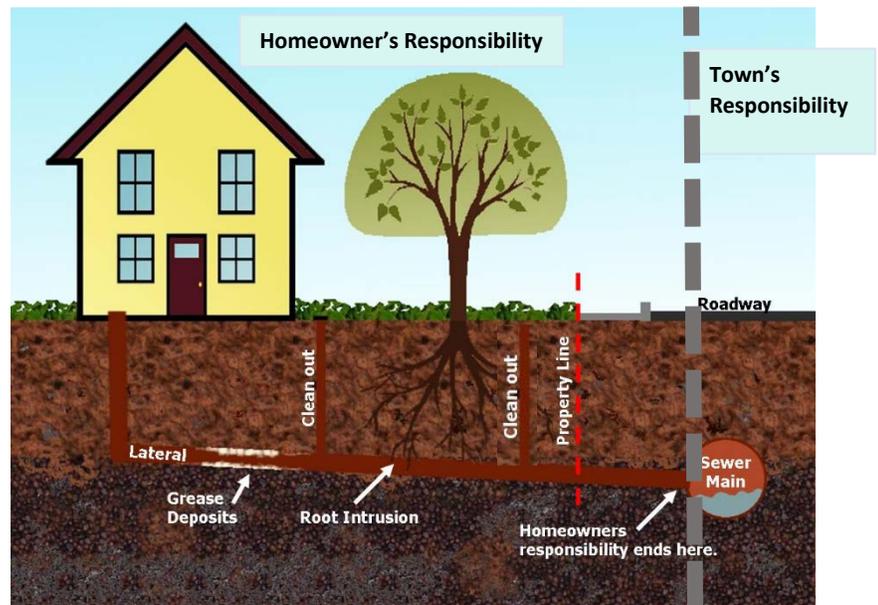
Down trees and sewer overflows/backup:
Office hours: Town Hall at **650-941-7222**

AFTER office hours: Santa Clara County
Communications at **408-299-3233**

Sewer backups are usually unexpected and always create a mess

Sewer backups can cause tremendous damage to the properties. To minimize the risk of an overflow entering private home, the Town provides continual maintenance services for the public sewer main and require homeowners to do the same for their private sewer lateral with the following approaches:

- Maintain your lateral through proper cleaning, repair, and replacement.
- Do not place improper items into the sewer or make improper connections to the sewer
 - Keep rainwater out of the sewer lines as it overwhelms the capacity of the sewer lines and may causes sewer spills.
 - Do not pour fats, oils, and grease in your drains as these products harden and stick to the inside of the sewer pipes, which build up and may eventually cause a blockage in the sewer pipe.
- Install a backflow preventer and cleanout in your sewer lateral.



Who fixes the problem?

If it is caused by the sewer main as determined by staff, the Town will fix it as quickly as possible and keep you informed about what's being done.

If it is determined NOT initiated by the sewer main, Town staff will let you know so you can call a plumber and take all necessary remedial measures to protect your property. Staff and crew will not provide any maintenance services on the private lateral as it is against the law.

Is this City policy or law?

This is law. Public funds cannot be spent for private purposes.