Private Sanitary Sewer Lateral Replacement Grant Program

Sewer Blockages

Sewer blockages can be caused by disposing of materials such as cooking oil, toys, wipes or other objects that have been flushed down a household drain, sink or toilet. Blockages can also happen due to a deteriorated sewer lateral and tree roots getting through cracks in the pipe.

In order to improve the service provided to residents, the City took over responsibility for the portion of your sanitary sewer lateral on the City property on January 1st, 2014. The property owner is now responsible only for maintaining the portion of sanitary sewer lateral up to their property line, where previously, the property owner was responsible for maintaining the sewer lateral from inside the building to the point where it connects with the City’s wastewater main on the street (i.e. the entire sewer lateral). Services to clear blockages have been extended to 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Please contact the City at 519-756-1360 or 519-752-1031, if you need to have a sewer blockage cleared. For fees for clearing a sewer blockage and other related information, please refer to the city website: www.brantford.ca/sewers

Qualified Contractors

Only licensed contractors trained to replace or reline sewer laterals are qualified to perform this work. This includes licensed plumbing contractors and licensed drain or sewer contractors. Please visit the City’s website at www.brantford.ca/plumbingtrades for a current list of plumbing contractors who are licensed to provide services in the City of Brantford*. If the property owner’s preference is to use a plumber who is not on the list, the City will require that the plumber be licensed as required under the City’s Business Licensing By-law.

*Please note that this list does not include contact information. It is the responsibility of the homeowner to search for licensed contractors in the yellow pages or online. The City does not provide recommendations on plumbing contractors. Verification of the qualifications of contractors on this list with respect to Plumbing Trade Licensing and liability insurance coverage, is the responsibility of the property owner. Neither the City of Brantford nor any of its agents, officers or employees, make any warranty, express or implied, or assume any legal liability or responsibility for the accuracy, completeness, or usefulness of any information provided by the business-licensing list. Reference to a specific plumbing contractor, does not necessarily constitute or imply the City of Brantford’s endorsement, recommendation, or favoring by the City of Brantford, its agents, officers or employees of the plumbing contractor.

Terms and Conditions

Grant approvals are subject to the City’s terms and conditions, including the availability of funding at any given time. Grants are awarded on a first come first serve basis, remain valid for six months from the approval date and will expire if:

- Construction is not complete
- Paid invoices are not received by the City of Brantford
- Water service replacement inspection is not satisfactory
- Any other forms are incomplete (i.e. Declaration of Work Completion form)

The General Manager of Public Works has the authority to extend the grant validity period or any other variations necessary for successful implementation of this program. The City will not provide a grant for an amount greater than $1,500.

NEW IN JUNE 2016! Eligibility requirements expanded to include residential rental properties

A financial assistance program for property owners to replace old sanitary sewer laterals on private property, to help prevent sewer stoppages.
Program Eligibility

To qualify for the program, eligible applicants must:

• Be the owner(s) of a property in the city of Brantford
• Have not commenced replacement or relining of private sanitary sewer lateral prior to grant program approval*
• Have paid all property taxes at the time of application for the grant
• Building must have an existing sanitary sewer lateral that is not still under a new construction warranty

*Applications will be accepted for replacement of private sanitary sewer laterals done on an emergency basis where replacement work is in progress or completed just prior to making application. All other eligibility requirements must still be met for grant approval.

Application & Approval Process

• Pick up an application form from Brantford City Hall or from the City’s website (www.brantford.ca/sewers)
• Submit itemized quote from contractor for the replacement (or relining) work*
• Quotes must include the installation of a cleanout unless one already exists that meets part 7 of the Ontario Building Code
• Complete the application form, ensuring all registered homeowners sign it, with a quote attached and return to the City: Environmental Services Department, City Hall 100 Wellington Square, P.O. Box 818

Brantford, Ontario N3T 5R7, Fax: 519-752-6775

Payment Process

After approval and replacement of your sewer lateral, a cheque for the grant totalling 50% of the paid eligible invoice amount, to a maximum of $1,500, will be made payable to the property owner upon the City’s receipt of the following:

• A paid invoice of work completed by the contractor, OR
• Paid invoices for materials and equipment related to the private sewer lateral replacement
• A satisfactory City inspection of the sanitary sewer lateral installation, OR
• A satisfactory City inspection of a pre and post video of the sanitary sewer lateral before and after relining
• A completed Declaration of Work Completion form, indicating the homeowner is satisfied with the work completed
• A completed “Electronic Funds Transfer” (EFT) form authorizing the City to deposit grant funds directly to applicant’s bank account

Please Note: Grant approvals are subject to the availability of funding at any given time, on a first-come, first-serve basis. They will only be valid for six months from the approval date and will expire if:

• Construction is not complete
• Paid invoices are not received by the City
• Sanitary sewer lateral replacement inspection is not satisfactory
• Any other forms are incomplete (i.e. Declaration of Work Completion form)

For further financial assistance please call Social Services at 519-759-3330, to see if you qualify under the Ontario Renovates Program.