

Public Sewer System Information

The Public Sewer System serving Lower Saucon Township serves approximately 2000 customers and collects wastewater and conveys it to a central treatment facility through a network of approximately 27 miles of sewer main.

Residents can extend the life of this valuable public resource by following the tips in this brochure.

Sanitary vs. Storm Sewers

The Sanitary System is designed to collect and convey wastewater and is not meant or designed to remove storm water runoff or ground-water which may find it's way into yards or basements. Manholes marked with "SANITARY SEWER" on the lid are for wastewater, while grates are associated with storm water collection:



Sanitary Sewer Manhole



Storm Water Grate



Lower Saucon Authority

3706 Old Philadelphia Pike
Bethlehem, PA 18015

Phone: 610-317-3212

Fax: 610-317-3216

Emergency After-Hours

County Control

610-759-2200

Website: www.lowersauconauthority.org

E-mail

administrator@lowersauconauthority.org

Public Sewer System Information

What You Can Do
To Protect and Preserve
This Township Resource



Lower Saucon Authority

December 2009

The Public Sewer System – Taking Care of the Resource.

History

The **Sanitary Sewer System** was first constructed in Lower Saucon Township and became operational in 1989. Over time it has expanded to serve much of the western half of the Township. It is operated and maintained by the Lower Saucon Authority for the Township. The system currently has some 27 miles of main and serves some 2000 customers. Wastewater from the residences along the system is conveyed underground to a central wastewater treatment plant which removes harmful components and makes the water safe for discharge into the Lehigh River.

Keeping Costs Down

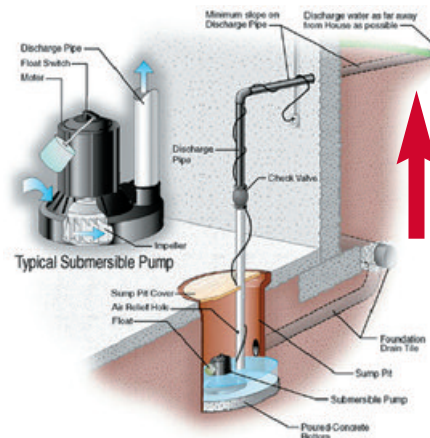
In addition to debt service and normal operating and maintenance costs, the Authority has to pay for all water which makes its way to the Treatment Plant. We make every effort to keep the mains and manholes, etc., watertight but need the assistance of each customer to avoid inflow and infiltration of storm water into the system.

Since we collectively pay for every gallon of water that passes through the Treatment Plant, it makes sense to keep the system “tight” so that storm/groundwater does not get into the system during periods of heavy rain, etc.

What We All Can Do to Keep the System Operating Properly

Customers can play a major role in keeping treatment costs and operational problems at a minimum by following a few simple guidelines:

- **Make sure rainwater, downspouts, basement drains and sump pump discharges are not connected or piped into the sanitary sewer.** Sump Pump discharges should be directed outside into the yard, as shown below:



- Make sure that the sewer vent and cleanouts in your yard do not allow rainwater, etc. to flow into the sewer when the yard floods. If this is a problem, raising the vent line a few inches or repairing or replacing the clean-out cap can easily solve the problem.

- If you suspect you have a problem with a sump pump or broken clean-out, but are not sure, call the Authority and we will inspect and advise at no charge.



Broken Cleanout

- **Never put grease or oil, eggshells, coffee grounds, etc. down the drain.** Similarly, avoid flushing disposable diapers or feminine hygiene products into the system. These items can build up in and clog your house piping and possibly the main in the street as well, creating major problems.
- **NEVER put flammable materials (gasoline, solvents, etc.) into the system** as these can cause dangerous buildups of explosive vapors which can create a public safety hazard to others and persons working on the system.
- **Avoid planting trees directly over sewer laterals or mains.**
- With just a little attention to these issues, we can all work together to keep your house piping and the public sewer system operating with minimal problems.

Thank You!