

The Sewer System: A Shared Responsibility

We all count on each other to keep our community's sewer system functioning properly. Rutherfordton Public Works safeguards the public sewer mains, but about half of the sewer system is privately owned lateral lines, which are the cause of many sewage spills. Property owners are responsible for maintaining the entire length of their lateral line from their home or business to where it meets the sewer main under the street. This graphic highlights the best practices to prevent overflows and protect human health.

Sewer manhole cover

Provides Public Works access to the sewer system

Sewer Cleanout

This access point provides access to the homeowner's lateral line to periodically flush the line and to clean the line when blockages occur. Call the number below for an inspection.

Bathroom

Flush **ONLY** toilet paper and human waste! Do not flush anything else, including:

- "Flushable" wipes
- Hair
- Dental floss
- Cat litter, including "flushable"
- Pharmaceuticals
- Feminine products
- Household hazardous waste
- Toiletry products

Kitchen

Do not put **egg shells, coffee grounds, fat, or grease** down your garbage disposal. Grease is the #1 culprit of sewer line overflows and backups!

- Using a garbage disposal only grinds particles up before passing them into sewer pipes. It doesn't prevent build up or blockages!

- Be sure to dispose of cooking grease by pouring fats into an empty can and throwing the can away.

Backflow prevention device

A valve which clamps shut to protect your home against sewage backups.

Lateral Line

Lateral Line

Your lateral line connects your home to the sewer main line by gravity flow. It is the responsibility of the property owner to maintain and repair the lateral line.

Property Line

Sewer Maintenance
Responsibility of:

Public Works is here for you!

If sewer water is backing up in your home or yard, don't hesitate to call us for an immediate inspection.

Our crew is on call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

(828) 287-5961



← Rutherfordton

Property Owner (You) →