

## DID YOU KNOW...

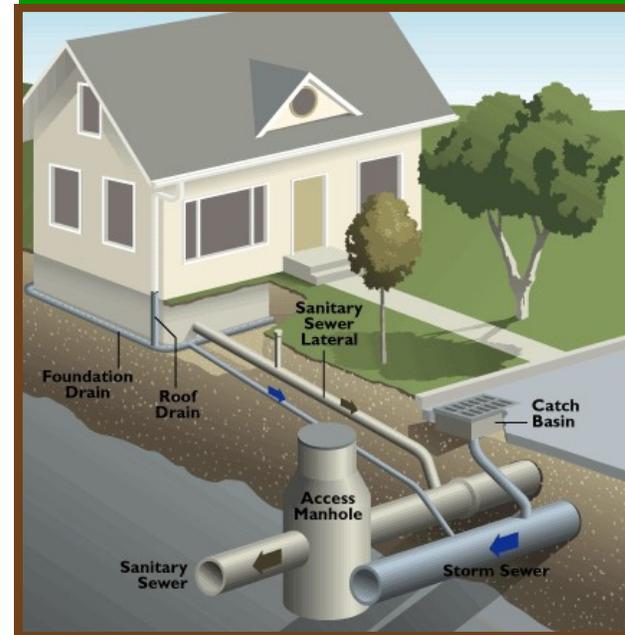
→ It is illegal to pour grease or other substances into the sewer or catch basin. Violators can be fined up to \$500 for each occurrence that causes damage to the City's sewer system.

→ Non-compliance with City rules and regulations regarding the sewer system can result in the discontinuance of water service.

City of Cleveland  
•  
Department of  
Public Utilities  
•  
Division of  
Water Pollution Control

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## Are You Experiencing Sewer-Related Problems?



(Separate Sewer System)



Division of Water Pollution Control

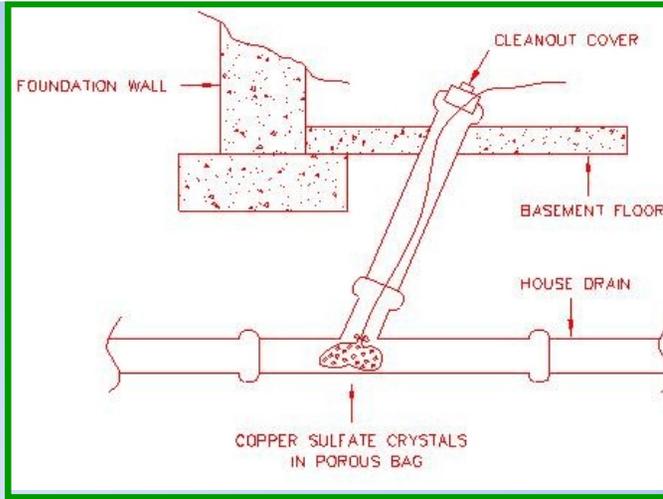
*"Only Rain Down the Storm Drain"*

## You can lessen the chance of sewer-related problems

**Catch Basins:** Keep them free of debris. Do not put anything into a catch basin that may clog the sewer system or pollute the water, such as grass clippings, leaves, motor oil, concrete, paint, bottles or cans. Clogs in the sewer system can result in street flooding and water backing up into basements.

**Basement Flooding:** Do not pour grease or other clogging substances into sinks or toilets. Properly dispose of cooking grease by placing it in a throw-away container. Do not place small objects where they may fall into toilets or sink drains, and only flush toilet paper. Motor oil and paint should be taken to a recycling center.

**Sewer Odor Inside Your Home:** This can be caused by a dry drain trap. Flush the drain with a mixture of bleach and water to eliminate the odor.



**Tree Root Problems:** You can snake your connection or you can purchase copper sulfate in crystal form at any hardware store, and follow the manufacturer's directions. You also can hire a plumber with root-cutting capability.

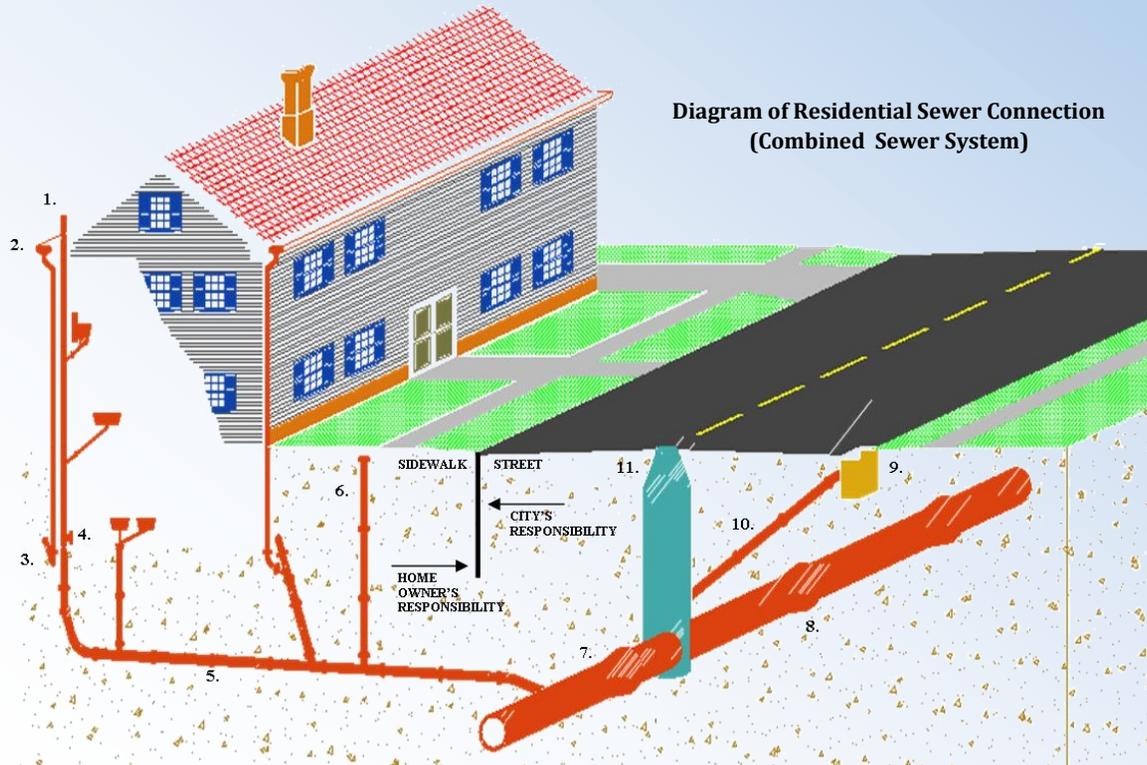


Diagram of Residential Sewer Connection  
(Combined Sewer System)

## If water backs up into your basement

You should notify the Division of Water Pollution Control (WPC) to investigate the problem. If the main sewer is flowing properly you will need to hire a licensed and bonded plumber to clear the connection. It is your responsibility to make repairs if the problem in the connection is found to be between the property and the curb. If the problem is between the curb and the main sewer, you need to get the plumber's receipt noting the exact location of the problem, and contact WPC.

## If you are planning to dig, you must first obtain a permit

**Sewer Repair Permit:** Prior to performing sewer repairs, licensed and bonded sewer builders must secure a permit from WPC. The permit allows contractors to dig in the tree lawn to make repairs. For sewer measurements and more information about the permit, please contact WPC.

## Test Tee Program

If you experience a blockage in the sewer connection, you should hire a licensed and bonded plumber to alleviate the problem. If the problem is found between the curb and the main sewer, then you may submit proof to WPC and ask about your eligibility for the Test Tee Program. For more information about the Test Tee Program, please contact WPC.

### Homeowner's Responsibility

1. Vent Stack
2. Gutter/Downspout
3. Under-Drain
4. Cleanout
5. Connection from house to the curb
6. Test Tee Connection

### City's Responsibility

7. Connection from curb to main sewer
8. Main sewer
9. Catch basin
10. Catch basin lateral
11. Manhole