



Morton Grove Public Works Department Severe Weather Information Guide

*First in Service
First in Safety*



7840 Nagle Avenue
Morton Grove, Illinois 60053

847-470-5235 Fax - 847-965-9511



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Wind Damage; Frequently Asked Questions:

What can I do with branches that fall in my yard?

Bring them out to the parkway; Public Works will pick up tree branches that fall during a storm. Public Works employees cannot go onto private property to pick up branches, Only **storm branches** will be picked up from the parkway. Any other debris other than storm branches is the responsibility of the home owner to have removed.

If a tree is damaged during a storm, who do I call?

If a tree in the parkway is damage or fallen call Public Works at 847-470-5235 between the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 3:15 p.m., Monday through Friday. If after hours or on weekends, call the Police Department NON EMERGENCY number at 847-470-5200, they will notify Public Works and help will be dispatched. If the tree is on your property, call a private contractor to assist you in the tree removal. The homeowner is responsible for the removal and disposal of your own tree.

A parkway tree has fallen on my property and house, what do I do?

Call the Police Department NON EMERGENCY number at 847-470-5200 and file a property damage report. Call your homeowners insurance for advice and call a private contractor. Remember Public Works is not allowed on private property due to employee liability. After the parkway tree is cut from your property, Public Works will come and remove the remaining tree and dispose of the debris.

Public Works first responsibility is to clear the roadways from tree debris to allow emergency vehicles to pass safely in emergency situations. If you suffer tree damage, call Public Works and we will assist after the roadways are cleared.



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Basement Flooding; Frequently Asked Questions:

If I experience sewer back up; what do I do first?

First call Public Works at 847-470-5235 between the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 3:15 p.m., Monday through Friday. If after hours or on weekends, call the Police Department NON EMERGENCY number at 847-470-5200, they will notify Public Works and help will be dispatched. Public Works will inspect the Village's sewer main. If the Village main is running fine the homeowner will be instructed to call a local area plumber to rectify the sewer back issue.

Under normal conditions, the Village's 41 miles of sanitary, and combined sewer pipes are down and running fine due to the Sewer Divisions regular cleaning, inspection and televising of the sewer system. However, homeowner sanitary sewer laterals over time can become clogged with obstructions or infiltrated with tree roots through small cracks in the mortar around the tile joint.

The following maintenance and corrective procedures will help to prevent sewer backups:

Sewer Cleaning

Periodic rodding of the sanitary lateral to control root growth can reduce the likelihood of a sewer backup.

Copper Sulfate Treatment

Copper sulfate reduces the rate of root growth and increases the intervals between roddings.

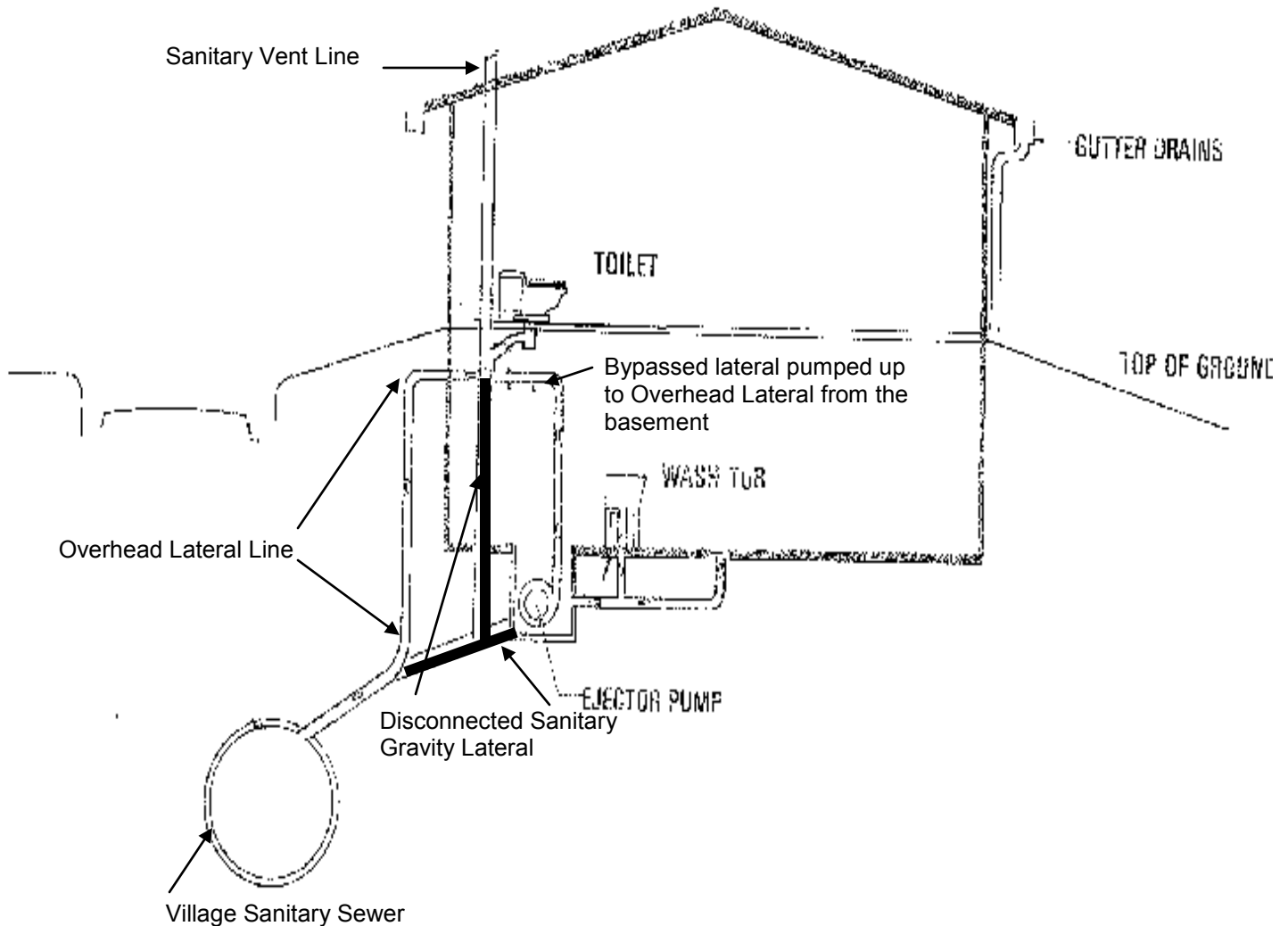
Sewer Pipe Replacement

The most effective method of eliminating tree roots is to dig up old sewer pipe where the obstruction is located and replace it with new pipe. The new pipe joints will have tight seal which virtually eliminates the possibility of tree roots growing into the sewer line in the future.

Basement Flooding:

Installation of an Overhead Sewer System

An overhead sewer is a system in which all sewage from above-ground level flows by gravity to the Village sewer, but sewage collected below grade in the basement must be pumped. The figure below illustrates the disconnection of the old gravity sanitary lateral and the conversion to an Overhead Sanitary Sewer System:





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Basement Flooding:

Footing Drains

Footing Drains protect basements from flooding. They are located around the outside of the house foundation just below the level of the basement floor. When it rains ground water collects down inside the footing drain pipe keeping the water from seeping through cracks in the basement floor and walls. The water inside the footing drain pipe flows to a sump pump pit located inside the basement floor and is then pumped directly to the outside. In older homes, the footing drains are connected directly to the house sanitary service lateral. When a basement develops leaks in the floor or walls, it is often due to blockage or breakage of the footing drains.

Sump Pump Discharge

Discharging footing drain storm water directly out to the front or back yards should be pumped far enough away from the house foundation. If the water discharges too close to the foundation, the sump pump will run excessively causing the water seeping back down to the footing drains to be pumped all over again.

Downspout Drainage

All downspouts should be directed well away from the house foundation, pointed to the front or back, never to the sides or toward a neighbors home.

Exterior Grading

Basement floor and wall leaks can also be caused by excessive amounts of ground water collecting around the basement walls due to improper grading. [Make sure the ground around the foundation is sloped away from the house for several feet in order to prevent excessive water from accumulation in the soil next to the house.]



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Street Flooding:

Storm Sewers

There are 45 miles of storm sewer throughout the Village. Under normal conditions the storm sewer system conveys rain water to the 10 separate storm outfalls discharging to the North Branch of the Chicago River. The Sewer Division routinely cleans and inspects the storm sewer system. During a major rain storm, the river level rises higher than the storm outfalls and causes the storm sewer system to become surcharged causing street flooding on certain streets. The water will hold on the street until the storm sewer system catches up or the river level begins to drop.

Sand Bags

Sand Bags are available upon request to all Village residents. Contact the Public Works Department 847-470-5235 to receive sand bags.

Street Flooding Prevention

Do not dispose of grass clippings or brush on the street. Help keep storm sewer inlets free of obstructions. If you see leaves, paper, branches or ice obstructing a storm inlet or catch basin, please remove the items so that the storm water runoff from the street can flow freely. Call the Public Works Department if you see any sudden ground settlement. This may indicate a collapsed sewer or other problem which needs immediate attention.



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For any additional information or questions regarding sewer related issues or any other public works questions please call our office at, 847-470-5235. After 3:15 p.m. and weekends please the Police Department Non Emergency number at, 847-470-5200 and our staff will be notified immediately to return your call.