

## SECTION 11200 – LATERALS

**DEFINITION** – Sanitary sewer laterals shall be the pipe from the public sanitary sewer main to the private building(s). It is the policy of BCWS that sewer service pipes or laterals are privately owned and maintained.

### BACKGROUND

- This policy derives from the following background factors:
  - 1) Private property owners are responsible for maintaining the sewer lateral in good condition, as the sewer lateral provides for purely private use.
    - An inspection permit is required for any lateral repair work.
    - BCWS may be able to assist in investigating lateral issues.
  - 2) BCWS has not received an easement, dedication, or other legal right of access to enter private property for the purpose of maintaining the private sewer lateral.
  - 3) BCWS does not have authority to expend public funds for the purpose of repairing or maintaining private property including private sewer laterals.
- BCWS has the responsibility to operate, maintain and repair sewer lines that provide for common collection and transmission of sewage discharges. BCWS is not obligated to maintain a sewer line that is used exclusively for private use.

### MAINTENANCE

- Sewer lateral connections to the public sanitary sewer main are divided into four (4) categories. In all cases, it is the responsibility of the Owner/Applicant, or his/her agent, to verify that the sewer lateral will provide for the free, uninterrupted flow of wastewater to the public sanitary sewer main prior to completing the connection. Any evidence of an existing sewer lateral problem discovered prior to completing the sewer connection should be resolved between the Owner/Applicant and the party responsible for installing the sewer lateral prior the acceptance of the connection. Responsibility for corrections may vary among the four (4) sewer lateral categories, as follows:
  - 1) **Installed by Owner:** The Owner is totally responsible for the resolution of all problems.
  - 2) **Installed by Developer:** The Owner must resolve the question of responsibility with the Developer or accept full responsibility for resolution of problems.
  - 3) **Installed by BCWS at System Expense:** Owner shall use the lateral that was installed by BCWS and shall accept responsibility for the future maintenance of the lateral. A new connection to the public sanitary sewer main will not be allowed unless approval is granted by BCWS.
  - 4) **Installed by BCWS at Owner's Expense:** If a problem is discovered at the time the connection to BCWS installed lateral is made, BCWS will accept responsibility for the resolution of the problem.

- It is the Owner/Applicant's responsibility to verify that any sewer lateral installed by others is free of obstructions and will provide for free, uninterrupted flow of wastewater to the public sanitary sewer main prior to making connection to the main. Once service has been initiated, the Owner/Applicant accepts full responsibility for the future maintenance of the sewer lateral from the private building(s) to the public sanitary sewer main.

## CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS FOR PRIVATE LATERALS

- **Size of Pipe**
  - 1) 6-inch minimum from the public sanitary sewer main to within 5 ft of the building foundation, per BCWS Standard Specifications and Details for Water and Sanitary Sewer Construction.
- **Approved Pipe Material**
  - 1) Plastic :
    - a. 6-inch (6") SDR 35 ASTM D-3034 PVC per the Standard Specifications
  - 2) Ductile Iron:
 

Special Approval Required
- Proper adapters shall be used to connect different sizes of pipe. All other joints shall be glued (using the manufacturer's recommended glue or material for PVC or ABS ). **CONCRETE JOINTS ARE PROHIBITED.**
- Sewer laterals should be separated from water lines at least 10 feet (10') horizontally, when parallel, and 18 inches (18") vertically, when crossing (measured from the outside of the pipe).
- When a cleanout is installed it shall be securely capped and installed four inches (4") below grade and when installed in a traffic area shall be protected by a Ford Meter Box "A3H" or equal with a lid marked "Sewer".
- All commercial/industrial buildings are required to have a control manhole for future sampling purposes. Said control manhole shall consist of a standard precast concrete manhole (48-inch inside diameter) and a minimum depth of four feet (4') with a cast iron frame and lid (Neenah #R -1767, or equal). Said control manhole shall be located at a point in the lateral which is downstream of all sanitary building drain connections and outside of pavement (where possible).
- Sewer laterals must be bedded in the trench with a minimum of six inches (6") granular material under the pipe and a minimum of six inches (6") over the top of the pipe before excavated material may be placed in the trench. No large or sharp rocks will be allowed in the trench. Refer to the Standard Specifications for bedding and backfill requirements.
- The lowest level served by a sewer lateral shall be at least four feet (4') above the invert of the main line sewer at the point of connection to reduce the risk of backflow.
- The sanitary sewer lateral shall have a minimum grade of ¼ inch per foot (2%) from the main to the right-of-way or easement. The sanitary sewer lateral shall have a minimum grade of 1/8 inch per foot (1%) and a maximum grade of ¾ inch per foot (6%) from the building to the right-of-way or easement. Laterals shall not be connected to the main at an angle greater than 45° from the horizontal.

- If bends are used, they shall be properly installed and supported to prevent joint separation.
- Horizontal bends of 90° shall be accomplished by using a 45° bend then a straight section of pipe (2-foot minimum) then another 45° bend. 90° bend fittings will not be allowed.
- All taps to a sanitary sewer main shall be made per the Standard Specifications.
- Private sewer laterals shall not be connected to the public sewer system until the building to be served is under roof with the basement floor poured and foundation backfilled. Roof drains, footer or foundation drains and other clean water outlets shall not be connected into the sanitary sewer system at anytime or location. Proof of positive discharge of said drains to a surface water course or storm sewer system will be required before permanent water or sewer service is approved for any property.
- Discharge of unacceptable wastes to the system such as mud, construction debris, etc. is not permitted.
- When more than one (1) sewer lateral is placed in the same trench, a minimum of two feet (2') horizontal clearance must be maintained between pipes, measured from the outside wall of the pipes.
- Intentional or otherwise avoidable violations of these rules and regulations shall be subject to all penalties per the Sewer Use Ordinance.

## PERMITS AND INSPECTION CONTROL

- A Permit to Connect shall be secured from BCWS, which shall certify that the sewer has been approved and accepted by the County for connection and that all fees applicable have been paid.
- A permit shall also be secured from the Butler County Health Department which shall verify that the connection shall be made in a proper manner and inspected.
- Inspection of the private sewer lateral is to be made prior to backfilling of trench.
  1. The contractor shall **notify BCWS** of their intent to connect **at least 24 hours in advance at 887-3066**. The first inspection cost is included with the inspection fee paid on the Permit To Connect. Additional inspections shall be billed at the rate of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) per inspection.
  2. The contractor shall **notify the Butler County Health Department** of their intent to connect **at least 24 hours in advance at 863-1770**.

## SERVICE ABANDONMENT

- Any services abandoned after initial construction shall be the developer/owner's responsibility. A BCWS inspector must approve the proper abandonment of the service line. Basic facility charges will remain in effect and be billed to the property owner until the abandonment is verified.

END OF SECTION