Sewer Lateral "Routine

Maintenance" is the responsibility
of the property owner, from the
building to the sewer main
(Section 4(4)(b) of the By-law
Respecting Water and Sewerage).

Water & Sewerage Services uses the following procedures when responding to a sewer back-up.

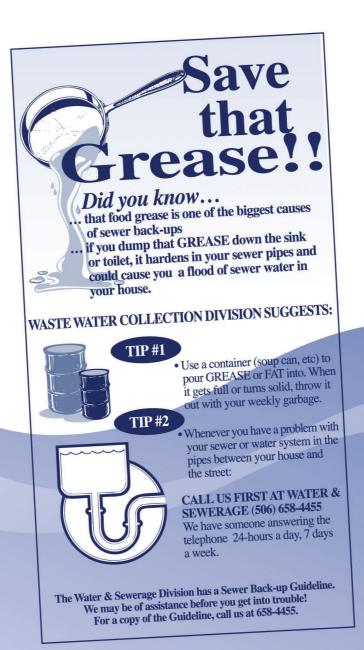
- 1. When the property owner suspects a sewer flow problem he shall report the problem to Water & Sewerage Services (24 hour service, 658-4455).
- 2. Water and Sewerage Services determines whether the main sewer is flowing freely. If the main sewer is obstructed, the City corrects the problem.

- 3. If the main sewer is flowing freely, the owner is directed to determine if the problem is within his lateral. If the problem is internal the owner corrects the problem.
- 4. If the problem is suspected to be in the lateral, the owner is required to undertake "routine maintenance".

 Routine maintenance means flushing the sewer lateral with a Water Jet Sewer Flusher, from the building to the sewer main. ("Plumber's snakes" or "plumber's helper" are not considered routine maintenance.)
- Flusher the use of a Water Jet Sewer Flusher the blockage is not cleared, the owner shall notify Water & Sewerage Services, Water & Sewerage Services may try to determine the location of the blockage (while the flusher is still on site), or may recommend the owner hire a sewer video camera to video the inside of the lateral.

- If the uncleared blockage is on private property, the owner shall correct the problem. If the uncleared blockage is on City property, the City shall correct the problem and may reimburse the property owner the cost of the sewer flusher and the videoing of the sewer lateral only. The City may also reimburse the owner expenses that were incurred within a 12 month period prior to the date when the City made repairs. The City must have been advised of the remedial work carried out by the owner at the time work was performed, in order for reimbursement of expenses to be considered.
- 7. This procedure shall apply to gravity sewer laterals only. Privately owned pressurized sewers (forcemains) are not City responsibility.

- The City shall require an affidavit of evidence and a witnessed release from the property owner before reimbursing for out-of-pocket expenses.
- 9. TREE ROOTS IN SEWER LATERALS:
 The location of the tree, (i.e., on
 private property or on City property)
 is not considered. The owner and the
 City are responsible for repairs to
 their portion of the sewer lateral.
 - a) If the roots are in the lateral on the City side of the property line only, the owner may be reimbursed for the sewer flushing and video work only. (See #6)
 - b) If the roots are on the owner's side of the property line, the owner is responsible for all costs incurred.
 - e) If the roots are in the lateral on the City side and owner's side of the property line, the cost for the sewer flushing and video only may be shared, if recommended by the Superintendent, and approved by the Manager.



Water & Sewerage Services 175 Rothesay Avenue



City of Saint John

S E W E R
LATERAL
BACK-UPS

P.O. Box 1971 Saint John, N.B. Canada E2L 4L1

(506) 658-4455 24-Hour Service