

2021 Sustainable Sewer Solutions - Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Project

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the history of this project?

Several years ago, the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency required the City of Upper Arlington to perform a Sanitary Sewer Evaluation Survey (SSES) to identify the most problematic areas in our sanitary sewer system in order to identify areas where rainwater is getting into the sanitary system. Following this extensive evaluation, the City developed a remediation plan called the Sustainable Sewer Solutions.

The study concluded that our sanitary sewer system works well most of the time, but rain water and snow melt can seep into the system and overload it. This excess water enters the sanitary sewer main and service laterals from yards, roofs, downspouts, foundation drains, improperly connected sump pumps, uncapped cleanouts, manhole covers, holes, cracks and breaks in pipes, joint failure, faulty connections and other openings. This excess flow can cause sewage back-ups throughout the system. This oftentimes results in backups of sanitary sewer into the basements of homes or businesses.

What are the details of the project?

The sanitary sewer mains and the private sanitary sewer laterals in your area will be lined by a process called Cured-in-Place sewer lining. This lining will eliminate the infiltration of water into the sewer system and extend the useful life of the sewer mains and laterals. All sanitary laterals will include the installation of a new cleanout in the yard for the homeowner. In addition to the lining work, there will be rehabilitation work done on all manholes within the same work area. This project is being funded out of the City's 10 year CIP budget with no direct cost to the residents involved.

A link to an informative video about the project can be found below:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zf-jDiWOMQo>

Who will be doing this lining work?

United Survey Inc. has been contracted by the City to perform this work. They are a firm from the Cleveland Ohio area and they have done similar work in central Ohio in recent years.

Who do I call if I have questions/concerns during this project?

Paul Selegue will be the City's full-time project representative throughout the project. He can be reached on his cell phone at 614-519-1789 or by email at PSelegue@uaoh.net. If for any reason you cannot get in touch with Paul, you can always call the Engineering Division secretary at 614-583-5360 and we will make sure that someone gets in contact with you.

COVID-19 Impacts and Updates?

As you are aware, public policies and protocols are changing daily due to the COVID-19 coronavirus outbreak. For this reason, we ask residents to provide their email address to us and/or continue to check the City's website for updates on this project.

The Contractor and subcontractors for this project have been instructed to maintain the current social distancing guidelines that are in effect. As designed, the contractor will not need to enter your home to complete this work. If you have any question please contact us for further clarification.

Will traffic be maintained on our street during the project?

Yes, the roadway will be open to residents at all times. There may occasionally be equipment parked on the street in order to access manholes nearby but a minimum of one lane of traffic will be maintained at all times. If by chance you find that some construction equipment is blocking your access don't hesitate to call the project representative and he will be able to get you to where you are trying to go.

Can I get a copy of the construction plans for my area?

Yes, just contact the City's project representative by email and he will send you a copy.



City of Upper Arlington

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FAQ's (continued)

How is the pipe lining installed in the public sewer mainlines?

1. Cleaning and inspection

Prior to lining the existing sewer pipe, it is cleaned using high pressure water equipment along with video camera equipment used to inspect the results of the cleaning and to record the conditions of the existing sewer pipes.

2. Pipe lining

The process starts by the contractor placing a flexible liner into the existing sewer line. Steam or heated water is forced into the liner which pushes the liner tightly against the existing sewer walls. The prolonged heating causes the liner material to cure-in-place thus creating a new pipe within the existing sewer line that is free of cracks and holes. During the installation, sewer flows are rerouted using pumps and hoses, to ensure continuous sanitary service to residents.

3. Reinstating Laterals

Once the liner has been cured, openings are cut into the new liner to allow the existing sanitary lateral pipes to empty into the new lines. This process is completed within a few hours of the installation of the new liner and it is accomplished by using a remote cutter along with a video camera.

How will my private Sewer Service Lateral be lined?

1. Lateral Location

Prior to installation of the new sanitary mainline liner, the locating crew will conduct a televised inspection of your private sanitary sewer lateral line (from the mainline up to your house). This can usually be done with a remote camera that is launched from the inside of the City sewer main. In some cases, it may be necessary to use a camera that is inserted through a sewer cleanout in the basement of the home. In either case, a remote transmitter is connected to the camera and the crew uses the signal to map out the route of your existing sanitary lateral line. This information is recorded in photos and diagrams for use in the cleanout installation process. These locating crews will be in contact with you prior to the start of any work on your private sanitary sewer lateral to address any questions or concerns that you may have.

2. Cleanout Installation

The second step in the sanitary sewer lateral rehabilitation process is to install an access point in your yard near your home. First, a hydro-excavation crew carefully removes the sod and saves it to be reinstalled after the cleanout is in place. Then, the crew uses a vacuum excavator to create a roughly 2' x 2' hole from ground level down in order to expose the existing sanitary service lateral. This excavation is created by using high-pressure water that is shot from the vacuum excavator to loosen the soil. Then, the powerful vacuum removes the dirt and deposits it into a holding tank. Once the service line is exposed, the crew cleans the exterior of the pipeline and installs the cleanout. This cleanout is essentially a new pipe from the old lateral up to ground level. This new cleanout pipe is used in the final step to install the actual liner in your service lateral. In most installations, there is little evidence that the crew has worked in your yard other than the existence of the new cleanout cap which is level with the existing ground.

3. Liner Installation

In the final step, the contractor installs the liner into the sewer lateral, starting at the city mainline pipe. The work is done from inside of the city main, and it rarely requires workers to enter a residence. The contractor will use the recently installed cleanout to access the upstream end of the lateral line, ensuring a high-quality installation. Residents will be asked to limit or suspend water use on the actual day of their liner installation.

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FAQ's (continued)

How long will the installation take?

The cleaning, preparation and video work will likely take several days to complete but the pipe lining process itself typically only takes one day to complete.

What are the allowable hours of Construction?

Typically construction will occur only from 7:30 am to 7:00 pm., Monday thru Saturday. In some rare instances, where a particular task has begun and must be completed before the construction work can be abandoned for the day, the work may extend beyond 7:00pm. Paul Selegue will be available to answer any questions that you may have about after hours work being done during the project.

How will I be notified that the work is going on or near my property?

All affected properties will be notified via flier 24 to 72 hours in advance of the initial inspection and cleaning work and then again at intervals of one week and 24 hours before the lining work. A final notice will also be distributed within 24 hours of completion to let you know that the work is complete.

Can I use my water and flush my toilets during this process?

Water usage should be limited during both the cleaning and lining process. During this timeframe flyers will be distributed to let you know about the restrictions and when to expect them.

Will I notice a smell or odor during construction?

You may notice a minor odor in the area where the lining installation is being completed. This odor is caused by the curing process and is not harmful. It will smell similar to the glue used to put together plastic car models. To help reduce the smell inside your property on the day of your lateral liner installation, it is recommended that you pour a glass of water or more into all drains in your residence including sinks, tubs and especially floor drains.

Are there any precautions I should take during this work?

During this work it is recommended that all toilet seats and lids be down in the event that the pressure spray from the cleaning operation causes a surge of air bubbles to release in the toilet. For most residents, you will likely not even know that the work is going on, however, once in a while work in the sanitary line will shoot water pressure up your lateral. This may cause water in your toilets to gurgle or even splash out a little. If this happens, call us immediately and we will work with you to clean up any mess. This type of work requires large trucks and other equipment. City crews and contractors will place safety cones to keep traffic out of the immediate work area. Work will progress from house to house and will not affect large areas at any one time. Street closures are very rare. In most cases, traffic flow and parking will be only minimally affected.

Do I need to be home when this occurs?

You do not need to be home while this work occurs. All the work is done through the outside cleanout and the city's sanitary sewer main line. If access is needed, a city representative will contact you. The contractor will inform you when the work is finished, either verbally or by leaving written notification.

Who is responsible for any damage?

This type of work usually causes very little disruption to pavement or landscape. Any damage that does occur will be professionally restored after completion of all of the lining work.

What happens following completion of the work?

The newly lined portion of your sanitary sewer service will require little to no maintenance. However, the unlined portion of your private sanitary sewer lateral may still need periodic maintenance. There is a one year warranty for all work done by the contractor. This warranty starts after the project is completed.

