

## Village of Almont – Department of Public Works

Phone: 810-798-8528

For After Hour **Emergency calls only** call Lapeer Central Dispatch 810-667-0292

### Sewer Backups

A sewer backup occurs when a sewer line becomes blocked. A blockage can occur on your property causing a backup through floor drains and toilets on the lower level of a home. Sewage contains bacteria and other hazards, and should not be touched.

### Homeowner Responsibilities

Homeowners are required to maintain the lateral from their home, to the main sewer line, typically located in the street or nearby easement. Maintaining the lateral includes keeping the lateral line flowing and free of debris such as roots, or grease.

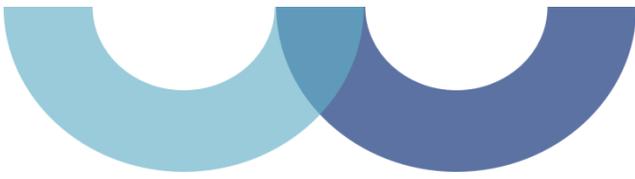
The private property owner is responsible for the entire length of the lateral, which includes that portion that may be located within the public right of way.

When the DPW arrive they will:

- Check for possible blockages to the sewer main.
- Check area sanitary sewer manholes for visible signs of blockages.
- If the cause of the backup is at the main, the DPW will make repairs or clear the blockage.

The Department of Public Works (DPW) is only responsible for clearing a blockage in the Village sewer main. You are responsible for backups in your lateral line connecting to the main sewer. Only hire reputable licensed plumbers to make repairs.

Office Hours:  
Monday-Friday 8:00-4:00



## Claims for Damages

If you or your insurance company are of the opinion that the Village ought to provide compensation for the damages, a written request must be filed within 45 days of discovery of the event with the Village offices. Please contact the Village office for a claim form.

The filing of a claim is NOT a guarantee of reimbursement. The mere occurrence of a blockage or surcharge does not mean the Village is or will be found responsible to pay for any resulting damage.

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## Basement Flooding

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Overland Flooding: is water that flows over land and is usually generated by rainfall or snowmelt. You are responsible for the proper grading of your lot to direct overland flow away from your home and to the storm water system where appropriate.

If your basement fills with over land water: Check to make sure your sump pump is working. Check for cracks or seeping from the foundation.

### Downspouts and Sump Pumps:

It is against our Village Ordinance to have downspouts and/or sump pumps discharge into the sanitary sewer. See Village Ordinance 150 Section 7.5

The job of a sump pump is to divert the water from around the foundation of a home to a location away from the house.

A downspout's purpose is to direct water from the roof gutters away from the house.

Inflow is caused by improperly connected foundation (footing) drains, sump pumps, and downspouts. Inflow is a problem because it creates an extra water burden for the sanitary sewer system, and when this system is overloaded, it can back up into our streets, buildings, and your basement.

## Private Drainage & Erosion Issues

Private Drainage & Erosion Issues, as well as ground water issues, are the responsibility of the property owner.

How you can help:

- Keep storm drains free of litter and debris
- Never dump waste or other substances into a storm drain

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