

## **CITY OF RICHMOND HEIGHTS SEWER LATERAL INSURANCE PROGRAM**

1. This program applies to single-family residential units (six dwelling units or less) and has taken effect January 1, 2000 at 12:01 am central time. Beginning with Real Estate Property Tax bill in 1999, and each year thereafter, a fee of \$39.00 will be charged to the applicable property owner.
2. The portion of the residential sewer lateral that is covered under this program is the portion that runs from Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District's main sewer line up to within five (5) feet of the residential dwelling unit, including porches and attached structures. The homeowner is responsible for the cost of repair or replacement of their sewer lateral inside their home.
3. When the homeowner notices a blockage, he/she shall call a licensed plumber or contact the Public Works Department for a list of plumbers used by the City to clear the blockage. If the plumber is able to clear the line, cost shall go to the homeowner. If the plumber is unable to clear the line, this will become a priority investigation. Call the City of Richmond Heights Public Works Department at 314-645-2277. If after office hours, please contact Tim Halle at 314-267-5477. The homeowner will be asked to fill out an application form for the work to begin. Also a current paid Property Tax receipt and signing a release to proceed with the work will be required.
4. The program will cover broken or collapsed lines that interfere with the flow of sewage. The program will not cover roots nor will it cover cracks or misaligned pipes that do not interfere with flow of sewage. The program will not cover the top portion of vent pipe or septic tanks left in after M.S.D. connection.

5. The financial responsibility of the City is limited to excavation, repair or replacement of the lateral pipe. It will be the responsibility of the dwelling owner to restore the landscaping and ground cover including grass in whatever manner they choose. The City will not be responsible for restoration of the affected yard to the grass or landscaped surfaces, i.e., bushes, shrubs, trees, and plants. It will be the responsibility of the City to replace sidewalks, driveways and streets, which are removed to accomplish the repair. In the event it is necessary to remove accessory structures such as fences, the City will restore such structures to pre-existing condition. In the event obstacles such as yard sheds, garages or other structures are in the path of the lateral and lie over the damaged portion of the lateral, the City reserves the right to re-route the lateral to avoid the necessity of removing the structure.
6. In the event a dispute would arise regarding any issue involved with this program and negotiation has been unsuccessful, the City Manager shall be the final arbitrator.
7. This stated program shall not include damage to lateral lines which occur from "Acts of God" such as, but is not exclusive to, earthquake, tornados, floods or other natural disasters.
8. The property owner will be responsible for 50% of all cost for sanitary sewer lateral corrective work exceeding \$7,000.
9. The City will not be held responsible for any damages due to outside construction by either homeowner and/or contractor.
10. In the event the funds for the Sewer Lateral Program become depleted, the homeowner will be put on a list and reimbursed as funds become available.