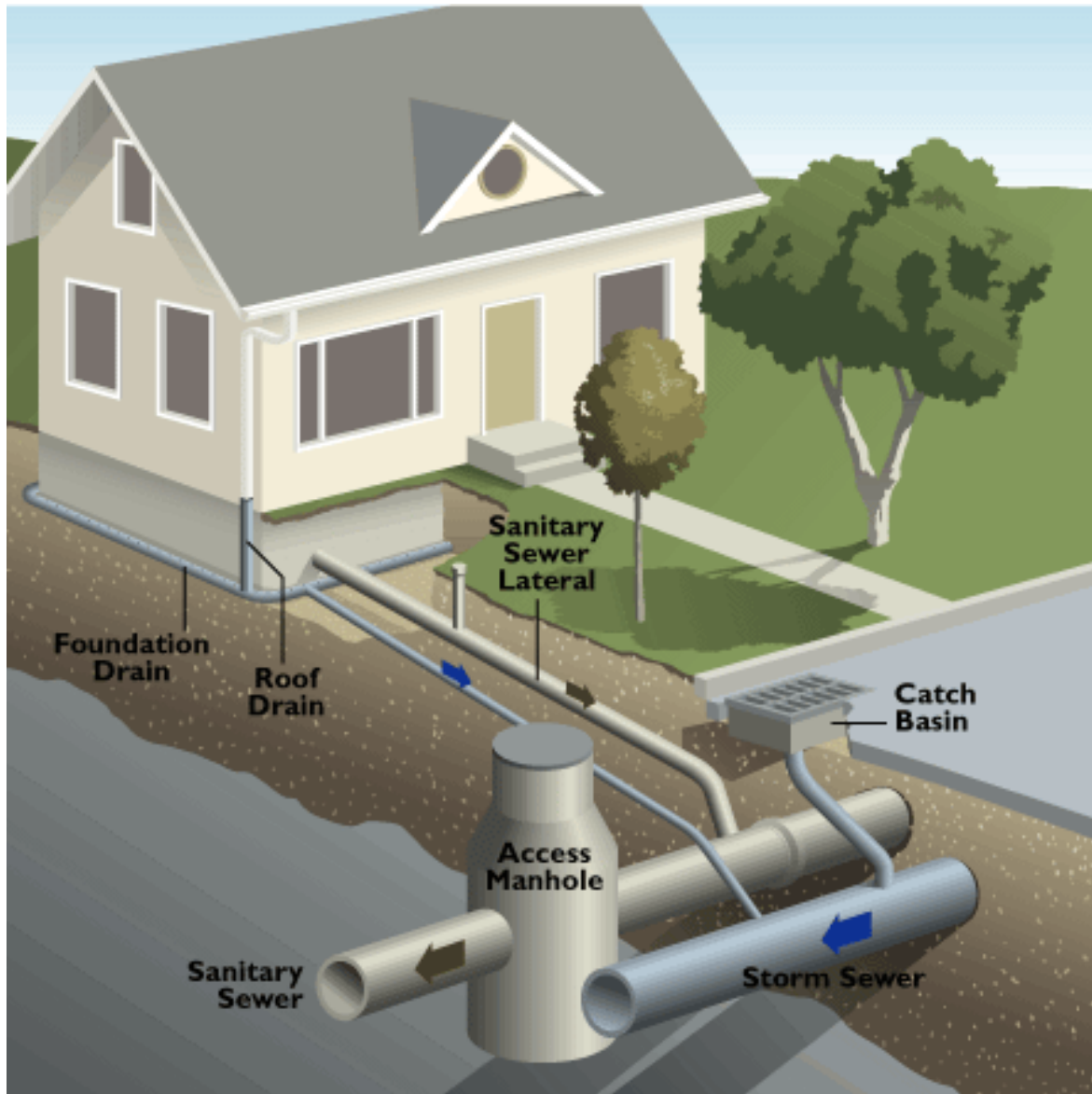


HAVING PROBLEMS WITH YOUR SANITARY SEWER TO YOUR HOME OR BUSINESS?

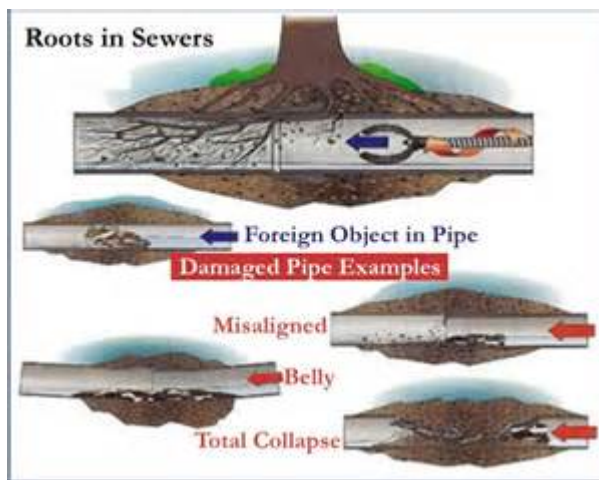
Sanitary sewer service for your home or business is provided by a sanitary sewer lateral. This pipe is typically a clay pipe for older homes and businesses and a plastic pipe for newer homes and businesses. The pipe runs on a downhill grade from the building to the County's sanitary sewer which carries the wastewater away for treatment. (See below)



WHAT CAUSES PROBLEMS IN SANITARY SEWER LATERALS?

Plugging or slow drainage of the sanitary sewer laterals can be caused by several problems, as shown below. The most common problem is tree roots. Tree roots are a problem more common in clay pipe sanitary sewer laterals than plastic pipe. Plastic pipe joints are more watertight and are able to keep tree roots out.

Another problem includes foreign objects lodged in the sewer lateral that are typically flushed down the toilet or poured down a drain. Some of these objects can be grease, rags, wet wipes, adult diapers or other similar materials that settle out or can get stuck in the sewer lateral or in misaligned pipes. The last and most serious problem is a collapsed or broken pipe. A collapsed pipe problem must be resolved by digging up the pipe and repairing it.



WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR MY SANITARY SEWER LATERAL?

The owner of the premises served by the sewer is responsible for its operation and cleaning from the building to the service sewer in the street or connection in an easement. Any repair or reconstruction of the lateral from the building to the right of way or to the point of connection with the local/public sewer in an easement will also be the responsibility of the owner. However, the Stark County Sanitary Engineering Department will be responsible for a lateral repair or reconstruction of the service sewer from the right of way line to the point of connection with the local sewer. In the case where services are pressure lines, the property owner shall be responsible for repair and reconstruction from the property line to the point of connection with the local sewer.

QUESTIONS ABOUT FIXING COLLAPSED SANITARY SEWER LATERAL PIPES

A collapsed pipe problem must be resolved by digging up the pipe and repairing it. The contractor or person making the repair to the collapsed sanitary sewer lateral must be a licensed drain layer with the Stark County Sanitary Engineering Department. (See the following link to current licensed drain layers [LINK.](#)) When repairs are made the licensed drain layer will schedule the repair 48 hours prior with the Stark County Sanitary Engineering's Permit's Office (330-451-2304), which will insure that a Sanitary Sewer Inspector will be present during the repair. The Inspector not only inspects the repair but ensures it is done correctly and documents it by drawing, which is kept at the Sanitary Engineer's office.

ESTIMATES AND COSTS FOR FIXING COLLAPSED SANITARY SEWER LATERAL PIPES

The Stark County Sanitary Engineering Department suggests that property owners **get three estimates from licensed drain layers** for repair work on their sanitary laterals. These costs can vary depending on other utilities in the area, depth of excavation, working area limitations, restoration requirements and other site conditions.

CALL US FIRST WHEN YOU ARE HAVING PROBLEMS WITH SANITARY SEWER SERVICE TO YOUR HOME OR BUSINESS.

If a problem occurs, **CALL US FIRST! Call 330-451-2320 day or night. Dispatch is available 24 hours a day 365 days a year.** If the above is not available, call 330-456-1813. **Uniontown area, call 1-800-398-2075.**

We are also available to answer questions before you have problems.

"I'M RECEIVING LATERAL PROTECTION/INSURANCE OFFERS IN THE MAIL OR BY PHONE, SHOULD I INSURE MY LATERAL?"

Stark County does not offer plans or insurance to protect your sanitary lateral. If you have a history of sewer problems at your home or business and another utility offers you lateral repair insurance, it may be something to consider. We encourage you to read the details and "fine print" of any offer you are considering.