



CITY OF CAHOKIA HEIGHTS
Private Sewer Lateral Repair Program
RESIDENT OUTREACH DOCUMENT

Fact Sheet for Property Owners

Private Sewer Lateral Repair Program

DOCUMENT CONTROL

Prepared for	Resident outreach and IEPA communication-plan support
Purpose	Resident-facing fact sheet for public meetings, mailings, and website download.
Status	Approved for program implementation
Primary City contact	City of Cahokia Heights - Office of the City Engineer 4300 Bond Avenue, Cahokia Heights, Illinois 62206 Phone: 618-215-7225 Email: sbutler@cahokiaillinois.org

WHY IS THE CITY REPAIRING OR REPLACING PRIVATE SEWER LATERALS?

The City is implementing major sanitary sewer improvements to reduce inflow and infiltration (I/I), prevent sewer overflows, reduce basement backup risk, and improve system reliability. Damaged private sewer laterals and prohibited clean-water connections can allow groundwater and stormwater to enter the sanitary sewer system.

WHAT IS A PRIVATE SEWER LATERAL?

A private sewer lateral is the pipe that carries wastewater from a home or business to the public sewer main. Property owners are responsible for maintaining this pipe, including portions located under yards, sidewalks, or streets.

WHERE IS THE PROGRAM AVAILABLE?

The pilot program is limited to eligible residential properties within the existing TIF District in the former City of Centreville. Funding is available through December 31, 2026 and does not increase property taxes. Contact the City at 618-215-7225 or sbutler@cahokiaillinois.org if you have questions about whether your property is within the TIF District.

WHO CAN APPLY?

Property owners and renters may apply. If a renter applies, no work will occur until the legal property owner signs all required agreements and authorizations and coordinates access. Subject to eligibility and available funding, priority will be given to households with documented medical conditions or related financial hardship, residents age 65 or older, low-income households, and properties in areas experiencing high I/I.

WHY DOES THE CITY NEED ACCESS?

The City and authorized contractors may need temporary access to exterior yard areas, basements, sidewalks, driveways, adjacent rights-of-way, and other areas necessary to inspect, repair, replace, or verify the private sewer lateral.



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WHAT TO EXPECT DURING CONSTRUCTION

- Advance notice will be provided before construction, at least 72 hours notice will be provided.
- Work may occur in yard areas, basements, sidewalks, driveways, or nearby public right-of-way as necessary.
- Most lateral repair work is expected to be completed within one (1) to three (3) days, depending on site conditions.
- Temporary disruption to water or sewer service may occur.
- Disturbed areas will be restored to reasonable construction standards; final restoration may not match original conditions exactly.

REPAIR PROCESS

1. Inspection of the sewer lateral using CCTV or other diagnostic tools.
2. City review and written pre-approval of required work.
3. Excavation and repair or replacement of defective sewer lateral segments.
4. Installation of cleanouts, caps, backflow prevention devices, or related appurtenances as needed.
5. Restoration of disturbed areas to reasonable construction standards.

HOMEOWNER-DIRECTED WORK AND REIMBURSEMENT

Any homeowner-directed repair or reimbursement request must be approved by the City before work begins and must use a City pre-qualified contractor. Work completed without prior written approval may not be eligible for reimbursement.

COSTS AND MAINTENANCE

There is no cost to eligible property owners for approved inspection, repair or replacement of the sewer lateral, or basic restoration. Property owners remain responsible for long-term maintenance of the private lateral and any installed equipment after work is complete.

REQUIRED CONSENT DECREE LEGAL NOTICE

This project was undertaken in connection with the settlement of an enforcement action, United States et al. v. City of Cahokia Heights, taken on behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the State of Illinois to enforce the Clean Water Act and the Illinois Environmental Protection Act.

CONTACT

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