

**REAR YARD SANITARY SEWER  
RECONNECTION PROGRAM  
APPLICATION**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Who did the work?

- Applicant  Contractor

Please indicate the reason for reimbursement:

- Lead Failure (Max \$2,500)
- Abandonment (Max \$6,000)
- Lead Served Multiple Buildings  
(Max \$2,500\*)

Contractor Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contractor Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cost for Lead Installation:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Was an easement required?

(If so please attach a signed and recorded copy to this application.)

C. Total Cost for Lead Installation

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

\*Exception for maximum reimbursement may be made for procurement of easements.

If you have any questions,  
please contact Public Works  
at (989) 779-5401.

**OFFICE USE ONLY**

Contractor insurance on file?  Yes  No

Total of receipt (Attached) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Reimbursement Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

DPW Permit No. \_\_\_\_\_

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

Drawing of sewer lead  
reroute submitted?  Y  N

Approved?  Y  N

Staff initial: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Account Number 590-558.000-801.000**



**City of  
Mt. Pleasant**

**Rear Yard  
Sanitary Sewer  
Reconnection Program**



**City of Mt. Pleasant  
Division of Public Works  
320 W. Broadway St.  
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858**

**Phone: 989-779-5401**

**Fax: 989-772-6250**

**Email: publicworks@mt-pleasant.org**

## **Rear Yard Sanitary Sewer Lead Program**

The City of Mt. Pleasant is phasing out the use of rear yard sanitary sewers and sewer leads serving multiple buildings. Various properties in the city are served by public rear-yard sewers, which are difficult for the City to maintain. The City is in the process of constructing public sewers in public rights-of-way (“street sewers”) throughout the city, so that rear yards sewer users can eventually be transitioned to street sewers at its discretion. To review the rear yard sewer lead policy, visit the City’s website at [www.mt-pleasant.org/departments/division\\_of\\_public\\_works/forms\\_and\\_permits.asp](http://www.mt-pleasant.org/departments/division_of_public_works/forms_and_permits.asp).

### **How Do Sewer Leads Fail?**

Sanitary sewer leads deteriorate toward the end of their useful life. Existing sewer lead pipes can be as much as 30-100 years old and were typically made of clay, iron, or coal tar wood fiber pipe (also known as Orangeburg pipe). The mortar used to seal the joints between sections of pipe also deteriorates over time, resulting in a misalignment. The misalignment allows tree roots to intrude into the pipe, disrupting the normal flow of sewage out of your home. If this occurs, the sewage could backup into your floor drain, basement or shower, resulting in an unpleasant mess to clean up and possible property damage or loss.

This policy outlines the situations in which property owners are required to disconnect from rear yard sewers or leads serving multiple buildings, and establishes cost-assistance programs to reimburse property owners for a portion of the cost of transitioning to a new sewer connection.

### **Sewer Line Abandonment**

If the City constructs a street sewer and abandons the rear yard sewer main in that area, the City will notify the affected property owners of the requirement to disconnect from the rear yard sewer and install and connect to the street sewer. Property owners may seek reimbursement of 90% of the cost to do so, up to a maximum of \$6,000.

### **Lead Failure**

When the lead to a rear yard sewer fails and the repair or replacement costs exceed \$500, as determined by the DPW director, the DPW may require the property owner to disconnect from the rear yards sewer, and install and connect to the street sewer. The property owner may seek reimbursement of 90% of the cost, up to a maximum of \$2,500.

### **Leads Serving Multiple Buildings**

After an unauthorized lead serving multiple buildings is identified, the DPW may issue a written notice requiring the owner(s) to take corrective measures. Property owners may seek reimbursement of up to a total of 90% of the costs, up to a maximum of \$2,500.

To qualify for reimbursement under this policy, a property owner must:

1. Comply with all applicable provisions of Chapter 51 of the City Code relating to installation and connection of sewer leads, including, but not limited to, Sections 51.040 through 51.045.
2. Before commencing work, submit and obtain approval from the Engineering Department for plans showing the location of taps and routing of sewer leads, and obtain a permit. Except under special circumstances approved by the Engineering Department, new leads must tie into the sewer main rather than a sewer manhole.
3. If a new lead will cross private property other than the property that is the site of the building being served, provide a signed and recorded easement to the DPW in a form reasonably acceptable to the DPW director.
4. Before commencing work, submit the written cost estimate to the DPW director for approval.
5. Once the work has been completed, submit a copy of the paid invoice and/or other documentation of costs incurred, along with the completed application, to the Public Works office.