

SANITARY SEWER SERVICE LINE

It has been discovered that a confusing and potentially costly situation may exist at a Denison residential or commercial property. The situation involves the presence of a sanitary sewer service line from a structure and how sewage is discharged into the larger sewer main lines owned and operated by Denison Municipal Utilities (DMU).

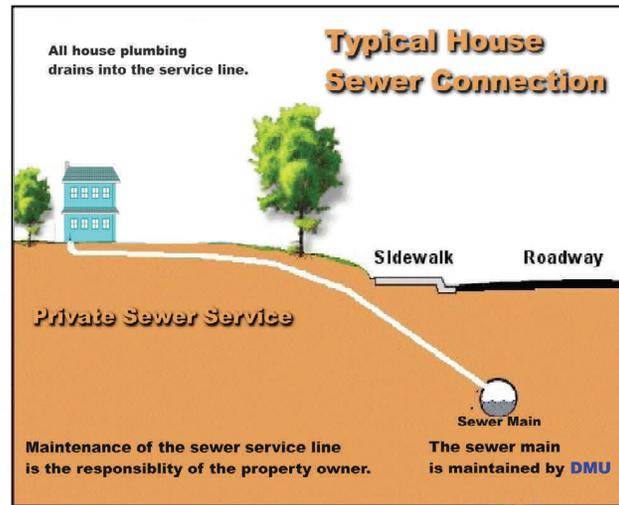
It is known that some property locations are connected to a private sanitary sewer service line that may be shared with other property. These non-typical common lines may cause problems and difficulties because the responsibility for maintenance is uncertain and vague.

Property owners connected to a private, shared sanitary sewer service line are likely unaware of its existence and may assume they are connected directly to a DMU main sewer line. Unfortunately, that may not be the case in some areas.

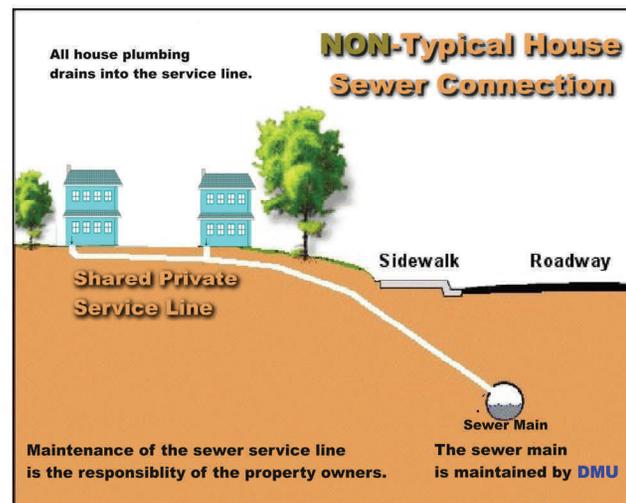
DMU is proactively addressing this confusing situation by initiating a public information effort to inform all DMU customers that a common sanitary sewer service line may exist at your location. DMU will also provide financial assistance to help you to accurately and distinctively determine if a private, common line exists.



Aerial view of the DMU Wastewater Treatment Plant.



Two Illustrations of a sanitary sewer service line are shown. A typical connection (above) has one building directly discharging to a sewer main. A non-typical connection (below) has two or more buildings sharing a common service line that eventually discharges to a sewer main. It is the non-typical connections that must be identified.



POLICY

Section 2.3 (3) Private Sanitary Sewer Service Line Maintenance & Ownership of the DMU Wastewater Service Rules and Regulations states:

It is the responsibility of all Denison sanitary sewer customers to determine if their home or business is connected to a non-typical private sanitary sewer service line.

In the event the sanitary sewer service line of a residence or business is found to be connected with other properties to a private service line, the owner(s) of the properties connected to the private line will be responsible for the maintenance and operation of the private service line prior to the connection with the DMU sanitary sewer main.

DMU also supports (but does not mandate) a customer's voluntary purchase of a sanitary sewer service line insurance repair program which may provide coverage for an outside sewer service line for the locating of a blockage or collapse, excavation to expose pipe, pipe replacement or repair, repair or replacement of seals and joints, unblocking, fitting external valves, fusing, welding, pipe cutting, back-filling of areas disturbed by repairs, etc. Programs may provide coverage 24 hours a day, 365 days a year for the Denison area.

In the event of a public health hazard due to a blocked private non-typical sewer service line, DMU may help repair or remove a blockage in a line that serves more than one property and invoice all connected property owners, both above and below the repair or blocked location, for DMU's cost of the repairs, regardless if signed permission forms from all connected property owners are acquired in advance or not.

DMU may assume ownership and maintenance of a private sanitary sewer line if the line is a minimum of 6" in diameter and more than one property is served by the private line.

ASSISTANCE

The DMU Board of Trustees approved a financial assistance plan that states:

For homes or business interested in determining how it is connected to the DMU sanitary sewer system, DMU will offer financial assistance in the form

of a zero-interest loan up to a maximum of \$5,000, with a maximum 24 month repayment term, to help the residence or business find their service line.

If a residence or business wishes to abandon their connection to the private service line by installing a new, direct service line to a DMU sanitary sewer main, DMU will again offer financial assistance in the form of a zero-interest loan up to a maximum of \$5,000, with a maximum 24 month repayment term.



Occasionally sewer lines may clog with grease, tree roots or other obstacles which cause wastewater to backup into the house.

Signs of a Failing Private Sewer Line:

- Pipe collapse
- Tree root invasion
- Frequently clogged lines
- Gurgling noises from the toilet
- Sewer odor in or around the house
- Water rising from floor drains, wash machine drains, showers, tubs
- Indentation in the ground where the

CONTACT INFORMATION

DMU Board Members

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Brian Ettleman	Member
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REVISED
&
ADOPTED
6/20/16

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