



# TOWN OF WATERTOWN

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  
124 ORCHARD STREET  
WATERTOWN, MA 02472

(P) 617-972-6420  
(F) 617-972-6402

Gregory M. St. Louis, PE  
Superintendent

## **SPECIAL NOTICE**

Dear Property Owner:

This is to notify you that the Department of Public Works through its contractor, Insituform Technologies, will be rehabilitating the sewer mains in your neighborhood. This lining process will provide a new, joint-less sewer pipe for your area that minimizes root and water infiltration problems, improves flow, and provides for a more structurally sound pipe without the need for excavation.

During this period your property's sewer service connection will be completely sealed off from the town's mainline in the street. Please limit the use of water going down your drains to a minimum, and do not use washing machines or dishwashers during this time frame. Any sump pumps illegally connected to the sewer system must be disconnected and/or discharged elsewhere; to avoid possible damage to our liner, or backups in your property. Failure to follow these instructions may cause your discharge to backup into your property.

The lining is scheduled for one day during the week of **July 26<sup>th</sup> to July 30<sup>th</sup>**. **You will be notified with another notice similar to this one approximately 24 hours prior to the actual installation in your neighborhood.** In order to perform this work, there will be a temporary disruption of sewer service to your residence or business for a period of approximately 10 hours.

On residential streets, the set-up of equipment may cause some adjustments in parking and neighborhood driving patterns; however, every effort will be made to make this inconvenience as slight as possible.

During certain phases of the operation, you may detect an odor. Odors are most likely to occur in houses or buildings with dry or non-existent traps. In most cases, pouring several gallons of water down your sinks, showers, toilets, etc. and opening your windows can minimize any odors.

Please be advised that there is a possibility that some water could come up from your toilets during the installation. Please keep lids closed and covered with a towel as well as some towels around the base of the toilets as a precaution.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this project, please contact one of the following during business hours, Monday – Friday, 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM: Insituform Technologies (508) 248-7624 or Watertown Department of Public Works (617) 972-6420. When calling, please reference CIP Project 1A Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitations. See below for a list of streets Insituform will be working on:

**Franklin Street, Irving Street, Harrington Street, Webster Street, Brigham Street, Walnut Street.**

**[www.watertowndpw.org/205/2019-sewer-improvements](http://www.watertowndpw.org/205/2019-sewer-improvements)**

### **How are sewer mains being repaired?**

Sewer mains are being repaired using a process called Cured-In-Place-Pipe (CIPP), a process used to repair about 50 percent of all water pipes in the United States and also used extensively to repair sanitary sewer and storm water pipes. Watertown has used this process for several years to rehabilitate sewer and drain lines throughout the Town to ensure residents have safe and reliable sanitary sewer services.

### **What is the CIPP process?**

The CIPP process is a cost-effective and non-invasive process that involves inserting a soft plastic liner inside a host pipe and then curing (hardening) the liner with pressurized steam. There will be no digging or trenching through this process and once your sewer is lined, the process should never need to be repeated.

### **Are the chemicals used in the CIPP process safe?**

The CIPP process uses a styrene monomer resin to rehabilitate the pipes. Styrene is widely used and can be found in items such as consumer electronics, medical supplies, packaging, etc. In addition, foods such as coffee, strawberries and cinnamon naturally contain styrene. Styrene has a very distinct odor that is noticeable at a threshold of 0.1 parts per million (ppm). The US Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has established a safe exposure standard for styrene of 50 parts per million (ppm) over an eight-hour day. Exposure levels from the CIPP process are significantly below this.

### **How long will my sewer service be interrupted when a sewer main is being repaired?**

If your home or business is connected to the sewer line being rehabilitated, your sewer service will be temporarily blocked off from the sewer mainline once the liner is inflated. This will prevent any water leaving your home or business from flowing into the sewer main while the liner is curing.

The process only takes a few hours. During this time your water service is not shut off and you can continue using it for drinking, cooking and other purposes, but *residents are asked to limit water use*. You should avoid taking showers or baths, running your dishwasher and washing machine, and also be sure to turn off all sump pumps connected to your sewer service. Flush your toilets sparingly. Using small amounts of water to wash your hands or brush your teeth is okay.

Immediately after the CIPP liner has been installed, crews robotically reinstate all sewer lateral connections to restore sewer service to individual buildings. Once crews are complete, residents can resume using water and the process should never need to be repeated.

### **Can the steam enter my home or business?**

You may notice steam emitting from manholes while the work is taking place. This steam may produce odors in the outside environment, but it is still possible that odors from the process may enter your home.

Keeping your windows closed and sealing off any neutral vents will help ensure outside odors do not enter your home or business. If you do experience odors in your home or building, open windows to help ventilate the area.

If odor is entering your home, it is likely through private plumbing defects such as cracks in pipe, dry floor drains and sinks. You can help prevent odors from entering your home or building by pouring water down all floor drains, sinks, and tubs to help ensure a water barrier is maintained in each drain's P-trap.

### **Will there be road closures or other impacts during the work?**

While a CIPP project is taking place, you may experience minor traffic interruptions and parking restrictions. Every effort will be made to maintain driveway access. For your safety and the safety of the workers, please avoid driving in construction areas. As with any construction project, stay clear of work zones and adhere to signs and safety barriers.

During CIPP work, homes and businesses near the work area can expect noise impacts from various types of equipment necessary to complete the work, such as generators, boilers, and heavy equipment.