

Annual Sanitary Sewer Main Cleaning Program

The City Of Pembroke will be commencing its annual Sanitary Sewer Cleaning Operation in early April. It will start in the west end of the City working easterly towards the Pollution Control Plant located on Rankin Street, with an expected completion by mid December, weather permitting.

Crews will be working from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday and 7:30 a.m. until noon on Friday, with the occasional evening shift in the downtown core and higher traffic areas.

This maintenance operation reduces the potential for blockages, backups, odour generation and premature wear of mechanical components by removing debris, such as tree roots, grease, grit, and sand and also assists with determining the condition of the sewer main.

The cleaning process uses equipment that utilizes water pressure to pull debris from the sanitary sewer main and takes only a few hours per street.

While we are working on your street you may hear gurgling sounds from your toilets or drains, which is normal.

Occasionally during the cleaning operation, air pressure in the sewer can cause water to splash out through toilets, sinks and drains. When blowback occurs, it is usually due to improper plumbing connections or poor venting in the residence.

Please take the following precautions to prevent water damage in your home:

Close the lids on all toilet bowls when not in use;

Avoid using washroom facilities when Operations Department crews are within sight of your home;

Place towels around the base of toilets to absorb any overflowing water;
Plug all drains and sinks when not in use;

If water does overflow a fixture, **contact the City representative on site as soon as possible** to prevent further overflowing. Clean the area with a disinfecting cleanser, wash soiled towels and other cleaning rags with a small quantity of Javex added to the wash water.

You may put things back as they were when the equipment has moved out of your area.

