

## Sewer System

Sanitary sewage in the Village is handled by a “pumped effluent system” and ultimately delivered to the Loudon sewage plant (in Kahite, to the Niles Ferry sewage plant). Each house, townhouse, and public building has a buried interceptor tank with automatic pumping to the main. A failure alarm warns you of trouble and to call Public Works (telephone 865-458-4522, available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year)

Foreign matter is usually the source of trouble; i.e., pump clogging by matter that is not water soluble or biodegradable. A nominal surcharge on a resident’s combined monthly water/sewer bill covers the cost of pump repair/replacement – unless foreign matter has caused the breakdown. If foreign matter is found, the property owner is responsible for the repair cost.

Each resident owns a “Pumped Effluent System.” This is similar to a septic system except the effluent is pumped into the Village gathering system instead of draining into a leaching field.

Normal pump wear cost is covered by the monthly surcharge on your sewer bill. Abuse of the system resulting in failure is at the homeowner’s cost. The present replacement cost of the pump is \$700+.

Prevent abuse to the pump. Put nothing into your sewer system that is not water soluble or biodegradable. Here are some items that SHOULD NOT be put into your sewer: Kleenex, paper towels, paper napkins, coffee filters, cigarette filters/butts, sanitary napkins nor tampons, condoms, hair, chewing gum.

A kitchen garbage disposal unit should be run when solids are put down the sink. Large solids can pass through a non-running unit and plug the sewer pump.

If you are away from your home for an extended period of time (two weeks or more), add Ridex into the system when returning home. This makes the septic tank bacteria active again.

There is a red light and alarm on the pump control box outside of your house. If the system activates, call the Public Works Department, (865) 458-4522. There is a person to respond 24 hours per day. Pushing the “Silence” button on the box will silence the alarm.

If you don’t experience a sewer alarm but think you may have a sewer problem, you may want to call Public Works before you call a plumber.

For more information or questions, call Public Works, (865-458-4522).