



Wastewater Treatment Plant
1 Town Landing Road, Bath
(207) 443-8348
Monday - Thursday: 6am - 3pm
Friday: 6am - 10am



FIVE STEPS TO SUCCESSFUL SEWER WORK

- 1. Sewer issues?** Call the Bath Public Works Department **FIRST** at 207-443-8357.
- 2.** No permits are required if repairs can be made with root removal or flushing-type services. If you need to make physical changes to your sewer service (replacing or lining pipes) a Sewer Permit is required. If you do need to dig in the street or sidewalk, you or your contractor must apply for a Street Opening permit (Insurance required). Both permits are available at the Public Works Department offices at 450 Oak Grove Avenue, M-F, 6:30 AM – 2:30 PM. All permit applications must be approved by the Public Works Director, and the appropriate permits issued, before work can begin. Non-emergency work requires three business days advance notice prior to the start of the project.
- 3.** Contractors performing excavations are required by Maine state law to contact DIGSAFE (811 or digsafe.com) at least 3 business prior to excavation. The City of Bath is not a member of DIGSAFE. The contractor must contact the Public Works Department separately at 207-443-8357 to have sewer and storm drain line locations marked.
- 4.** Make sure your contractor knows the City of Bath ordinances regarding sewer connections. The current City sewer ordinance can be found here: <https://www.cityofbath.com/city-ordinances>
- 5. Call before you cover up.** The Public Works Department **MUST** inspect ALL sewer line work after completion. Inspections are done M-F, 6:30 AM – 2:00 PM only. Call 207-443-8357 to schedule.

COVID-19 and Wastewater

You may have read about sewer surveys for COVID-19. The City of Bath participated in 3 of these during May of 2020. The cost for this testing is high as the demand for it increases. We know that it is present in our community and are we taking the necessary precautions.

Currently, we know that COVID is in wastewater but it is not known if the disease is infectious as it travels through the lines and plant. It has been documented that COVID-19 is highly susceptible to chlorination. At the City of Bath WPCF, we dose all the wastewater that comes into the plant with a strong solution of sodium hypochlorite to kill any pathogens. We test the effectiveness of the chlorination by testing to see if fecal coliforms are present. Fecal coliforms are more difficult to kill than COVID-19 so by successfully eliminating those coliforms, you can rest assured that any COVID-19 that would be going to the river has been destroyed.

Visit us online: [CityofBath.com/wwtp](https://www.cityofbath.com/wwtp)

What do you do when you have a sewer problem?

FIRST* call Public Works at (207) 443-8357

IF OUTSIDE REGULAR WORK HOURS (Mon - Fri, 6:30am - 2:30pm) call (207) 443-8201

*By calling the City first, it can be determined if the problem exists within the sewer collection system or if the problem lies with the homeowner. Any unnecessary plumbing expenses will not be reimbursed if a homeowner does not call Public Works first.

City-owned sewer lines

The City of Bath has over 30 miles of City-owned sewer lines. These lines generally travel under streets but may go through wooded lands or a homeowner's yard. As is the case for most cities in the United States, the infrastructure is getting old and replacement becomes necessary as pipes degrade and flows change. Please understand that work on the sewers needs to be done which may require construction equipment, digging up roads and replacing some of these lines that are beyond repair. These situations are part of keeping the sewage contained and flowing to the plant for treatment and are necessary for both public health and the environment

On the other hand, there are times when a road must be dug up or closed or a manhole may flow over due to improper sewer usage. These situations can be prevented with the help of the users.

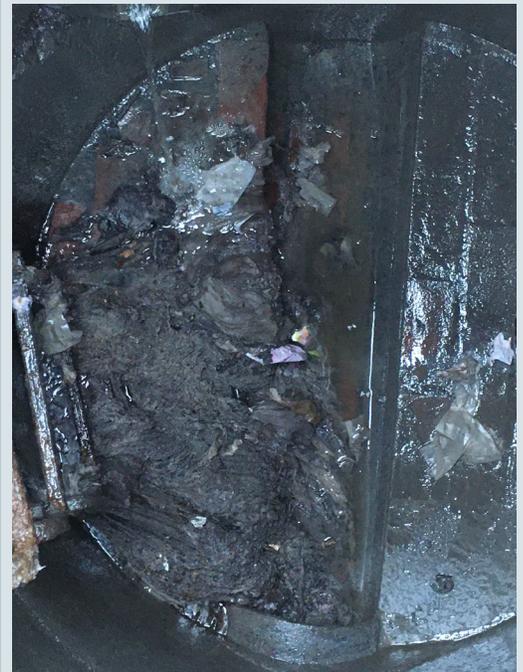
Most clogs in the City are caused by 2 issues. The first is by flushing products such as toilet wipes, disinfectant wipes, trash and masks. The other main cause is putting fats, oils and grease (FOG) from the kitchen down the drain. Hot grease from the skillet may go down the drain easy enough but it does not go away. As it cools, it becomes a solid mass that can eventually plug a line. Especially as it mixes with the non-flushables. Sewer lines get coated and eventually form a solid plug causing costly repairs.

Please do your part and keep non-flushables from entering the sewers and allowing the grease to cool and be disposed of in the trash can.



Don't Flush FOG

FOG (fats, oils and grease) solidify and create plugs in pipes like this one.



Don't Flush Wipes

Non-flushables like toilet wipes, disinfectant wipes, trash, and masks can create backups like this.