

COUNCIL POLICY

SUBJECT: SEWER (SANITARY & STORM) BLOCKAGES	DATE: March 6, 1995 Revised:
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On March 6, 1995, Council's Committee of the Whole resolved that the following policy on sanitary sewer blockages as amended with respect to surcharging be endorsed:

It is the responsibility of the homeowner to ensure that their sewer or drain lateral is clear from the house to the Municipal main. However, due to the possibility that a main might be surcharging, the following sequence must be followed.

1. Make contact with homeowner.
2. Establish if the sewer main is surcharging.
 - s Ensure all internal house fixtures are off (i.e. all sinks, baths, showers, toilets, dishwasher, washer, etc.)
 - s If effluent is still flowing into the lower level of the house via toilets or shower/bath outlets, the main is not likely surcharging.
 - s Call out Sewer/Drain crew.
3. If after all fixtures are off, but effluent is not flowing into the house (i.e. level does not get higher) but is not flowing away, there is a blockage. The homeowner is responsible to engage a private contractor to clear the lateral.
4. If after engaging a contractor, the blockage is found to be on the Municipal side of the property line and it cannot be cleared, the owner may call the Municipality for assistance. Ensure plumbing contractor stays on-site until Saanich representative arrives in order that the exact location of the blockage is verified.
5. Sewer/Drain crew will undertake necessary work to ensure the Municipality portion of the house lateral is functioning with costs borne by Saanich.