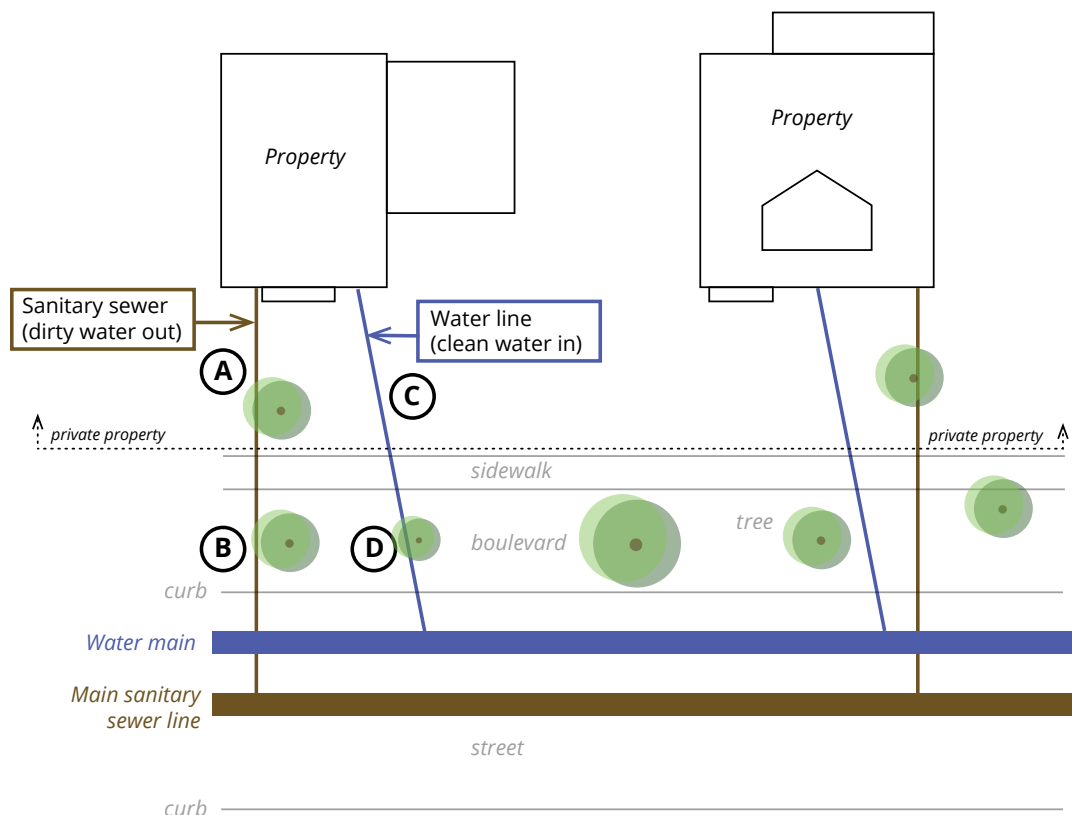


Sanitary Sewer and Water Replacement Opportunities with Street Reconstructions in Saint Paul



- (A) Sanitary sewer on private property:** the connection between the home/structure and the property line (often at sidewalk) is the responsibility of the property owner to maintain and replace. It will not be replaced with the reconstruction.
- (B) Sanitary sewer on public property:** the connection between the property line (often at sidewalk) and the main sanitary sewer line is the responsibility of the property owner to maintain and replace. The property owner must elect to have this portion replaced with the reconstruction project, and it will not be replaced automatically. The cost will be billed to the property owner. It will be less expensive than replacement after the reconstruction. Replacement after reconstruction would also cause damage to the new street! The city wants to avoid that.
- (C) Water line on private property:**

 - if the water line is lead, the city will replace the connection between the home/structure and the property line (often at the sidewalk). There will be no charge to the property owner. Owner must provide permission to the city to enter the property for replacement (typically in the basement).
 - if the water line is not lead, replacement is not needed.
- (D) Water line on public property:**

 - if the water line is lead, the city will replace the connection between property line (often at the sidewalk) and water main with the reconstruction, and there will be no charge to the property owner
 - if the water line is not lead, replacement is not needed.

Frequently Asked Questions

Street reconstructions in Saint Paul present an opportunity to replace aging underground infrastructure, including the connections from the mainline under the street to the individual properties. Please see the diagram on the reverse for information about the clean water lines, sanitary sewer lines, and the maintenance and replacement responsibilities for each. This page provides some answers to frequently asked questions.

If you have additional questions, please use the contact information at the bottom of the page to contact Public Works Sewer Utility Division and Saint Paul Regional Water Services (SPRWS) Lead Free team.

1. Am I eligible for sanitary sewer and water line replacement?

Only properties on the street scheduled for reconstruction are eligible for replacement. On some reconstruction projects, the limits of the reconstruction may wrap around the corner on to some side streets (usually one or two houses in from the main project street). Properties where the street is not being reconstructed are not eligible for replacement. If your property is eligible, you will receive a letter in the mail. There will be one letter regarding sanitary sewer replacement, and another regarding water line replacement (if lead - see Question #3). If you are not eligible for replacement, you will not receive a letter/letters.

2. How do I know if my sanitary sewer line needs replacement?

If you have an older private sewer pipe (50+ years), have had a sewer back up in your basement, or need to have your private sewer line routinely cleaned of roots, you should consider this opportunity to replace. The only way to be sure your sewer line needs replacement is by having it professionally inspected by a contractor. You can find a list of licensed sewer contractors at stpaul.gov/sewer.

3. How do I know if my water line needs replacement?

Only water lines made of lead need replacement. The City of Saint Paul has a record of all lead water lines in the city. You will be contacted directly by city staff (Saint Paul Regional Water Services aka SPRWS) in the fall preceding the street reconstruction year. If you are not contacted by SPRWS, your water line is either outside the project area (see Question #1) or your water line is not lead. You can check to see if you have a lead water line at stpaul.gov/water/lead-free.

4. What is the cost to replace my water line?

If your water line is eligible for replacement, there is no cost to you. If your water line is outside the reconstruction area or is not lead, it will not be replaced.

continued on next page

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Saint Paul Sewer Utility: PW-SewerCounter@ci.stpaul.mn.us | 651-266-6234

Saint Paul Regional Water Services (Lead Free Team): lead@stpaul.gov | 651-266-6820



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Frequently Asked Questions

5. What is the cost to replace my sanitary sewer line?

The cost of sanitary sewer line replacement varies from property to property, but replacement with a larger reconstruction typically costs half of what it would cost to replace outside the reconstruction. There are limited financial assistance programs available for sewer line replacement. Contact Public Works Sewer Utility staff below or visit stpaul.gov/sewer.

6. I've heard replacement of sanitary sewer lines and water lines could require the removal of trees. How do I know if my lines run under a tree?

City staff have some information about the underground location of your sewer and water lines, but it is difficult to know *exactly* where the lines run from your property out to the street, and if that location is under a tree. If a tree needs to be removed in order to replace a sewer or water line, the city pays for the removal.

7. Which portions of my sanitary sewer and water lines are eligible for replacement?

Please see the first page of this document for a diagram showing the portions of your lines that are eligible for replacement. There are two portions of both the sewer and water lines: one portion running in the public right-of-way, and a second portion running under private property. Often, but not always, the dividing line between private property and the public right-of-way is the sidewalk.

8. I see the portion of my sanitary sewer line running in private property is not eligible for replacement with the larger reconstruction. How do I get that replaced?

You should work directly with a contractor to replace the portion of your sanitary sewer in private property. See question #2 for a link to licensed sewer contractors.

9. What is the timeline? When do I need to make a decision about replacement?

If you have a lead water line, SPRWS will contact you directly in the fall preceding the street reconstruction year. If they do not contact you, you are not eligible for water line replacement. The communication with SPRWS will discuss next steps and timeline. For sewer line replacement, you will receive a letter in the mail from Saint Paul Public Works. The letter will provide more information on estimated costs of replacement with the reconstruction project, next steps, and deadlines for a decision to replace your sewer line. It is important to meet deadlines for a successful street project.

If you have more questions, please contact Sewer Utility staff and SPRWS staff using the contact information below. Staff are happy to help.

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