

## History of Lower Pottsgrove Township Authority

The Lower Pottsgrove Township Authority was created on August 26, 1964. The Authority is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the Township' sanitary sewer system. There are over 46.6 miles of sewer lines and nearly 3,000 manholes in Lower Pottsgrove Township.

An important priority of the Authority and Township wastewater staff is doing what is necessary to stabilize and reduce higher treatment costs by reducing inflow and infiltration from rainwater within the public sewer lines. This includes grouting of manholes, installation of self-sealing manhole lids, inspection of cleanouts and vent stacks, and televised inspection of the sewer lines.

## Sewer Rates

The sewer rental fee is \$115.00 per quarter for residential customers. This year's fee is \$5.50 per quarter greater than last year's due to increasing costs for treatment expenses as well as ongoing maintenance activities. The 2009 rate is still less than many other Municipal Authority Rates.

## Public Awareness Program

### Illegal Connections to the Sanitary Sewer System

Now that the weather is going to be nicer, the Authority asks that owners inspect their own plumbing in order to identify illegal hookups and to remove any illegal connections to the public sewer system, such as sump pump connections, floor drains, improper heights of sewer vent stacks and clean outs located in your yard or parking area, which may be allowing surface water to run into the sewer system illegally. Illegal connections create an artificially high cost for sewer treatment.

Currently the Township and Municipal Authority are doing all they can to stabilize and reduce high treatment costs by implementing a strict inflow and infiltration program.

Property owners can help reduce the amount of inflow and infiltration into the sanitary sewer by disconnecting illegal connections and inspecting their vents to ensure they are 6" above finish grade with a cover and clean-outs to ensure they are not accepting any surface water run-off. Sump pumps which are harmlessly discharging outside onto the ground are not illegal and do not need attention.



Property owners should be aware that homes with illegal connections detected through other means (i.e.

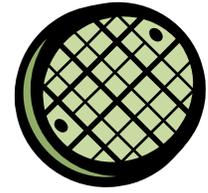
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dye testing, camera inspection) may ultimately be cited for being in violation of Township and Authority Codes which prohibits discharge of “any storm water, surface water, ground water, water from sump pumps or floor drains, roof runoff, subsurface drainage, or cooling water. Penalties may be incurred as noted in Township and Authority Codes which states, “violators may be punished by a fine of not less than \$100 and not more than \$1000 for each offense plus costs and attorney fees.”

Illegal sump pump hook-ups cost all Lower Pottsgrove Township citizens additional expense in sewer treatment. If you should have any questions or need direction, please feel free to call the Authority Manager at 610-323-0436 ext. 202.



## Frequently Asked Questions

- Q:** How is my bill calculated?  
**A:** Currently the sewer rental is \$460 per year or \$115 per quarter
- Q:** When is my bill mailed?  
**A:** All sewer bills are mailed on a quarterly basis throughout the year.
- First Quarter: January through March, billed on or about April 15
  - Second Quarter: April through June, billed on or about July 15
  - Third Quarter: July through September, billed on or about October 15
  - Fourth Quarter: October through December, billed on or about January 15
- Q:** When is my payment due?  
**A:** Payments are due and payable within thirty days.
- First Quarter: Due May 15
  - Second Quarter: Due August 15
  - Third Quarter: Due November 15
  - Fourth Quarter: Due February 15
- Q:** Where can I pay my bill?  
**A:** Bills can be mailed directly to the Lower Pottsgrove Authority, Box 512525, Philadelphia, PA 19175-2525.
- Q:** What does my payment pay for?  
**A:** The annual sewer rents pay for the operation and maintenance of the sewer system, pumping stations and the Pottstown Wastewater Treatment Plant, as well as debt service on Authority Bonds.