



Waltzing around in Wastewater can get messy...here's how to handle some scenarios that may arise at your home...

**Q: I have a sewage back-up in my basement.
What do I need to do?**

A: As a City Resident, you will need to contact the 24/7 emergency phone line at 262.636.9520 for assistance.

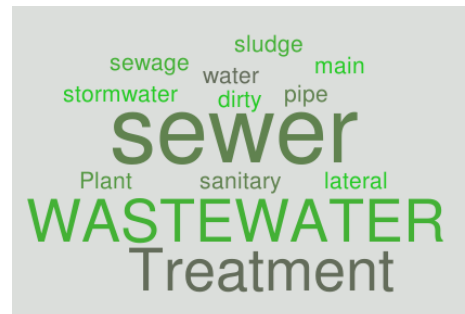


Basic Wastewater Terms & Lingo – What does it all mean???

Talk the Talk!
Read to Learn
the Lingo!

As a homeowner, your property contains an underground pipe connection to the main **sanitary sewer system**. This is the underground collection & transportation system of piping that carries the wastewater created within your home to be treated. The part of the underground pipe connection from within your property boundaries to the public sanitary sewer system is called a **private sanitary sewer lateral**, hereafter referred to as **sewer lateral**.

The **sewer lateral** within your home transports the wastewater from things like toilets, sinks, showers, washing machines, floor drains etc. to the public sanitary **sewer main**, which is typically located below the manholes you normally see in the middle of the street. From the **sewer main** it is transported to the **Wastewater Utility Treatment Plant**. The image below depicts what a normal property looks like showing the dividing line where the **sewer lateral** (or pipe) extending from within the property becomes the responsibility of the City.



Ultimately, the responsibility of maintaining and keeping the private sewer laterals clean is the homeowner's responsibility.

Q: What can I do to help maintain my portion of the sanitary sewer lateral?

A: Check out some helpful tips for maintaining your sewer lateral by scanning the QR code below:



Q: There is some construction going on near my home with large pipes everywhere. How can I find out if this is related to the Wastewater Utility?

A: Current information regarding ongoing construction projects related to the Utility can be found by visiting the following link:

<https://www.cityofracine.org/RoadConstruction/>

HHW – What is it?

HHW is short for **Household Hazardous Waste**.

Q: Where does it come from?

A: HHW is derived from consumer products typically used to clean around the home, treat the outside lawn or garden, or used within a garage or workshop area. Some key trigger words that should alert you as to whether the product is hazardous are: POISON, TOXIC, CORROSIVE, VOLATILE, FLAMMABLE, INFLAMMABLE, COMBUSTIBLE, EXPLOSIVE, DANGER, CAUTION, WARNING, or HARMFUL.

Q: What should I do with my leftover HHW materials?

A: As part of a resident-funded program, if you are a resident of the City of Racine you are eligible to drop off your HHW materials at the Racine Collection Site, which is temporarily located at 1831 Phillips Avenue (proof of residency may be required). Collection at our normal permanent location at 6200-21st Street, will resume in 2024. Collection events take place on the 3rd Saturday of each month from April to October of each year from 8 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. unless otherwise posted.



Q: Where can I learn more about HHW?

A: Please scan the QR code below, which will direct you to the Wastewater Utility HHW page containing more in-depth detail about HHW Collection Events, as well as how to determine what IS and IS NOT considered HHW to ensure that you dispose of products safely for our environment.



**HOUSEHOLD
HAZARDOUS
WASTE
COLLECTION**



For further information regarding the Racine Wastewater Utility, its treatment processes, and services to the City, please visit our website directly by scanning the QR code below.

