

INFLOW AND INFILTRATION POLICY

The city recognizes the importance in removal of Inflow and Infiltration (I&I) from the sanitary sewer system. I&I not only causes sewage backups in basements, but also results in a substantial increase in energy needs and rapidly advances the need for repair and maintenance due to increased burden on the system. In addition, there is a reduction in sewer capacity, which shortens the life of the current treatment facility. All of which result in increased cost and financial burden on citizens and businesses of Creston.

I&I is the invasion of storm water into the system from broken, cracked or mis-aligned mains, leaking manholes or manholes that have water flow over their covers. Other sources of I&I include private (resident and business) services that are cracked or broken and storm water connections from sump pits and roof drains into sanitary sewers. The latter has been illegal since the adoption of Ordinance No. 95.12.

The mayor and council therefore adopt the following policy to abate problems associated with I&I:

1. The city shall perform a study to locate I&I using sewer department staff and an engineer firm. It shall be conducted on an area-by-area basis with anticipated citywide completion in December 30, 2021. **Efforts should be made to study one area and do as much repair and disconnection as possible before moving to another area.**
2. Public sewers and manholes with I&I shall be repaired using sewer revenue including fees and grants etc. as designated by the city council.
3. Private sources of I&I are the responsibility of property owners and shall be repaired or removed in the following manner:

ACCESS TO PRIVATE SERVICE ref. Ord. 95.43 Right of Entry

Should the property owner deny access to the property for I&I testing and or Inspection, the City of Creston will consider the property non-compliant with The City of Creston I&I program. A letter notifying the owner of non-compliance will be sent and the property owner will be given 30 days to respond or a \$30.00 per monthly fee shall be applied to the utility bill until inspection or testing can confirm compliance, If the owner has failed to allow access after a 90-day period of time the monthly fee will increase to \$50.00 until inspection or testing can confirm compliance.

CONNECTION OR LEAKING SERVICE TO SEWER

Upon written notification (first class mail) of I&I flowing into the sanitary sewer from an illegal connection (does not include sump pump), the property owner shall have a period of 90 **days to abate the problem**. Those owners that perform the proper repairs or retain a contractor to make the repairs within 90 days of notification or less shall be **eligible for the following finance option:**

Not to exceed \$250 for the disconnection costs,

For those property owners who opt not to disconnect illegal connection from the sanitary sewer after the 90 day period, a \$30 per month fee shall be applied to the utility bill until the disconnection has been performed, but not to exceed 1 year. By the end of the one-year period, the owner shall have completed the disconnection. If the owner has failed to disconnect the illegal connection the monthly fee will increase to \$50.00 until repairs have been made

Inspection by city staff both prior to and after repairs shall be necessary for a reimbursement or loan. In addition, a billing statement for services performed shall accompany the request for reimbursement.

CONNECTION (SUMP PUMP)

Upon written notification (first class mail) of sump pumps illegally hooked into a sanitary sewer, the property owner shall have a period of 30 days to remove the connection.

For those property owners who opt not to disconnect a sump pump from the sanitary sewer after the 30-day period, a \$30 per month fee shall be applied to the utility bill until the disconnection has been performed, but not to exceed 1 year. By the end of the one-year period, the owner shall have completed the disconnection. If the owner has failed to disconnect the sump pump the monthly fee will increase to \$50.00 until repairs have been made. No financing options are available for this repair.

Inspection by city staff both prior to and after repairs shall be necessary.

PERMIT FEE WAIVERS

Notwithstanding any other provisions of the municipal code, the fees ordinarily required for sewer, plumbing or electrical permits shall be waived for a property owner who complies with this policy within one year of notification of noncompliance.

Reference of City Ordinances

95.43 Right of Entry

95.45 Storm Water

96.13 User Charges

95.12 Connection of surface runoff sources to sanitary sewer prohibited