

TOWN OF STOCKTON

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STOCKTON TOWN SEWER SYSTEM FAQ'S

- Q. What is the monthly rate for the new sewer system?
- A. The monthly rate for the each residential connection is \$43.50. The monthly rate for commercial connections will be \$43.50 per ERU. One ERU is deemed to be one single family residential connection. For commercial, industrial, or other connections, 1 ERU shall equate to the consumption of 10,000 gallons of culinary water per month.
- Q. When do I have to start paying for the sewer in my monthly utility bill?
- A. The monthly sewer bill of \$43.50 will begin on the month following the Department of Water Quality inspection and notification to the Town that the sewer is substantially complete and ready for connections. Based on the current construction schedule, we expect that the first sewer charge will be included with the October 2010 utility statement, but it could be a little earlier or later.
- Q. When will I be required to connect to the sewer system?
- A. According to the Stockton Town Wastewater Use Ordinance, Article II, Section 4, all homeowners and businesses are required to connect to the new system within 30 days of the date that "official notice" to connect is given to do so. Residents should plan to connect to the new sewer system as soon as possible after the system is complete and ready for connections. You will receive a notice that the system is ready for connections in your monthly utility bill. It is expected that the system will be ready for connections sometime in September, but it could be slightly earlier or later.
- Q. What is required of my septic tank once my property is connected to the sewer system?
- A. State law requires that septic tanks be abandoned, disconnected from and bypassed with the building sewer when connection is made to the public sewer system. This is accomplished first by rendering the tank safe by pumping the wastes out and disposed in an approved manner, and then filling the tank completely with sand, or gravel. To facilitate filling the tank, the tank lid is generally collapsed into the bottom of the tank. As an alternative, the tank may be removed and hauled to an approved landfill, but this is generally more expensive. An inspection by the Town's building inspector is required to verify that the septic tank has been properly abandoned during the connection process.

- Q. Is there funding assistance available to connect my system?
- A. Maybe. Funding assistance may be available for low income residents that meet qualification requirements set in place by the Community Development Block Grant program. For more information, and funding applications please contact the Stockton Town office.
- Q. Can I connect to the sewer myself or am I required to hire a licensed contractor?
- A. It is strongly recommended, though not required, that the homeowner hire a licensed contractor for the installation of sewer laterals for health and safety reasons, to minimize potential installation problems, and to prevent potential exposure to and spread of lead contamination found in some areas of Town. An excavation permit from Stockton Town is required.

The licensed contractor must be HAZWOPER certified to work in areas of lead contamination. Residents are encouraged to solicit bids from multiple contractors and choose the most competitive. Residents who choose to install their own connections are required to be HAZWOPER certified and comply with all local, state and federal requirements.

Stockton Town has a soil handling plan in place for dealing with the lead contaminated soils. The sewer lateral installer responsible to verify contamination levels at the location where the trench is being excavated. The highest levels of contaminated soils may be placed in the bottom of the trench at the location where they were found on top of the sand pipe bedding. Pipe bedding should be installed from 6 inches below the pipe to approximately 12 inches above the pipe to protect the pipe from damage by rocks. The trench can be filled with contaminated soil from the top of the pipe bedding to 18 inches from the surface. All surplus contaminated soil must be disposed of at the proper facility. Low level contaminated soils that have lead concentrations corresponding to a TCLP<5 may be disposed at Stockton's new Class IIIb repository near the sewer lagoons. Contaminated soils that have lead concentrations corresponding to a TCLP>5 shall be disposed at a higher level waste repository such as the Clive facility. Such soils must be transported in special trucks.

- Q. How much will it cost to connect to the sewer system?
- A. It is difficult to respond accurately to this question, due to the fact that each connection is different in regards to length, depth, surface restorations, and possible remediation. The following guidelines based on contract prices for similar construction are provided as a reference only:
 - 1. Soil testing and contamination level monitoring is expected to cost approximately \$300 for those in areas of known contamination.
 - 2. Install 4" PVC Sewer Lateral Pipe at correct slope and depth should cost approximately \$24 per foot.
 - 3. 4" Cleanouts including pipe and fittings, required at each bend should cost approximately \$60 per cleanout. 3 are usually required for a cost of \$180.

- 4. Abandonment of septic tank including pumping, waste haul off collapsing the lid, and filling with sand, should cost approximately \$360.00.
- 5. Fully restore an average yard should cost approximately \$500.00
- 6. If needed, concrete for sidewalk and driveway repair will likely cost approximately\$300 per yard delivered and installed.
- 7. Replace the average damaged fence if required should cost around \$200, but depends on the type of fence, which can vary the cost widely.
- 8. Hauling excess material to a remote contaminated landfill depends on the amount of material, and must be negotiated with the facility operator who will pick up and transport the material as part of the price. The contractors cost for high level materials on the Stockton project was \$141 per ton, but it must be understood that this price was based on a significant quantity. That is why it is encouraged that the most contaminated materials go back in the deepest level of your trench. It is expected that disposal of low level materials resulting from installation of sewer laterals in the Stockton repository will be at little or no cost other than transportation to the site.

The prices provided are not bid prices. Bids may be higher or lower, depending on the work required for your lateral and other factors such as cost of materials, competition, and other market forces. That is why it is important that residents obtain multiple bids for the work. Competition generally drives prices down.

- Q. Can my neighbor and I share a common sewer connection?
- A. No, state law requires that each home be connected to its own connection. Residents may share a common trench if they choose; this may require an agreement between the two homeowners and coordination with the wastewater construction personnel.
- Q. Should I call the Town when I get ready to connect to the sewer?
- A. Yes, Stockton Town has a work plan that outlines the steps required to make connection to the sewer system. In addition, inspections by the Sewer superintendent are required during the installation.
- Q. Is the installation of my sewer lateral connection subject to inspections by the Town or Tooele County?
- A. Yes,
- Q. Where can I find a Contractor to install my sewer line?
- A. Residents should be able to locate local contractors that specialize in the installation of underground sewers. Listings of contractors can be found in the telephone directory. Stockton Town also will also post a list of contractors that have expressed interest in this work and have contacted the Town. Residents may also negotiate with the Project General contractor at their option to have their sewer lateral installed as he continues his work.