

SEWER BACK UPS

Sewer backups, from the main while not the norm, do on occasion occur. If you experience a backup, that you suspect is from the sewer main in the street, contact the Borough office at 717-838-6361 during regular business hours or the Police Department (717-838-8189) for after-hour emergencies. In response, the Wastewater Department will conduct an inspection to determine the reason for the backup and address the issue if located in the sewer main.

It is important for residents to be aware that under the *Pennsylvania Governmental Immunity Statute*, the Borough has limited legal responsibility for sewer backups. Residents are advised to contact their homeowners or commercial insurance agent to make sure adequate coverage is in place for sewer or water backups. Some policies do not automatically cover these backups and the Borough recommends you purchase an adequate level of this valuable coverage.

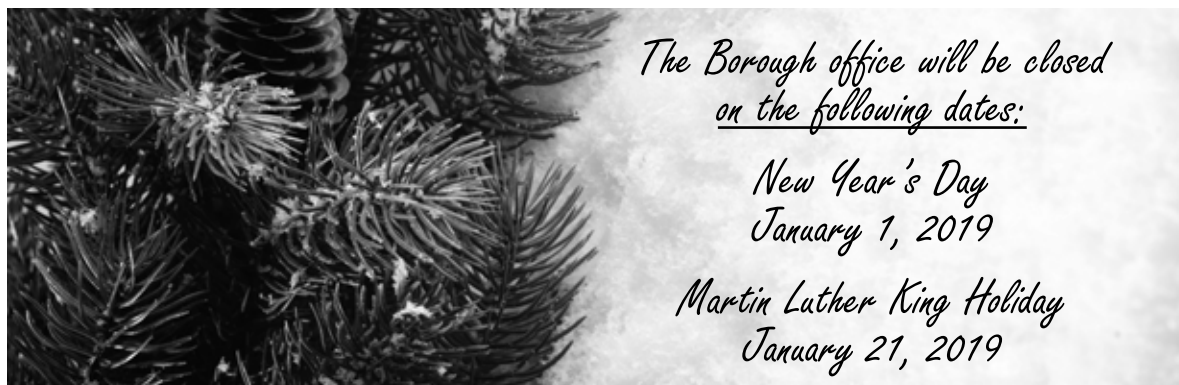
There are many factors that can lead to a sewer line blockage. Fats, oils and grease poured down the drain can harden, or solidify, causing clumps which stick to the sides of pipes in the sewage collection system. When these clumps occur, the end result is often a back-up in the sewer main or the lateral which can result in costly repairs, both for the homeowner and the Borough. To help avoid these situations, be sure to follow these recommendations:

- Do not pour oil, grease or fats down the drain.
- Soak up grease after frying with paper towels and put in the trash. (Make sure the grease has cooled to room temperature)
- Pour larger amounts of grease into a container with a lid. Refrigerate to harden, then place in the trash.
- Minimize the use of your garbage disposal. Put food scraps in the garbage.
- Never pour motor oil down the drain—this is illegal!
- Do not flush wet wipes down the toilet. They are not biodegradable and will clog the sewer line.

One factor that can lead to sewer backups can be the amount of inflow and infiltration (I & I) during heavy rain events. Infiltration is groundwater leaking through cracks in sewer mains or manholes, and inflow is groundwater, or rainfall, that flows directly into the collection system.

Its source is often from downspouts or sump pumps connected directly to a sewer lateral emptying into the system, a practice that is prohibited by Borough Ordinance. We need your help to continue making improvements. Please check discharge points from downspouts and sump pumps and remove any direct connections to lateral lines. ***If you would like the Borough's assistance in determining if your Inflow is discharging properly, call (717) 838-6361 to schedule an inspection.***

With your help the Borough's collection system will run more efficiently, back-ups will be reduced, and expensive repair costs can be avoided.



Winter 2019



Working Together for a Common Cause - a Better Community!

Our Town News

REFUSE & RECYCLING UPDATE FOR 2019

Borough Council authorized the outsourcing of the refuse and recycling program at their October 23rd meeting. The contract was awarded to Waste Management and they began collection on November 26th.

There are no major changes to refuse and recycling with the new contract. **However, residents will need to place all items out for collection the night before their regular collection day.** As of January 1, 2019, the collection routes will remain the same. The Borough will work with Waste Management should they decide to consolidate the routes in the future.

Refuse

Residents are still permitted to have three 33-gallon refuse containers/bags and one large item per week. Any additional refuse containers or bags will require an extra bag tag which can be purchased for \$2.00 at the Borough office.

Any additional large items over the one item per week allowance will require a large item tag which can be purchased for \$5.00 at the Borough office.

Recycling

Residents may use a recycling container (or multiple containers) of choice no larger than 33-gallons. Containers are to be marked for recycling. Stickers are available at the Borough office at no cost.

Acceptable recycling materials are as follows:

1. Corrugated cardboard – This includes any size material consisting of a fluted corrugated sheet, like shipping boxes or packing boxes. Flatten all boxes and remove packaging including Styrofoam, peanuts, bubble wrap and plastic liners. DO NOT put paperboard (cereal boxes, shoe boxes) in the recycling container. All corrugated cardboard must be flattened and kept dry.
2. Plastic bottles & jugs with necks – This includes plastic bottles, jars, jugs and anything else with a neck smaller than its base. Throw away the lid and rinse out any residue. All other plastic material is considered trash. Ignore the numbers, as they do not indicate if something is recyclable. Do not put plastic bags, toys, buckets, packaging, Styrofoam, hosing, furniture, or other plastic items in the bin.
3. Metal food and beverage cans – This includes all food and beverage cans made from aluminum or steel. Throw away the lids and rinse out any residue. Do Not put metal hangers, cooking pots and pans or other scrap metal like foil and pie plates in the bin.
4. Glass jars and bottles – This includes clear, green and brown glass bottles and jars. Throw away the lids and rinse out any residue. Do Not put light bulbs, dishes, glassware, window or automotive glass, vases or any other glass material in the bin.
5. Newspaper – must be kept dry

No other materials can be accepted for recycling.

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Office Hours:
M-F 8 am - 4:30 pm

Visit us on the web at:
palmyraborough.org

Borough Council

- Beth Shearer, President
- Carissa Mellinger, Vice President
- Don Barry
- Josh Holl
- Tom Miller
- Jane Quairol
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- Fred Carpenter

Borough Management

- Roger Powl, Borough Mgr
- Brenda Pera, Asst Borough Mgr

Codes Enforcement

- Michelle Bowman

Public Works

- Scott Plouse, Superintendent

Police

- Pete Mathews, Acting Chief

NEW! Single Bag Program

Residents that do not generate enough refuse for a 33-gallon container/bag per week will be eligible to register for the Single Bag Program. The program will offer 26 single bag collections throughout the year at a cost of \$156.00 minimum. This service will begin in April 2019. Residents interested in this program will need to contact the Borough office to register and receive the annual bags/tags.

If additional bags/tags would be needed, they will be available for \$6.00 each. For more information regarding this new program, please contact the Borough office.

Yard Waste

Waste Management will begin yard waste collection in April and provide the service two weeks per month through November. The yard waste guidelines still apply:

- No bags or boxes will be accepted – only open containers not exceeding 33-gallons in size
- Yard waste containers may not have lids and must be marked with the complete word "yard waste" in large letters on all sides of the can. Stickers are available at the Borough office at no charge.
- All yard waste containers must have drainage holes in the bottom of the can and must have graspable handles of adequate strength for lifting.
- Plants, twigs, and any bush trimmings smaller than 1" diameter, must be placed in open containers not exceeding 45-pounds, or, bound together in bundles not exceeding 4-feet in length or 45-pounds in weight using cotton or sisal twine only. Bagged items and unbound loose piles will not be picked-up!
- Pumpkins, gourds, hay bales, and other vegetation used for seasonal decorations will be collected as yard waste.

The schedule for yard waste collection will be available with the April newsletter.

White Goods

Waste Management will collect white goods twice in 2019. A special service tag is required for each item. Tags will be sold at the Borough office. More information on this service will be forthcoming.

Christmas Trees

There is no separate Christmas tree collection day. Christmas trees will be collected on the regular refuse/recycle service day the weeks of January 7th and January 21st.

Holiday Trash Delays

Waste Management holidays are New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day. Collection will shift by one day depending on the day in which the holiday occurs.

If a holiday is on Monday, then Monday collection moves to Tuesday, Tuesday collection moves to Wednesday, Wednesday collection moves to Thursday, Thursday collection moves to Friday, and Friday collection moves to Saturday. If the holiday occurs on any other day of the week, then the collection day moves by one day from that day.

For example, Thanksgiving is on a Thursday, so the Thursday route will be collected on Friday and the Friday route on Saturday. Any questions regarding the new refuse/recycling service should be directed to the Borough office.

The Borough Public Works Department will continue to provide the following services:

Chipping

The Borough will continue to provide chipping service the last full week of the month from April to November. **Residents that have limbs prepared for chipping must contact the Borough by the Friday before the scheduled chipping week to schedule collection.**

The weeks for chipping are:

April 22nd May 27th June 24th July 22nd August 26th September 23rd October 21st November 25th

The Borough will collect limbs 1"-12" in diameter and more than 4 ft. All branches must be neatly stacked in the regular refuse collection area with cut ends facing one direction towards the street or alley

Tree stumps or branches larger than 12" in diameter may be placed for collection, but will be picked up separately.

Leaf Collection

Spring leaf collection will take place the weeks of March 5th and April 1st. Leaves will not be collected from any alleys. No limbs, grass, or yard waste may be mixed in with the leaves.

Fall leaf collection will begin on October 1st and continue through the end of the season.

THE BOROUGH WILL PROVIDE PERIODIC UPDATES ON VARIOUS SERVICES THROUGH A SWIFT 911 ROBO CALL PROGRAM. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO REGISTER TO RECEIVE THESE UPDATES, PLEASE CONTACT THE BOROUGH OFFICE AND PROVIDE YOUR NAME, ADDRESS, AND PHONE NUMBER.

RULES FOR THE REMOVAL OF SNOW AND ICE FROM SIDEWALKS

There is no doubt that the winter months will bring winter weather. Before the next snow or ice event, please read and understand the rules for snow and ice removal from sidewalks. The requirements are as follows:

- *The owner of any lot containing, fronting on or abutting on an improved sidewalk shall remove and clear away or cause to be removed and cleared away snow and/or ice from a path at least 36 inches in width from so much of said sidewalk as is within, in front of or abuts the lot.*
- *Snow and ice shall be removed from sidewalks within 24 hours after the cessation of any fall of snow, sleet or freezing rain.*
- *In the event snow and/or ice on a sidewalk has become so hard that it cannot be removed without likelihood of damage to the sidewalk, the person charged with its removal shall, within the 24 hours mentioned previously, cause enough sand or other abrasive to be put on the sidewalk to make travel reasonably safe. Said person shall, as soon thereafter as weather permits, clear or cause to be cleared a path in said sidewalk of at least 36 inches in width.*
- *The owner of any building or other structure shall remove and clear away, or cause to be removed and cleared away any accumulation of snow and/or ice on said building or other structure which is liable to fall on any sidewalk, street, highway or other public way. Such work shall be completed within a reasonable time, but not later than 24 hours after the cessation of any fall of snow, sleet or freezing rain.*
- *No person shall deposit or cause to be deposited any snow or ice on to neighboring properties without the express consent of the neighboring property owner or immediately next to a fire hydrant or on any sidewalk, street or highway or loading or unloading areas of a public transportation system, except that snow or ice may be mounded by the Borough on public cart-ways incident to the cleaning thereof or mounded on curbs incident to the cleaning of sidewalks in the business district.*

Borough Council has empowered the Codes Enforcement Officer and/or any officer of the Police Department with the enforcement of this ordinance. Any person who violates any provision of this ordinance shall be sentenced to pay a fine of not less than \$75 nor more than \$600 plus costs. Each day that a violation continues shall be considered a separate offense.