

What else can I do to help prevent a sewer backup?

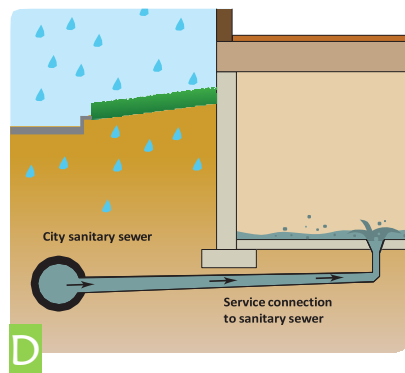
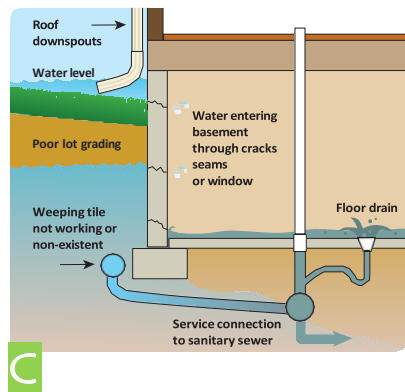
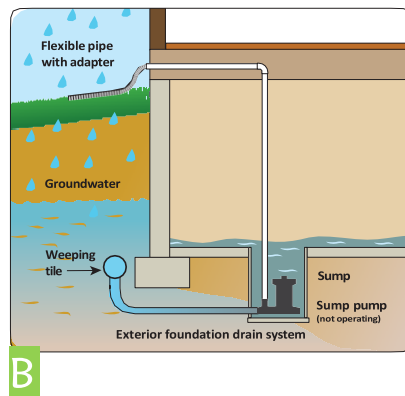
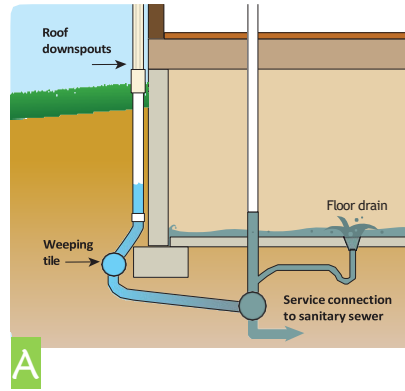
Cooking grease poured down the drain builds up over time and is the main cause of sewer backups and overflows.

- Never pour fats, oils or grease into drains, garbage disposals or toilets. This includes cooking oil, salad oil, bacon fat, lard, marinades, sauces, gravies, butter, margarine, shortening and other food scraps.
- Pour fatty liquids into an empty jar, can, milk carton or juice container, wait until the liquid hardens, then discard hardened liquid in your waste or green cart.
- When draining meat in a colander, place the colander over newspaper to absorb the fat.
- Before washing, scrape and wipe pots, pans and dishes with used napkins, paper towels or newspapers to prevent food scraps from entering the sewer system. Use strainers to catch food particles and empty into waste bin.
- NEVER use the toilet or sink to dispose of hazardous products, including motor oil and prescription medicines.

Does a Backflow Preventor guarantee that I will never have a sewer backup in my basement?

Installation of preventative plumbing flooding devices will provide a degree of protection to the property; however, there are no guarantees that basement flooding will never occur. It is the responsibility of the property owner to make any necessary inquiries of qualified professionals to determine the best way to address potential flooding or sewer backups.

Common Causes of Property Flooding



A Weeping tiles and/or downspouts are connected to the municipal sanitary sewer system.

Municipal sanitary sewer systems are designed solely for wastewater. During periods of heavy rainfall, additional water flow can overwhelm the system, increasing the risk of flooded basements. Direct connections of sump pits, weeping tile and downspouts to the sanitary sewer system are prohibited under the Town of Kindersley Bylaw 14-19.

Disconnecting your weeping tile from the sanitary sewer system will help to reduce the chances of sewer backup and can also reduce the risk of structural damage.

B Malfunctioning sump pump

Sump pumps are prone to blockage and possible failure if they are not routinely inspected and maintained. Sump pits should be inspected and cleaned of debris each spring and fall. Pouring water into the pit will test whether the sump pump will start automatically. Backup sump pumps and backup power supplies can help to make sure that sump pumps operate during a power outage.

C Surface water causing basement flooding

Proper lot grading is extremely important. The soil directly beside the foundation wall should be higher than the rest of your property to prevent seepage at the foundation. Make sure to seal cracks in basement foundations and floors. Fill gaps around windows, doors, electrical wiring, cables and pipes. Water from downspouts and sump pumps should be directed to lawns and gardens.

D Municipal sanitary sewer pipe is full

Sewer backup can happen when storm water connections are plumbed into municipal sanitary sewer systems. Excess storm water can then cause the sewers to "surcharge" and push water backwards and cause sewage backup into the home through basement floor drains, toilets and sinks. A backflow preventor or check valve will automatically close to prevent sewer entering the home. It is itemized in the Town's bylaw to ensure storm water is not connected to the sanitary sewer and that a check valve is present.

Preventative Plumbing Subsidy

The Town of Kindersley is providing a one-time plumbing subsidy for eligible homeowners to disconnect storm infrastructure such as weeping tile systems, sump pits, eavestrough downspouts from our municipal sewer system.

Submit your completed application form and all required supporting documentation to:

Town of Kindersley
Box 1269
Kindersley, SK S0L 1S0
Email: office@kindersley.ca

For more information:

Web: www.kindersley.ca

Telephone: 306-463-2675

To Apply:

Step One:

Consult with a certified plumber licensed in the Town of Kindersley.

The property owner is responsible for determining which preventative plumbing solution is required to ensure storm drainage is disconnected from the Town sanitary sewer system. The property owner will be permitted to hire the contractor of their choice but must be completed by a certified plumber.

Step Two:

Proceed with installation.

Once the consultation is complete, the property owner will have the eligible time-period (June 1, 2024 – October 31, 2024) to complete the work and to submit proof of payment to the Town of Kindersley. The property owner is responsible for arranging the purchase of supplies and installation by a licensed plumber and issuing full payment to them.

Step Three:

Submit your application.

Carefully review the application document to ensure you fill the form out in full. If you have any questions regarding your eligibility for the program, please contact the Town of Kindersley at 306-463-2675.

Step Four:

Submit required documentation.

The property owner is responsible for submitting a copy of the paid invoice from a certified licensed plumber as well as a minimum of two electronic photos showing the storm infrastructure “before” and “after”. This will provide evidence that the work submitted for the subsidy program was completed.

Step Five:

An inspection may be required.

The property owner may need to coordinate an inspection by a representative of the Town of Kindersley to ensure the installed plumbing meets the requirements before receiving a subsidy. *This will only occur if the required documentation is misleading, and more information is required.*

Step Six:

The Town will issue your eligible subsidy.

Once the application form is fully reviewed and processed by the Town of Kindersley, the Town will issue a cheque for the approved subsidy to the property owner.



What are the conditions to be considered for eligibility?

- The residential property must be located within the following areas of the Town of Kindersley:
 - Rosedale Subdivision
 - Brookhollow Subdivision
 - 300 Block of 2nd Avenue East
 - Overlord Crescent
 - 13th Avenue Residential District (RA District)
- The subsidy is available only to existing buildings, not properties that are in the planning stages or currently under construction.
- Applicant(s) must be the current owners of the property.
- Property taxes must be up-to-date and paid in full.
- A certified plumber and/or contractor licensed by the Town of Kindersley must be hired to complete the eligible work.
- A site visit by a representative of the Town of Kindersley may be required to receiving approval for the subsidy if the application is incomplete or misleading.
- Sump pumps, weeping tiles and eavestrough downspouts, must be disconnected from the municipal sanitary sewer system prior to receiving the subsidy.

What is the maximum allowable subsidy?

The preventative plumbing subsidy has been calculated to provide a maximum of five hundred (\$500.00) reimbursement on the cost of disconnecting storm drainage from the Town of Kindersley’s sanitary sewer system, such as sump pit, weeping tile drainage system or both.

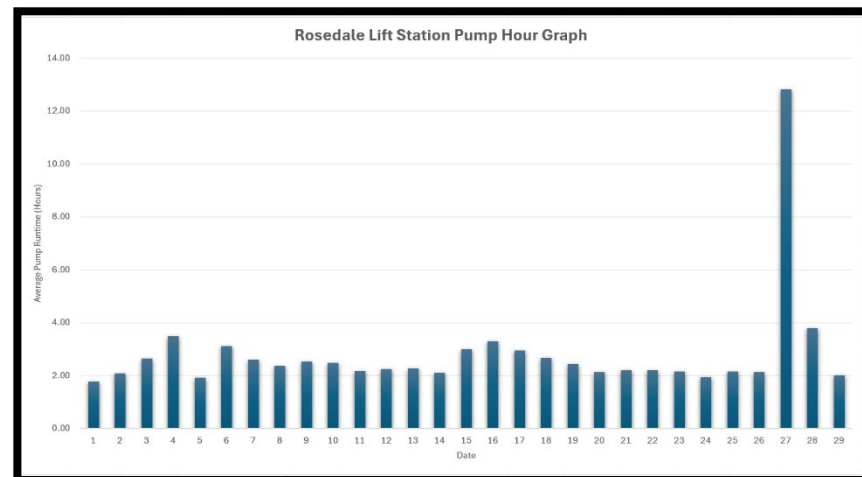
Available subsidy = 100% of the invoiced cost up to a **maximum of \$500** including eligible labour, materials, and taxes.

- Preventative Plumbing Subsidy Application must be signed, completed and submitted.
- Paid receipts for work completed must be presented when applying for a subsidy.
- Electronic photo(s) of infrastructure prior to the work completed must be submitted. (BEFORE PHOTOS)
- Electronic photos(S) of the completed work must be submitted. (AFTER PHOTOS)
- Once all required documentation is completed the Town will issue up to a maximum of \$500 to the homeowner.

How many times can I apply and when is the deadline for the program??

Only one subsidy payment is permitted per property. The eligible subsidy time-period is June 1, 2024 – October 31, 2024.

Below is a graph that shows pump hours for the month of June at Rosedale Lift Station. The graph clearly shows evidence of higher pump hours during the storm event on June 27, 2024



Why is the Town of Kindersley introducing a preventative plumbing subsidy?

Following the storm event on June 27, 2024, the Town of Kindersley Council passed a resolution to provide a preventative plumbing subsidy program to assist those who are connected to the Rosedale Lift Station sanitary main system. The subsidy is to provide financial assistance to property owners who have storm infrastructure connected to our sanitary system. During heavy rainfall events this may cause an overload of sewer infrastructure which then may result in sewer backups.

Our overall goal is to reduce the amount of rainwater entering the municipal wastewater treatment system and ensure residents are following the Town of Kindersley Bylaw 14-19.

What may happen if I choose to keep my storm connections connected to the Town’s sanitary sewer system?

Although the Town of Kindersley does not want to issue fines to residents, the infraction in the Town of Kindersley Bylaw 14-19 is \$2,500 for the first offence.

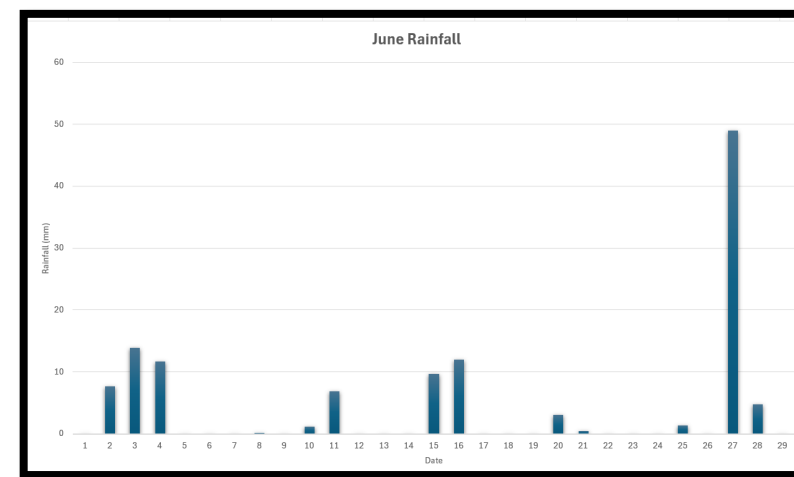
Why is it important to reduce the amount of rainwater entering the municipal sewer system?

In some older homes, rain gutter downspouts, weeping tiles and sump pumps are directly connected to sanitary sewers. While this may have been an acceptable practice many years ago, the municipal wastewater system is not designed for the treatment of storm water. The Town of Kindersley has a separate storm water infrastructure. For example, catch basins or street gutters do not flow into our sanitary wastewater infrastructure but are designed and managed separately. The Rosedale Lift Station is designed solely for wastewater. Additional water flow from other sources can exceed the capacity of pipes. This increases the risk of flooded basements and overflow of wastewater into waterways.

How long do the pumps located in the Rosedale Lift Station normally operate each day?

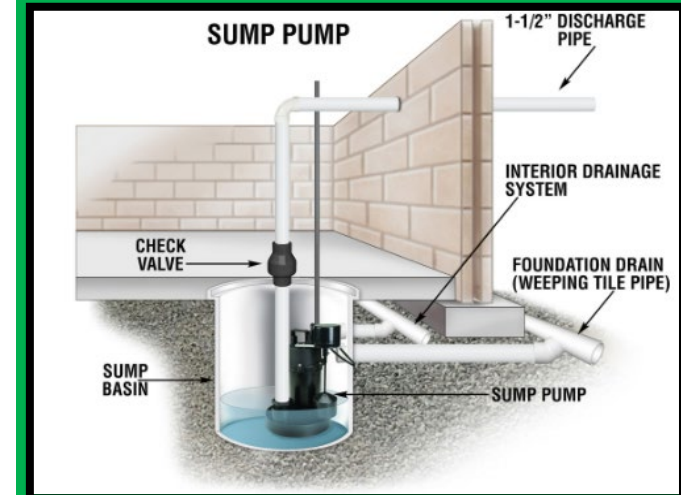
Historical data indicates the normal operating range of the Rosedale pumps averages only 1.5 hours each day. The average for June of 2024 is higher due to more annual rainfall and averages just over 2 hours per day. The Rosedale Lift Station is currently designed and operating as it should for the homes connected on this line. In fact, the Rosedale Lift Station is designed for future growth in this entire area and is not deemed to require capacity upgrades. The Town of Kindersley completed the Infrastructure Capacity Assessment Study in April of 2024. The last study had been completed in 2014. The 2024 report concludes, the Rosedale Lift Station loading estimates provide evidence to support the fact that the pumps themselves are not undersized.

Below is a graph that shows the precipitation levels for the month of June for Kindersley. This directly correlates to longer pumping hours for the month of June in the pump hour graph.



What is a sump pit drainage system?

A sump pit drainage system consists of a sump pit set into your basement floor, a sump pump and a drainage pipe. The system collects water from the weeping tiles that surround your foundation and pushes the water to the surface. It is very important to ensure that the water is discharged outside at least 1.8 metres away from the basement walls to a garden or lawn where it can be easily absorbed. It is equally as important to ensure that water does not flow directly onto, or otherwise impact, the property of your neighbours.



What is a backflow preventor or check valve?

The valve is placed directly into your sewer line as it leaves your home and will close when there is a sewer backflow. A certified plumber is essential to ensure proper installation. A valve that is improperly placed could result in a cracked and flooded home. A valve should never be installed in homes where the weeping tiles are connected to the sanitary sewer system. When the valve is closed, sewage from an overloaded sewer main could be forced back into the weeping tiles and lead to structural damage. During heavy rainfall, property owners should refrain from using water as a closed valve will prevent household wastewater from entering the sanitary sewer system. This valve must be regularly maintained and inspected. Bylaw 14-19 states that every premises with a service connection to the Town’s Sanitary Sewer System shall be responsible for preventing water or sewage from backing-up through the Town’s Sanitary Sewer System and flooding the basement or any other portion of that property or any other property and that every property owner shall install a suitable check valve or other approved mechanical device.

