

St. Louis County  
Public Works  
Sewer Lateral Repair Program

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(314) 615-8427

[www.stlouisco.com](http://www.stlouisco.com)



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## Sewer Lateral Repair Program

On April 6, 1999, the citizens of unincorporated St. Louis County voted YES on Proposition 1 on the St. Louis County Election ballot. Proposition 1 - the Sewer Lateral Repair Program (SLRP) - covers the cost of repairing a defective residential sewer lateral in unincorporated St. Louis County and in some municipalities that contracted with the County. The program began assisting homeowners with sewer lateral repairs on January 1, 2000.

### *What costs does the program cover?*

- ✓ The cost of the portion of the residential sewer lateral that runs from the foundation of a house to the sewer main.
- ✓ The cost of repairing the excavated yard area with seed and straw.
- ✓ The cost of repairing pavement areas, which have been disturbed during the repair process.

### *What costs are NOT covered by the program?*

- ✓ The SLRP **does not cover** septic tank replacement or private treatment systems.
- ✓ The SLRP **does not cover** the cost to replace any trees, shrubs, flowers, sod, decks, decorative concrete, retaining walls or outbuildings that may be affected during the repair of the sewer lateral.

## *How does the program work?*

Step 1 When a backup/blockage occurs or a sinkhole is noticed, the property owner is required to hire a St. Louis County licensed plumber/drainlayer to have the sewer lateral cabled in an attempt to clear the blockage. If the problem is not resolved by cabling, the property owner should proceed to Step 2.

Step 2 The property owner should contact the SLRP at (314) 615-8427 for information on the program and to request an application. Applications are available online at [www.stlouisco.com](http://www.stlouisco.com). In addition, some plumbing / drainlaying contractors have the application available. Once the application has been received, the application must be completed by the property owner, adjacent property owner (if necessary), as well as by a St. Louis County licensed plumber / drainlayer.

Step 3 The completed application, along with a video of the inside of the sewer lateral (performed by a St. Louis County licensed plumber / drainlayer), should be sent to the SLRP office for review. The location of the defective sewer lateral on the property should be clearly marked by the plumber / drainlayer, with paint, stakes and/or flags.

The following actions will take place when an application is received:

1. The SLRP staff will notify the applicant when their application is received and verify the applicant's annual Sewer Lateral Repair fee has been paid. The fee is included in real estate tax bills issued to residents of unincorporated St. Louis County.
2. The Department of Public Works will solicit at least three (3) bids from the SLRP qualified contractor's "Repair List" to perform the repair.
3. After a contract has been awarded, the applicant will be notified of the contractor who will be making the repair.
4. Inspections will be made by all relevant agencies.
5. After the repair has been completed, the contractor will submit an invoice to the Department of Public Works.
6. Upon approval of the final inspection of the repair and the receipt of all required documentation, St. Louis County will pay the contractor.

## *What if I need an emergency repair?*

In those cases where an emergency repair of a residential sewer lateral is necessary, either the property owner or a licensed St. Louis plumber / drainlayer is required to call SLRP at (314) 615-8427.

If you have any questions regarding the Sewer Lateral Repair Program, please contact the Department of Public Works at (314) 615-8427. For more information on the program, you may visit our web site at [www.stlouisco.com](http://www.stlouisco.com).