

FREQUENTLY ASKED PRESSURE SEWER QUESTIONS

◆ Why do I need a grinder pump?

If the public sanitary sewer in front of your property is currently or needs to be a low-pressure system, a grinder pump is required for connection to the sewer. The type of sewer is constantly under pressure, similar to a water main; therefore, a gravity lead cannot connect to the sewer. A grinder pump grinds any solids in the wastewater and directs the wastewater under pressure to the public sewer. Check valves prevent the waste water under pressure from backing up into your home.

◆ What affects the cost of my grinder pump installation?

In most cases the standard depth grinder pump system will serve your home. Sometimes, homes with deeper basements or homes built on steeply graded lots require deeper or shallower systems. A deeper pump will cost more to purchase and install than one that is shallower. The purchase and installation price of the grinder pump systems can vary depending on the homesite to be served. In addition to this cost, permit and administrative fees will add up to \$2,000. Each property is also subject to a sanitary sewer connection fee as outlined in Township Ordinances.

A long lead from the pump location to the public main will be more expensive than a short lead. Directional drilling will typically be used to install the service lead to your home, which may include crossing the road. This construction method helps avoid impacts to existing trees or landscaping. The contractor will also abandon your septic tank as a part of the grinder pump system installation but will not remove tile fields on your property.

◆ What if the wrong size pump is installed?

If during construction, the contractor determines that a deeper grinder pump system is needed than was originally ordered, there will be additional charge for the labor and equipment required to install a pump extension. The ordering of additional equipment can also result in delays in the installation of your system. Your thorough review of all provided information can help to avoid these additional costs and construction time.

◆ Who will extend the electrical service required to power the grinder pump?

The grinder pump installation contractor will extend both electrical service and telephone service to the grinder pump as a part of this work. The contractor will be responsible for pulling permits and coordinating inspections for this work.