

WHATCOM COUNTY WATER DISTRICT NO. 13  
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

RESOLUTION NO. 02-2025

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF WHATCOM COUNTY  
WATER DISTRICT NO. 13, WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON, DEFINING  
OWNERSHIP AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF OWNERSHIP OF THE COMPONENTS OF THE  
SEWER SYSTEM FOR WHATCOM COUNTY WATER DISTRICT NO. 13.

WHEREAS The Board of Commissioners of Whatcom County Water District # 13 recognizes the need to define ownership and the responsibilities of ownership of the components of the sewer system for the ratepayers of Whatcom County Water District No. 13,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of Whatcom Water District No. 13 as follows:

**DISTRICT RESPONSIBILITIES:**

The District owns, operates, maintains, repairs, and alters at its expense all sewer mains that are a part of the District's public sewer system. In accordance with this Resolution, the District will seek monetary reimbursement for repair costs from persons whose actions inflicts damage to sewer mains or appurtenances.


**PROPERTY OWNER RESPONSIBILITIES:**


1. The property owner owns and installs, operates, maintains, repairs, and alters, at their expense, their respective side sewer and service lateral. The property owner shall maintain their side sewer and service lateral to prevent inflow and infiltration. The property owner shall neither connect, nor allow others to connect, non-sanitary sewage facilities or generators, such as gutters, downspouts, sump pumps, foundation drains, storm water collection systems, seeps or yard drains, to the side sewer or the service lateral.
2. If the District discovers inflow and infiltration entering a collector sewer from a service lateral or side sewer, or if the District discovers that the owner has connected a non-sanitary sewage facility or generator to its collector sewer, the District shall immediately notify the property owner to remedy the condition.

3. If the property owner fails to remedy the offending condition within 30 days of the original notification date, the District may seek permission to enter the property owner's property to remedy the condition through voluntary consent of the property owner or by court order. Alternatively, the District may take efforts to disconnect or block sewer service by accessing easements, rights-of-way, or other areas where they have access rights. If the District remedies an offending condition, it may recover all, or a portion of, its remediation costs by (1) applying a surcharge on the property owner's next regular sewer bill, or (2) mailing the property owner an itemized invoice and requiring payment within a period of 30 days. Failure to pay invoices in a timely manner may lead to further collection efforts by the District.
  
4. No structure may be disconnected from a side sewer, and no side sewer may be disconnected from a public sewer, for any reason without prior written notification to, and approval of, the District. No approval shall be given unless the disconnection is permitted under this Resolution and other applicable rules and regulations and satisfactory protection is given by the property owner or the owner's contractor to the public sewers and sewer works of the District, including, but not limited to, the satisfactory capping of the side sewer or public sewer. Sewer service charges for any structure disconnected, or to be disconnected, shall continue until such disconnection is approved by the District, and the side sewer or service lateral is capped to the satisfaction of the District. The service lateral pipe shall be capped as close as possible to the sewer main and the end of the abandoned side sewer pipe completely filled with concrete for a minimum length of 12-inches. The District must inspect the capping before it is covered.

ADOPTED by the Board of Commissioners of Whatcom Water District No. 13, Whatcom County, Washington, at a regular meeting held on February 25, 2025

WHATCOM WATER DISTRICT NO. 13

  
Commissioner

  
Commissioner

  
Commissioner