

**Sewer Use Ordinance**  
**Executive Summary of Changes**

## **Purpose**

The current sewer use ordinance was adopted in 1988. A comprehensive review of the ordinance provisions revealed the need to update the ordinance definitions and references, clarify requirements, include IEPA mandated programs and update to reflect the current operations of Lake County Public Works. Changes to the Ordinance are as follows:

### **Article 1: Introductory**

The Introductory Provisions contain general conditions including Title, Authority, Applicability and Jurisdiction, Minimum Requirements, Purpose, Word Usage and Construction Language, Conflicting Provisions, Transitional Provisions, Abbreviations, and Definitions. The Definitions section has greatly increased. This is to assist the reader with some of the terms that are commonly used in the language added in the revised Ordinance.

### **Article 2: Use of public sewers**

Incorporates the previous Sewer Use Ordinance, Sections 1-5. Article 2 has been enhanced with the following changes and additions:

- Revises the distance from an existing property line to a public sewer that the owners must connect. Connections must be made from single family dwellings within 300 feet and non-residential, multi-family or subdivision property boundaries within 1,000 feet. (Section 2.1.4)
- Further clarifies the required connection to the public sewer as the County will not issue a permit or approval to repair or upgrade an existing private disposal system that has failed when a public sewer becomes available. The user is required to abandon the existing system and connect to the public sewer within 180 days of notification. This is generally meant to reduce neglected private septic systems and prevent groundwater contamination. (Section 2.1.4)
- Further clarifies the prohibited discharge of any storm water, surface water, ground water, roof run-off or subsurface drainage to the public sewer. Requirements as to the proper discharge from downspouts, footing/foundation drains, sump pumps, window well and area drains, and drain tiles (Section 2.3.12.1-5).

- Deletes provisions associated with the permit, design, and maintenance of private sewage disposal systems and instead requires compliance with the provisions of the Lake County Health Department. (Section 2.2)
- Adds to the list of prohibitive discharges in previous Ordinance. The list includes:
  - Pharmaceuticals
  - Radioactive wastes
  - Waters or wastes releasing toxic gases, vapors or fumes causing acute worker health and safety problems
  - Grease
  - A list of items that could clog or damage the public sewer, i.e., disposable wipes
- The restrictions are meant to prevent sewer system issues, maintain performance of the waste water reclamation facilities, protect the health and safety of the general public, and the Public Works staff. These prohibited discharges are mirrored in the new Industrial Pretreatment Ordinance (Section 2.4).
- Adds provisions requiring a Sanitary Sewer/Water Permit for connections to the public sewer or for repairs to existing building sewers. Also adds provisions for construction standards and inspection requirements of building sewers (Section 2.5).

### Article 3: Connections to Public Sewer

Connections to Public Sewer has been added to the Sewer Use Ordinance

- Adds general conditions for connection to the public sewer including if:
  - The sewer has adequate capacity to convey the proposed flow;
  - The County has an existing intergovernmental agreement with the Local Municipal Sewer Authority (LMSA) to provide service; and
  - The LMSA has implemented a County-approved CMOM program (Section 3.1).
- Outlines the required Sanitary Sewer/Water Permit and submittal procedures, design, inspection and construction criteria for connections or extensions of the Public Sewer (Sections 3.2-3.3, 3.9-3.10).
- Outlines provisions for the following connections: (Sections 3.4-3.8)
  - Direct connections to County interceptor sewers
  - Connections to local municipal sewers not owned by the County
  - Connection of a local municipal sewer to an existing County sanitary sewer
  - Extensions to local municipal sewers
  - Extensions of sanitary sewer

#### Article 4: CMOM

##### Capacity, Management, Operation and Maintenance (CMOM)

- Adds provisions requiring LMSAs tributary to the public sewer to adopt and implement a CMOM program that meet or exceeds the requirements contained within the LCPW CMOM document (Appendix B).
- A CMOM program is a management tool used to reduce or eliminate sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs) as well as inflow/infiltration. It is an IEPA mandated program included in the WRFs NPDES permits.

#### Article 5: Residential Septage and Holding Tank Waste

The septic disposal program is outlined. Procedures on securing a waste hauler discharge permit are stated.

#### Article 6: FOG

Fats, Oils and Grease have been added and incorporates the FOG Ordinance, as adopted in November 2006.

#### Article 7: Inspection

Inspection was supplemented allowing staff to perform annual inspections at Food Service Establishments (FSEs) and Non-Food Service Establishment for the purposes of verifying compliance with the Lake County Code.

#### Article 8: Fines, Penalties and Enforcements

- Violations of the Ordinance will be subject to a fine as authorized under the:
  - Administrative Adjudication Ordinance,
  - Rate Ordinance or by, Statute of the State of Illinois
- Adds service charges to cover costs of SSO clean-up or blockage removal (Section 8.4).
- Adds sewer and/or water disconnection as a result of unpaid charges, fines, penalties or violations to the Ordinance (Section 8.5).
- Authority to shut-off service after reasonable notice to the occupant.
- Service is not restored until defects are corrected in conformance with the Ordinance and fees are paid.