

## Always Keep it Accessible

- *The cleanout provides access to the sewer line for maintenance, cleaning blockages, and repair.*
- *All new construction requires a cleanout located in accordance with local plumbing codes. Some may also require an additional cleanout at the building.*
- *Broken cleanout caps can let stormwater in and lead to an overflow.*



## Always Let it Flow

- *Regular lateral inspection are the key to preventing costly sewer backups.*
- *Plumbers/maintenance contractors can "tv" line to see any issues.*
- *Improved inspection technology has reduced prices.*



## Always Get it Fixed

- *Property owner responsible for repair/replacement if inspection reveals lateral damage or failure.*
- *"No dig" or trenchless technologies can minimize above ground disturbance which is less costly than digging and can keep landscaping intact.*
- *Consider a lateral or service line warranty plan.*

Anniston water and sewer field staff can only inspect the public main and not work on private property and services.

## Protect Your Property from Costly Sewage Backups

- *Have your private sewer line inspected by a licensed plumber.*
- *If buying a house, include the private sewer line inspection in the home inspection.*
- *Repair or replace damaged private sewer lines and cleanouts.*
- *Never plant trees or shrubs with deep roots above or near your private sewer lines.*
- *Locate your private sewer line's cleanout and make sure the cap is in good condition and secure.*
- *Add a sewage back up rider to your homeowner's insurance policy.*
- *Install a sanitary backflow device if your lowest plumbing fixture is below grade of an upstream manhole.*



*For more information or questions on inspections or to schedule a presentation for your group, please call 256-241-2000 or email to [info@awwsb.org](mailto:info@awwsb.org).*



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## Maintaining your sewer line could save you big bucks!

*Find out why inside.*



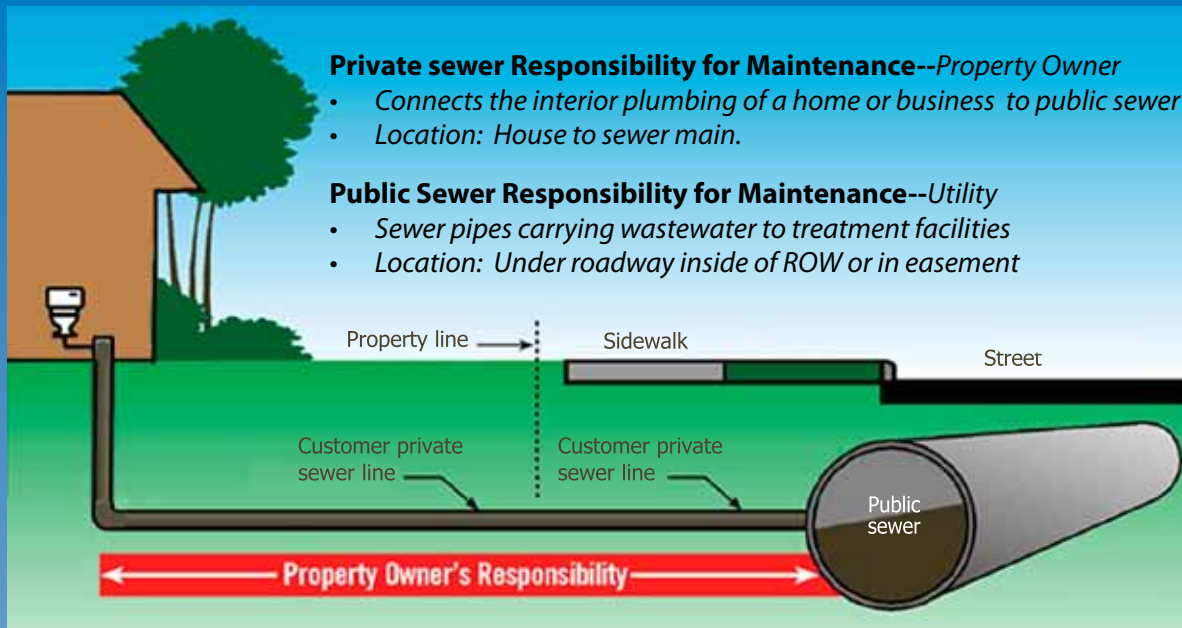
## Your Sewer System Connection

*How maintaining it could save you money.*

***Inspect it. Fix it. Keep it flowing!***

## Backup and Overflow Sources

- *Roots growing into customer sewer line*
- *Fats, oil and grease or FOG poured down drains that harden in the pipe*
- *Paper towels and cleaning wipes flushed down toilets*
- *Construction debris*
- *Customer sewer line cracked because of age, roots, or other damage*
- *Faulty pipe joints let in groundwater*
- *Bad connections between pipes let in groundwater*
- *Broken or uncapped cleanouts let in stormwater*
- *Roof downspouts or foundation drains connected to the customer sewer line let in stormwater*



### Private sewer line inspection is your best protection!

Backups often occur in basements, but can happen anywhere in the home, potentially damaging other systems.

Typical homeowners' insurance does not always cover backups in sewers and drains. If the source of the backup, such as a clog or a break is found in the private sewer line, the costs for the cleanup and restoration are paid by the property owner.

### Upstream Manholes

*If your lowest plumbing fixture, such as a basement toilet or sink, is below the next upstream manhole, then it is recommended that you have a sanitary backflow device on your customer sewer line.*

*If raw sewage backs up at the upstream manhole, the device closes and protects your property from flooding. Without the sanitary backflow device, the property owner may be responsible for any damages and cleanup if there is a sewage backup.*

