

WEST PIKELAND TOWNSHIP SEWAGE STUDY

During the discussion of sewage issues you may ask,

What is that? • What does that mean?

The following is provided to help those not familiar with discussion of public sewage systems to understand the terms, phrases and abbreviations being used.

Act 537	State regulation that requires municipalities to complete sewage facilities plans.
Collection System	a system of pipes, manholes and pumps that conveys sewage from a home to a treatment facility.
E.D.U.	Equivalent Dwelling Unit--a name used to describe the number of single family homes that produce sewage flow. e.g.--1 home = 1 EDU, a four unit apartment = 4 EDU's
G.P.D.	Gallons per Day--used to calculate sewage flow capacity.
Gravity Sewers	a collection system that depends on gravity to convey sewage to a treatment plant. In hilly areas this will also include pumping stations.
Lagoon	a treatment systems that uses anaerobic processes, aerobic processes and/or both.
Land Application	there are two main methods - see spray irrigation and sub-surface dispersal.
Lateral	pipe that connects a home to the public sewer collection system.
On-site Sewage Treatment	an individual treatment system that usually consists of a septic tank and distribution system and a tile field.

Pressure Sewers	a collection system that includes a pump at each home or service connection.
S.B.R.	Sequencing Batch Reactor--a treatment plant that uses a single treatment tank that provides aeration and settling of the waste water in a batch process.
S.T.P.	Sewage Treatment Plant
Spray Irrigation	a system used to spray treated wastewater onto the ground.
Stream Discharge	a direct discharge of treated wastewater from a sewage treatment plant into a stream.
Sub-surface Drip Dispersal	a discharge of treated wastewater underground beneath the frost line using a drip dosing system.
Tapping Fee	each unit's proportionate cost of building the sewage system, usually paid as a one-time fee. The amount charged will impact the annual user cost. An analogy would be, that in buying an automobile the more money you pay as a down payment the less your monthly payments will be.
Treatment System	- the facility where wastewater is treated to remove contaminants, harmful bacteria and debris.
User Fee	fee charged to operate the sewage system, including collection system maintenance, treatment system operation, capital costs and debt service costs. Usually billed quarterly.