

BOROUGH OF WESTMONT

1000 LUZERNE STREET • JOHNSTOWN, PA 15905-2508

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CUSTOMER BULLETIN

1. Since 1988, the Pennsylvania Department Of Environmental Protection (DEP) has required Westmont Borough and surrounding municipalities to implement corrective action plans to eliminate Inflow and Infiltration into its Sanitary Sewer System. Westmont Borough has complied. Despite the system wide smoke and dye testing, the inflow and infiltration has not been reduced. Buildings sewers and sewer mains are not water tight. By letter of April 16, 2008, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) mandated that the 20 municipal sewer systems that contribute sewage flows to the Johnstown Wastewater Treatment Plant eliminate Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSO's) by no later than 2022.
2. Westmont Borough's system, like the other municipal systems, receives more rain and groundwater than it can convey to the Treatment Plant. Further, the Treatment Plant is receiving five times the amount of flows than it was designed to treat.
3. The mandate consists of the following:

2008	Phase I – Sewer System – evaluate and repair
2011	Phase II – Measure flows and discharges (intermunicipal flow metering)
2013-2017	Phase III -- Design and construct new or expanded conveyance, equalization and treatment facilities
- DEP reserved all legal, equitable and administrative rights to require compliance with the mandate, including the right to abate the SSO's as nuisances and to assess civil penalties (by Complaint) for the SSO violations. Westmont Borough has done everything in its power to insulate its Mayor, Councillors and its customers from said punitive actions.
4. Westmont Borough has completed Phases I and II and has diligently sought low interest financing for Phase III.
5. On February 11, 2015, Westmont Borough received a Pennvest Funding Offer in the amount of \$9,322,400 at 1% for 60 months and 1.743% for the remaining 180 months to rehabilitate 90,797 linear ft. of 8"-18" diameter sewer mains using cured in place pipe lining, repair or replacement of 517 manholes, and renew 1,050 laterals within the public rights-of-way including the installation of viewports in the western sector of the Borough. The Borough of Westmont has an application pending for financing Phase II which will include the rehabilitation of 49,845 linear ft. of 8"-18" diameter sewer mains using cured in place pipe lining and pipe bursting, repair or replacement of 270 manholes, and renew 1,100 laterals within the public rights-of-way including the installation of viewports in the eastern sector of the Borough.

Closing on the Phase I transaction will be scheduled within the next several weeks. Construction will commence thereafter and is anticipated to continue for 24 months.

6. The Sewer Rehabilitation Project is anticipated to be minimally invasive, with the majority of the work to be in the form of lining or bursting the existing sewer mains and laterals within the public rights-of-way at or near the property lines. Damage to yards and roads will be restored.
7. Upon completion of each Phase of the Project, the Borough will require air or water pressure testing of customers' laterals (Building Sewers) in order to abate violations. Each customer will be given formal notice of the mandatory testing schedules. Any inflow or infiltration into a customer's lateral is a violation of Westmont Borough Ordinances which can result in imposition of continuing fines and the unmarketability of the customer's property. Further, said violation can also result in fines, costs and discontinuance of service in accordance with the Westmont Borough Rules and Regulations. The Rules and Regulations also require air or water pressure testing upon the sale, transfer or financing of any property connected to its Sanitary Sewer System. Upon successful testing, a Certificate will be issued to the Customer/Occupant verifying the same. The Certificate will be valid for 15 years from the date of issuance – provided no alterations are made to the Building Sewer. The customer shall bear the cost of required testing and compliance.
8. The Johnstown Redevelopment Authority, owner and operator of the Dornick Point Sewage Treatment Plant, intends to impose a treatment surcharge on customers within the municipal sewer system which have excessive flows. The surcharge is scheduled for the March, 2015, treatment billing. The Borough of Westmont entered into a Consent Order Agreement with DEP on December 9, 2014, in order to mitigate the surcharge imposed on Westmont Borough customers. The Consent Order ratifies all measures taken to comply with the 2008 SSO mandate, but includes June, 2021, as the deadline for Westmont Borough and its customers to comply with inflow and infiltration elimination.
9. A full-time Project Manager will be on site during the construction. When the viewports are installed, you will be notified if your lateral is in poor condition; whereupon, you may elect to take remedial action before site restoration begins.
10. Again, future (Building Sewer) lateral testing will be required including, but not limited to, physical inspection and air or water pressure testing. Customers are required to have water-tight Building Sewers (laterals). Inflow and infiltration of ground or surface waters is prohibited.

DIRECT ANY QUESTIONS YOU MAY HAVE TO THE BOROUGH'S ENGINEER, MESKO & ASSOCIATES, TELEPHONE NO.: 255-6901.

OUR REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS ARE HELD AT THE MUNICIPAL OFFICE AT 7 P.M. ON THE 2RD TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH.