Establish defined responsibilities between you and your contractor.

For example; your contractor may ask you to buy the permits. If the permits are in your name, you may be liable for damages that may occur.

Also, always ask to see a copy of the permit before paying money to anyone. Your Neighborhood or Community Organization may provide an advocate to assist you.

Ask for a detailed written bid and schedule from each contractor.

The bid(s) you receive should clearly state all work the contractor will do. Make sure to list details such as start and finish dates or who is responsible for restoring your landscaping. It is a good idea to make a list of questions to give each contractor you call. Be specific about what you want included in your bid and the quality of work you expect.

Each contractor you request bids from should provide two or three references from recent customers.

Talking to or reading a review from a former customer may not be enough. Other customers may have been satisfied with the work, but they may have had different standards or contract details. If possible, look at completed work.

Compare

After gathering all of your information, compare bids and select your contractor. Remember the lowest bid is not always the best bid.

Your Neighborhood Coalition or Community Organization may provide an advocate for your assistance.

Your Local Neighborhood and Community Organizations

Overland Park Coalition

Contact Information
Norbert Loske
Overland Park Coalition Against Drug Crime
4230 SE King Rd.
PMB 144
Milwaukie, OR 97222
Phone: 503-788-7661
Norbert@OverlandParkCoalition.org
www.OverlandParkCoalition.org

Southgate Planning Association

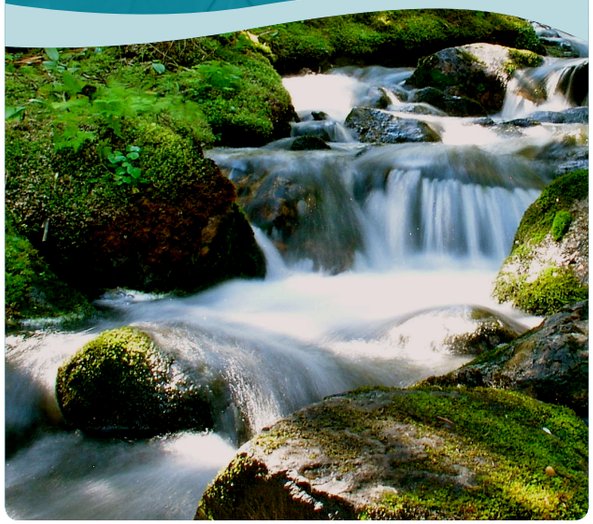
Contact Information
Pat Holloway
503-772-0085
patricia.holloway@comcast.net

Water Environment Services

Contact Information
Rob Hungerford
503-742-4576
www.riverhealth.org
robh@co.clackamas.or.us

Installing Your Private Sewer Line

Clackamas County
Water Environment Services
Clackamas County Service District #1



Getting Started

When you receive notice that sewer is available in your area and you wish to receive service, you will want to make arrangements for connection to the service lateral at your property line. If you are not sure where your sewer service lateral is, you can verify the location by calling 503-742-4576.

Finding a Contractor

Plumbers and sewer contractors do most sewer connections, but any general contractor can do the work. Try to get bids from both a plumber and a sewer contractor. They may have different approaches, and there may be a difference in both the cost and convenience to you. Good places to start looking for a contractor:

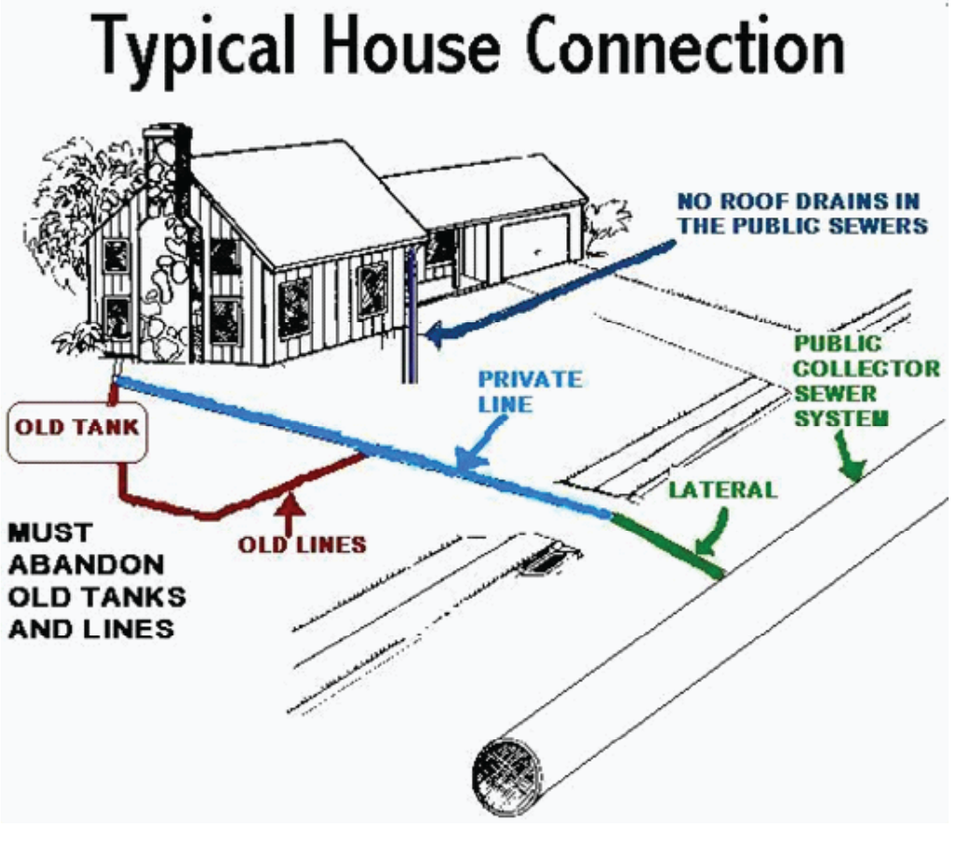
- Contact your local Neighborhood Coalition or Community Planning Organization.
- Ask your friends and neighbors.

You may choose to complete the work on your own. By partnering with neighboring homes and businesses, you may be able to reduce overall costs.

As a Consumer, Inform Yourself About Contractors.

All contractors must be registered with the Oregon Construction Contractors Board (CCB). It is illegal for contractors to do sewer connections unless they are registered. Most contractors carry registration cards showing their CCB number and registration expiration date. You can check with the CCB to see if the contractor's license, insurance and bonding are current, and if they have a history of claims or complaints.

You can call the CCB in Salem at 503-378-4621 or visit their website at www.ccb.state.or.us.



Each Sewer Connection is Different

Your sewer connection will be different from your neighbors. Here's why:

- Location of septic or cesspool.
- Location and depth of existing plumbing, landscaping, concrete and other utilities.
- Whether your home has a basement, crawl space or concrete slab.
- Distance from property lines.
- Who you choose to do the work.

Important Steps for Success

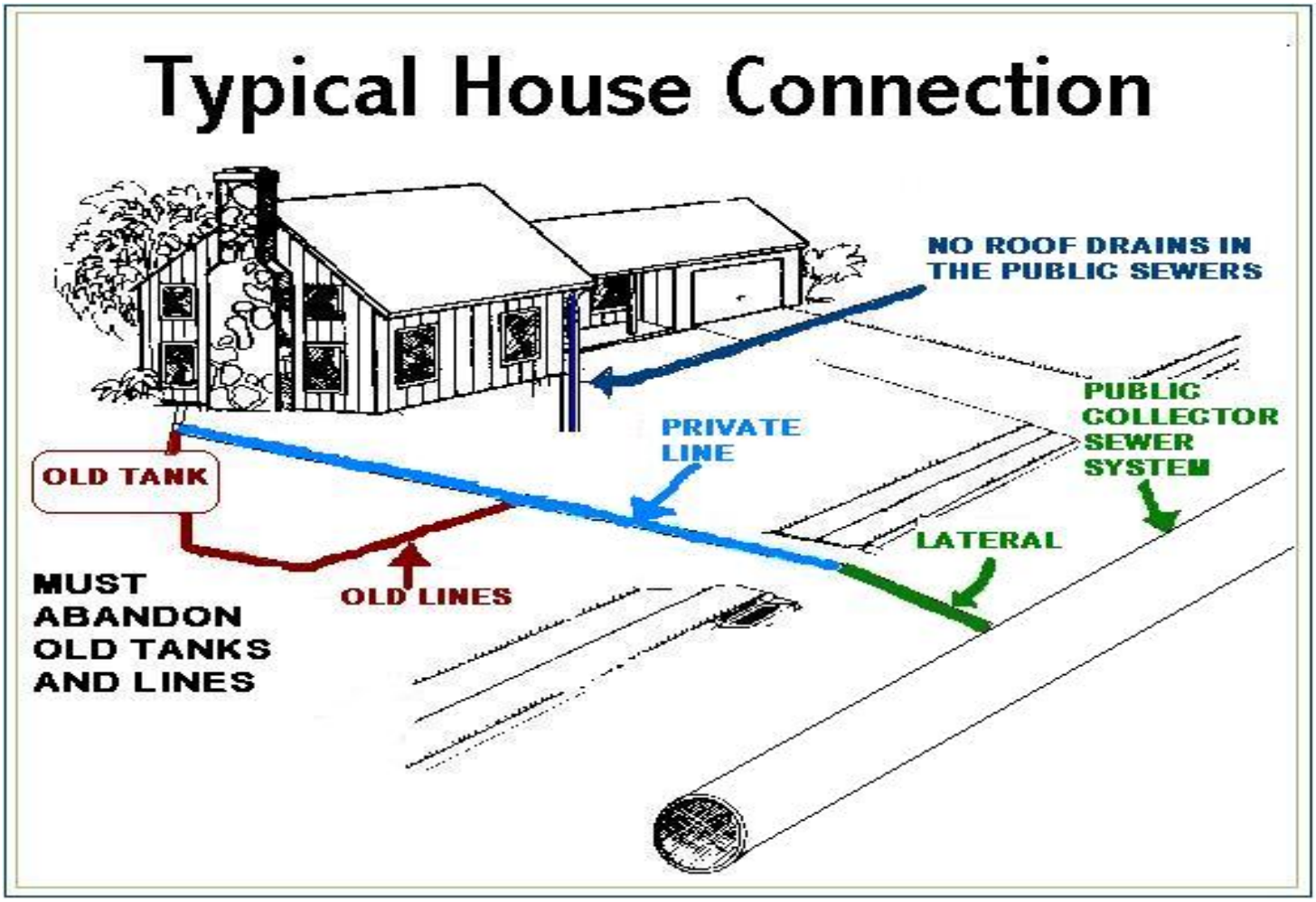
Find out how the County or City handles permits for sewer connections.

Keep these numbers and expiration dates for your records:

- CCB Registration
- Workers Compensation Policy
- Liability Insurance Policy
- Permit expiration dates
- Contacts phone #'s for City and/or County
- Inspection dates

Hiring a contractor for this work is the property owner's responsibility.

This brochure is provided only as a resource to assist you in that process.



The **building sewer** is that section of pipe beginning 3 feet outside the foundation of the house (shown in blue above) and running to the point of connection with the Public Collector Sewer called the service lateral (shown in green above).

Although all building sewers have many things in common, it is highly unlikely that any two will be constructed or cost exactly the same. Digging a trench and laying the pipe are certainly the bulk of the cost for most connections; but a variety of factors can and will influence the total cost of your building sewer installation.
While not all of the items in the list below will apply to every building sewer connection, this checklist should help you track, organize and think about the many items that may or may not be included in your Contractor's bid price. It is important to discuss with your contractor everything that will be included in the bid price. All services from the contractor should be itemized for you with costs clearly shown.

REMEMBER: A price that appears cheaper may not be if items you assume will be done by the contractor aren't in the bid.

ISSUES CHECKLIST and IMPORTANT DETAILS

☐ **Locates**_____
_____
_____

☐ **Permits**
☐ Plumbing _____
☐ Electrical _____

☐ **Locate Existing Building Sewer**
☐ Exposed
☐ Excavation required
☐ Probe
☐ Camera and locator

☐ **Hard Surface Cutting**
☐ Concrete
☐ Asphalt

☐ **Boring**

☐ **Excavation**
☐ Type_____
☐ Soil_____
☐ Rock_____
☐ Length_____
☐ Depth_____
☐ Shoring
☐ Underground Obstructions
_____
_____
☐ Trees
☐ Utilities_____
_____
_____

☐ **Elevation Issues**
☐ Second Dwelling
☐ Basement

☐ **Pumping Required**
☐ Tank
☐ Pump

☐ **Bedding**
☐ ¾ minus rock
☐ Sand
☐ Other_____

☐ **Backfill**
☐ ¾ minus rock
☐ Native soil
☐ Compaction

☐ **Building Sewer Pipe**
☐ Type_____
☐ Size_____
☐ Length_____
☐ Fittings Required_____
_____

☐ **Backflow Prevention**
☐ Placement
☐ Maintenance

☐ **Onsite Decommissioning**
☐ Pumping
☐ Backfill
☐ Removal
☐ DEQ abandonment certification

☐ **Surface Restoration**
☐ Grass
☐ Gravel
☐ Concrete
☐ Asphalt
☐ Fencing
☐ Landscaping
☐ Other_____

☐ **Under House Plumbing**
☐ Licensed Plumber within 3 ft of foundation
☐ Pipe
☐ Fittings
☐ Removal of old material

☐ **Foundation Penetration**
☐ Tunneling
☐ Patching
☐ Jacking
☐ Painting

☐ **Misc Other Charges**
☐ Description_____

☐ **Labor**_____
☐ Hours_____
☐ Rates_____
☐ **TOTAL COST**_____
_____

☐ **Permits Required**
_____
_____
_____
_____

☐ **CCB License**_____

☐ **Bonding Type**
☐ Individual or Accumulative

☐ **References** _____
_____
_____
_____

☐ **Address**_____
_____
_____
_____

☐ **Phone #'s**_____
_____
_____
_____

☐ **Payment**
☐ Method of payment_____
_____
_____
☐ Payment Due_____
_____
_____
_____
☐ After inspection_____
_____
☐ After restoration_____
☐ Lien release after payment
☐ Warranty