

RE: Storm or Sanitary Sewer Connections to the Public Sewer Systems

I will no longer recommend that gravity connections be permitted to the public sewer system for any home or building having floor elevations below the surrounding grade (being constructed in the City of Defiance or outside the City of Defiance) that is connected to a City operated and maintained line for the following reason:

Any condition in the sewers that would cause surcharging such as excessive rain fall or a plugged sewer system can “back-up” into or around the building.

It is strongly recommended that property owners pump any water, sanitary or storm, from within the confines of the building floors below grade into the acceptable respective sewer. Obviously, these systems can fail; however, it would be entirely the property owner’s responsibility to maintain the pumps, and/or to provide alternate methods to pump the sewage from the building. It is also realized by the property owner that in the event of power failures, that neither a sump pump nor a sewage lift pump would function. However, in most homes that require a sanitary sewage lift, there is another bath facility on another level that should be gravity drained directly to the sewer. With regards to storm drainage, proper grading around the property and roof drains discharged properly generally will minimize footer drain pumping.

This recommendation is in most cases more expensive. However, it has proven to alleviate conditions such as those experienced during severe rains. As a result of the above recommendation, it is important that in the event that the property owner wishes to deviate from the above recommendation, that they acknowledge acceptance of the liability.

Yours truly,

THE CITY OF DEFIANCE

Lee P. Rausch, P.E.
City Engineer

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The above is hereby acknowledged. However, I intend to deviate from the recommendation on Lot No. _____ in _____ Subdivision.

_____ Date

_____ Property Owner

cc: City Engineering Division
Building Inspection Division