

Village of Rantoul Backwater Valve Program

The Village of Rantoul's Backwater Valve Program is a program designed to prevent sewer backups in single and two-family homes in the Village of Rantoul due to surcharging in village sewers during wet weather or blockages. A backwater valve is a device that prevents sewage or stormwater from backing up into your basement. A valve will automatically prevent water from the sanitary sewer system from coming into your home's plumbing system. A properly installed backwater valve must be placed so that sewage backup will be stopped and not come out through plumbing fixtures or the floor drain in your basement. A backwater valve provides an extra level of protection against sewer backups, but it may not prevent all backups especially if it is not maintained.

It is important to note that a backwater valve is designed to be closed during sewer surcharge conditions, to keep water from the sanitary sewer system from getting into your home. When the backwater valve closes, water from inside of your home also cannot get out. When there is a risk of sewer surcharge, such as during a heavy rainstorm, you should avoid using the toilet, sink, shower, washer, dishwasher and any other appliances that may release water to the sanitary sewer. The water will not be able to get past your backflow prevention device and will have nowhere to go except back into your basement. This is referred to as self flooding.

A backwater valve can function automatically or be operated manually by the resident. An automatic backwater valve can be equipped with a battery operated light (much like a smoke alarm) to tell the resident when it is open or closed. To protect, the backwater valve must be closed during the overload period. This period varies depending on the size of storm, but generally lasts from 2 to 6 hours.

The basic components of the program are as follows:

1. This program only applies to residential properties with basements located in an area with a history of sewer backups.

2. Some of the things to consider when deciding to install a backwater valve in your home include the following:

Will someone be home when the protection is needed? This answer may help select between an automatic or manual device.

I won't be able to use my plumbing system when the backwater valve is closed and; I can't have flowing connections (e.g. a sump pump or downspout) discharging upstream of a closed backwater valve.

I should get a quality product – doesn't leak and is easy to maintain.

3. The Village has instituted a cost sharing assistance program for property owners who decide to install backwater valve. The Village will reimburse an owner who qualifies one half of the installation and material costs towards the installation of a backwater valve under the following circumstances.

- a. The property must be in an area that has a history of basement flooding.
- b. The property must have a basement.
- c. The backwater valve must be installed by a licensed contractor.
- d. The owner must provide to the Village a minimum of two quotes from contractors for the installation of the backwater valve. The Village of Rantoul Purchasing Policy requires a minimum of two written quotes for expenditures between \$1000 -\$4999. A list of qualified contractors is attached.
- e. The Village must be granted access, if requested, to verify installation.
- f. The Owner/plumber must have obtained an installation permit from the Village's Inspection Department. The permit is free.
- g. The owner will be responsible for the maintenance of the backwater valve. It will become part of your home sewer line, which property owners are responsible for maintaining. Like any mechanical device, routine maintenance may be necessary for reliable operation.
- h. Property owners must fill out an application form (see attached) to participate in the program. Upon approval of the application packet, the Village will notify the property owner and the property owner may coordinate with the selected contractor for the installation of the backwater valve.
- i. Upon completion of the project, the property owner will submit a **Final Project Payment Statement** (see attached) to the Village.

4. The Village will pay the contractor for the installation of backwater valve and invoice the property owner for one half of the project costs.

- a. Property owners will be invoiced by the Village on a monthly basis.
- b. Property owners may make interest free monthly payments over a 12 month period.
- c. If a customer is delinquent on payment over 90 days it is cause for termination of the agreement and lien will be placed on the property for the full amount of the installation.

5. For further information on this program or for an application packet please contact the Public Works Department at 892-2178 or 892-2762.

**Village of Rantoul
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
WASTE WATER SERVICE INSTALLATION PROGRAM APPLICATION**

Owner's Name: _____

Owners' Address: _____

Description of Application:

Location of Work:

Owner's Telephone #: _____

The undersigned property owner requests the installation of a waste water service at the above location with one half of the costs of the approved contractor to be invoiced to the owner over a 12 month period. The undersigned understands that if delinquent on payment over 90 days it is cause for termination of the agreement and a lien may be placed on the property for the full amount of the installation minus any payments received. If the owner chooses to perform work beyond the scope of work allowed by this program, the owner must pay the difference.

Quote #1 Total Cost of Work: **Approved** (For Village use only)
In Words:

In Dollars:

Contractors Name and Phone Number:

Quote #2 Total Cost of Work: **Approved** (For Village use only)
In Words:

In Dollars:

Contractors Name and Phone Number:

Owner's Signature

Notary Public

(This form must be signed by Owner and notarized)

**Village of Rantoul
Waste Water Service Installation Program**

Final Project Payment Statement

Date: _____

Property Owner:

Address:

Contractor:

Property Owner Statement:

I have inspected the work performed on the above property and find that the water work for which a final payment has been requested has been completed to my satisfaction.

I therefore approve a final payment of \$ _____. A copy of the signed invoice for final payment is attached.

Property Owner Signature

Plumbing Inspector Statement:

I have inspected the plumbing work performed on the above property and find that the water work has been done satisfactorily and is in compliance with the applicable plumbing codes and local ordinances.

Village Plumbing Inspector Signature

Contractors Listing

Stephen's Excavation 202-3385

Fred's Plumbing: 892-2067

Mr. Rooter Plumbing: 328-3025

Roto Rooter: 892-4511

D and S Excavating: 384-6958

Schnoover Plumbing 239-0106