



# PIPE CHECK

P R O G R A M

Do you get water in your basement?

Do you find yourself cleaning  
your lateral out every year?

We can help!

The Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage Districts' (MMSD) Pipe Check program provides financial incentives to help homeowners cover a portion of the costs to eliminate clear water from entering the sanitary lateral, therefore decreasing the risk of a basement backup.

Water in your basement can be caused by rain or groundwater, also known as clear water, overwhelming your sanitary lateral pipe causing sewage and water to back up in your basement. Sources of clear water include connected downspouts and foundation drains. Defects in your lateral such as cracks, holes, and roots also allow clear water into your lateral. All of these sources increase the likelihood of basement backups.

**The first step in participating in the Pipe Check program is having a Clear Water Evaluation completed by a program Approved Contractor.**

A Clear Water Evaluation identifies sources of clear water discharging to your sanitary lateral. Following the Clear Water Evaluation, the contractor reviews the results and program requirements, and recommends work to be completed.

Improvements in your home's sewer pipes, which connect to the greater sewer system, will help MMSD reduce the risk of basement backups for you, your neighbors, and prevent overflows into Lake Michigan.

**Milwaukee Metropolitan  
Sewerage District (MMSD)**

260 W Seeboth Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53204

### Contact Us

Phone: 414-225-2250

E-mail: [PipeCheckInfo@MMSD.com](mailto:PipeCheckInfo@MMSD.com)

### PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

Participants must meet the following requirements to participate in the Pipe Check program:

- Property is located within MMSD service area (visit [mmsd.com/about-us](http://mmsd.com/about-us) for a map)
- Home is a one or two family home
- No income requirement to participate
- A Clear Water Evaluation is completed by an Approved Contractor
- W-9 is submitted to MMSD (Note: The value of the financial incentive is taxable. MMSD will provide a 1099 at the end of the year.)
- Participation waiver signed by homeowner
- An Approved Contractor completes all required work identified in the Clear Water Evaluation





## HOW DOES THE PROGRAM WORK?

1. Homeowner contacts an Approved Contractor
2. Approved Contractor completes a site visit and a Clear Water Evaluation
3. Contractor reviews the results of the Clear Water Evaluation and the program's participation requirements with the homeowner
4. If the homeowner agrees to the identified work and their portion of the total costs, the homeowner can choose to sign a contract with the Approved Contractor to have the work completed
5. The full scope of work is completed to the satisfaction of the homeowner and the requirements of the Pipe Check program
6. The Pipe Check program pays the incentives directly to the Approved Contractor
7. The Pipe Check Approved Contractor bills the homeowner the remaining portion of the work, per the requirements of the contract
8. The homeowner pays the Approved Contractor the remaining amount due

## FINANCIAL INCENTIVES

Financial incentive is based on the findings of the Clear Water Evaluation by an Approved Contractor and will not cover the full cost of the project. MMSD reduces the total project costs by the following amounts.

<b>Foundation Drain Disconnection</b>	<b>\$1,500</b>
<i>Install sump pump &amp; discharge piping, disconnect foundation drain from sanitary sewer lateral, and remove existing palmer valve</i>	
<b>Remove Palmer Valve, Only</b>	<b>\$350</b>
<i>Identify location of palmer valve, remove existing palmer value, cap foundation drain, and restore site</i>	
<b>Reroute Existing Sump Pump Discharge</b>	<b>\$300</b>
<i>Disconnect existing sump pump discharge piping and reroute to a building code compliant location</i>	
<b>New Storm Lateral, Connected to Existing Storm Sewer</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>
<i>A new storm lateral is installed from the house to an existing storm sewer</i>	
<b>Disconnect Downspouts</b>	<b>\$25 each</b>
<i>Disconnect existing gutter downspouts from sanitary sewer and reroute to discharge to yard or storm lateral (max of 4)</i>	
<b>Full Lateral Replacement</b>	<b>\$4,000-\$5,000</b>
<i>Lateral replacement from the house to the sanitary main completed via open cut or pipe bursting</i>	
<b>Lateral Lining</b>	<b>\$1,500</b>
<i>A cured in place pipe (CIPP) is installed in the lateral from under the home to the connection at the sanitary sewer mainline</i>	

## WHAT IS AN APPROVED CONTRACTOR?

An Approved Contractor is selected by MMSD through an assessment of their technical skills, experience, and customer service which qualify them to participate in the program. An approved contractor must be used by the homeowner to be eligible for the financial incentives.



**TO FIND AN APPROVED CONTRACTOR**, please hold your phone's camera over the code and click the link that pops up. This will take you to the Pipe Check website.