

In connection with Ferndale's Sewer Ordinance, excessive infiltration testing, sewer lateral testing, and lateral testing upon sale shall be performed as follows:

- I. The test procedure shall be performed as follows:
 - A. Each lateral is to have a clean-out, as located in the City right-of-way, on private property adjacent to the City right-of-way, or on a public utility easement.
 - B. If one does not exist, a clean-out shall be installed prior to performing any testing.
 1. Installation of the clean out, if necessary, shall require a plumbing permit.
 2. Clean out shall be run to grade and covered by a meter box and lid.
 3. A clean out located adjacent to the building (within 30") will be a help in the test and repair of the lateral and is required by the Uniform Plumbing Code for any new construction.
 - C. The test must be witnessed by a City Inspector
 - D. All arrangements and set up should be completed by the time the City Inspector arrives to witness the test.
- II. Method of Testing:
 - A. Water Exfiltration Test
 1. The owner's contractor shall furnish all materials and equipment at owner's expense, except the calibrated bucket.
 2. The contractor shall plug the lateral and riser at the City clean out, and surcharge the line with water to a point equal to the foundation grade (floor joist level) or slab floor level.
 3. The minimum height of the water level shall be two (2) feet above the lateral invert at the City clean out.
 - a. If there is any fixture inside the structure lower than the testing water level, the contractor will have to either plug the fixture or the lateral at the building.
 - b. An approved backwater valve must be installed if there are any plumbing fixtures whose level is below the City clean out. A plumbing permit is required for this work.
 4. The lateral shall be surcharged for thirty (30) minutes and the amount of water lost shall be measured.
 5. The lateral shall be considered acceptable if the amount of water lost is less than four (4) gallons for a four (4") inch lateral.
 6. On an individual basis the amount of allowable water loss may be adjusted by the City Engineer for a six (6") inch diameter lateral or unusually long lateral lengths.
 7. See standard drawing 8277-32, available from the City Engineer, for a visual procedure reference.

B. Air Testing

1. Air testing shall be conducted in accordance to Section 306-1.4.4 of the Standard Specifications for Public Works Construction, American Public Works Association, latest edition.
2. The Air test shall consist of plugging each end of the service's lateral and applying a pressure of three and one half pounds per square inch (3.5 psi) to the section under test.
3. The line shall be allowed a maximum loss of ½ psi in five (5) minutes.
4. If the loss exceeds ½ psi, the test may be attempted one additional time. A second loss of pressure constitutes a failure of the line.

For background information, see Sewer Ordinance, 03-05, Article 8, "Lateral Testing Upon Sale."