



1/18/2018

**RE: Sewer Main Replacement Project #7198**

Dear Neighbor,

In coordination with Mayor Rahm Emanuel's "Building a New Chicago" infrastructure improvement program, and at Alderman Taliaferro's request, I would like to provide you with information about an upcoming sewer main construction project in your neighborhood.

By mid to late January, the Department of Water Management's private contractor will begin preliminary construction work at the intersection of School and Oketo. Following, our in-house crews will install 1,200 feet of 24-inch new sewer main in W. School Street (Olcott-Oleander), in N. Oketo Avenue (School-alley south), and in W. School Street (Octavia-Oconto). The old sewer main dates back to 1930, and needs to be replaced. DWM estimates the new sewer main will be installed, and the street will be concrete capped by June 2018.

If you would like to receive regular email updates about the progress of the project, please go to [www.BuildingANewChicago.org](http://www.BuildingANewChicago.org) to register for project notifications. Simply enter your name, email address and the project identification number at the top of this letter.

By signing up for the project notifications, you will be informed as the project enters each new construction phase – from our mobilization of equipment onto the site, to the installation of new pipes, to the final restoration of the street.

When we are working in the street, we may close it to traffic for safety reasons, but you will always be able to reach your home or business. Outside of working hours, a travel lane will be left open for local traffic only.

We will post our work area for "No Parking" as needed during work hours (generally 7am-4pm). We are agreeable to parking outside of those hours, but cars will need to be moved by the start of the next workday. We will try to preserve as much parking as possible.

We know that construction always involves inconveniences and noise. We will do everything possible to maintain your quality of life throughout these projects, and conducting ourselves as good and thoughtful neighbors in the course of our presence on your street.

Parkway Maintenance

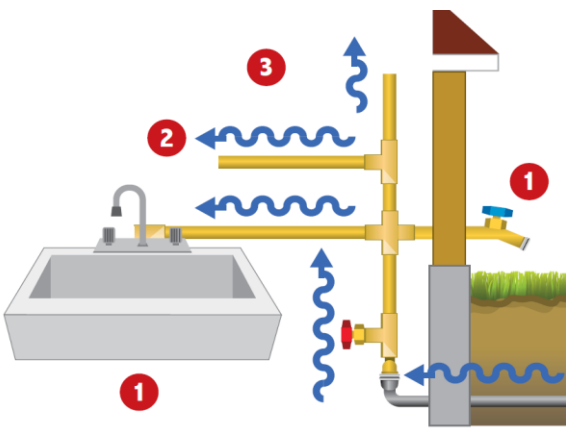
Before any project, the Department of Water Management (DWM) takes photographs of the street and surrounding properties. These photographs help us restore the area to its preconstruction state. However, DWM does not assume responsibility for damage to privately installed parkway improvements, including sprinkling systems, fences, flower beds and shrubbery. New sewer construction is not complete until damaged sidewalks, parkways and streets have been repaired.

Should you have any questions or concerns, you can either ask the construction foreman during the project, or call any of the following numbers:

- 24-Hour Service and Information Line: 311
- 29th Ward Office: 773-237-6460
- DWM Office of Public Affairs: 312-744-6635

This project involves replacing sewer structures that may have caused disruptions to your water service line. We recommend that as a precaution you flush your water service of any sediment, rust or metals, including any lead to maintain water quality.

Sediment, rust and metals, including any lead may collect in the aerator screen located at the tip of your faucets. These screens should be removed prior to flushing.



- (1) Please find the closest available tap (an outside hose spigot, laundry sink faucet or bathtub) to where the water comes into the home that is not used for drinking water. Fully open the cold water tap and let the water run for at least 5 minutes. Next flush any other cold water faucets on that floor for at least 5 minutes.
- (2) Move to the next highest floor and repeat.
- (3) Move to additional floors in sequence and flush any taps or faucets for at least 5 minutes.

If you have any questions or concerns about your water quality, or if you would like your water tested, please call us at 311. For additional advice and information visit <http://www.epa.gov/il/advice-chicago-residents-about-lead-drinking-water>.

**Routine Flushing**

If your water has been idle or stagnant for more than 6-hours, it is advised that you flush for at least 5 minutes to maintain water quality. This may include flushing the toilet, taking a shower and doing laundry.

Lastly, if you don't already have one, I ask you to consider the installation of a water meter in your home to help you save money on your water bill. For more information on this free program, go to [www.metersave.org](http://www.metersave.org).

Thank you for your patience and cooperation during this important infrastructure improvement project.

Sincerely,

Randy Conner