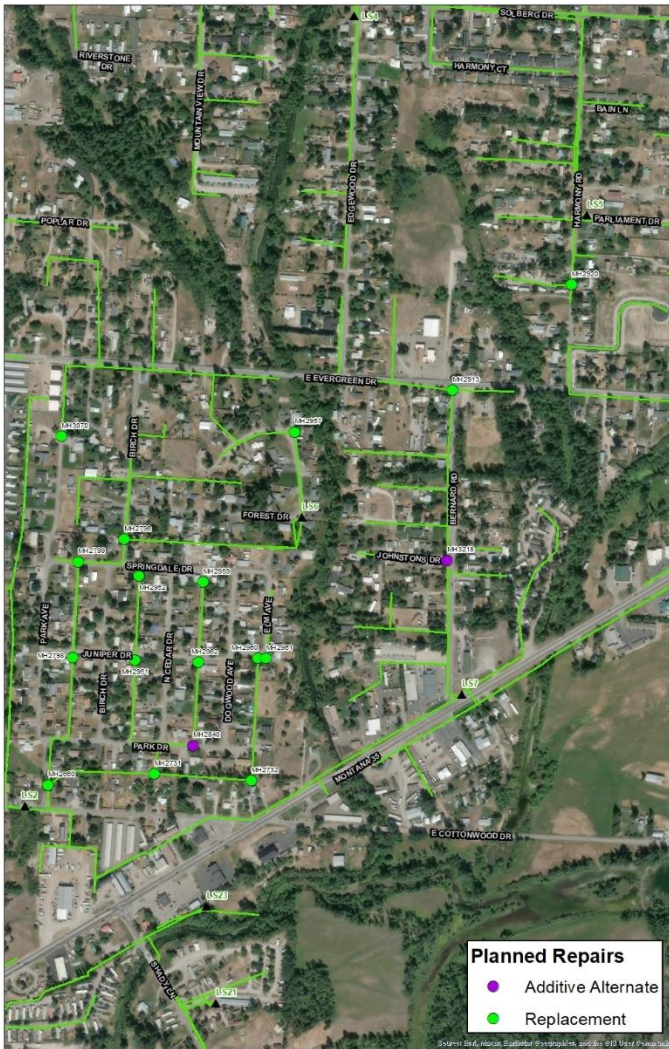


Infiltration/Inflow Reduction Project

Evergreen Water and Sewer District 1 is committed to maintaining its water and sewer system assets to provide our customers with reliable and sustainable service. The District is working to reduce and prevent infiltration and inflow (I/I) in our sewer system. Our I/I Control Program helps protect the environment by maintaining pipe capacity for what's it's meant to convey—sewage—and preventing sewer overflows. It also decreases wastewater treatment costs by reducing the need for expensive capital projects to add sewer system capacity.



The current I/I reduction project is the replacement of 18 deteriorated manholes in the District's central area as shown in Figure 1. These manholes were noted for being sources of I/I, particularly during high groundwater and large storm conditions. In January 2025 the District has awarded Lipka, a local, qualified contractor to replace these manholes and thereby reducing I/I in the system and improving the reliability of the system.

Figure 1. Manholes To Be Replaced

Construction is expected to start in summer 2025 and be completed by October 2025. In addition to notices on the District's webpage a construction flyer will be provided to homes and businesses located near the construction sites to inform District customers of the pending activity and solicit concerns or questions.

What to Expect

During the project, residents can expect the following:

- For each manhole to be replaced, approximately 4 days is required to remove and install a new manhole and connect the pipes. While sewer and water service will be maintained throughout the manhole replacement, it would be helpful (and less costly) if

residents could do what they can to reduce sewer flows such as decreasing laundry during those few days.

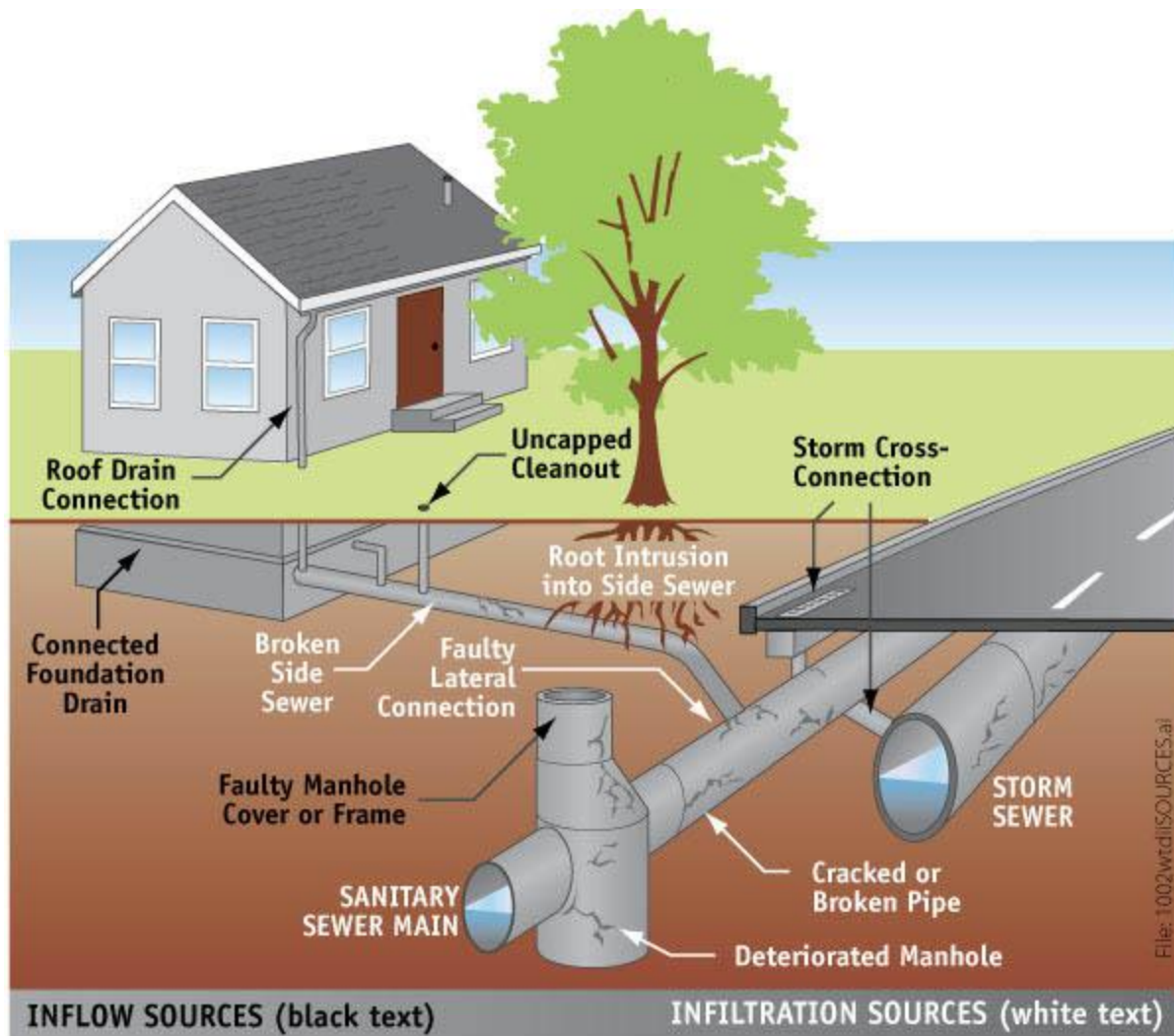
- Work will be conducted generally on weekdays from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. The contractor is required to maintain at least 1 lane of traffic and at the end of each day, residents will be able to use their driveway (contractor may temporarily place steel plates). During the day, residents may need to park near their home and avoid construction activities.
- Contractor will use the District's Nicholson Facility as a lay-down storage yard, but may also need to store materials within the District's right-of-way along roads (possibly on the edge of private property). Following construction, disturbed sites will be restored to original conditions with new sod or pavement/gravel.
- Bypassed sewer and dewatering flow will be routed around the construction sites with hoses ran across the ground to a next downstream manhole.

District customers are encouraged to contact the contractor project manager, Tyler Wilson, can be contacted at 406.890.4102 with any questions or concerns.

What is infiltration/inflow (I/I)?

Excess water that flows into sewer pipes from groundwater and stormwater is called infiltration and inflow or I/I. Groundwater infiltration seeps into sewer pipes through holes, cracks, joint failures, and faulty connections. Stormwater inflow rapidly flows into sewers via roof drain downspouts, foundation drains, storm drain cross-connections, and sump pumps. Most I/I is caused by aging infrastructure that needs maintenance or replacement.

Figure 2 is a graphical view of I/I sources common to sewer systems.



Source: King County, WA

Why is I/I a problem?

Additional water in the sewer system is a problem because:

- It takes up capacity in the sewer pipes and ends up at the City of Kalispell's Wastewater Treatment Plant where the District is charged for its treatment. These costs are then transferred to you, the user.
- Requires new and larger wastewater facilities to convey and treat larger volumes of flow, resulting in higher capital expenditures.
- I/I flows contribute to sewer system overflows into local homes and the area waterways, negatively impacting public health and the environment.

For these reasons the District continues to gather data, perform flow monitoring, and inspect the system to identify potential sources and develop projects to reduce I/I in the system. This project to replace the manholes, and the associated project upgrading the District's Lift Station #19, will extend the reliability of the District's sewer system.