

## Spring Showers Bring May Flowers – and Sewer Backups!

Spring rains can bring excess water into the sewer system. When that happens, lines can become overwhelmed – and in some homes, that may lead to a sewer backup.

We want you to know what causes backups, what to do if one happens, and how to prevent them.



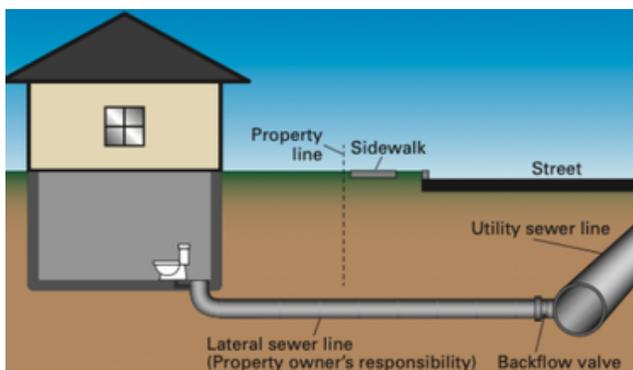
## Can a Sewer Backup Affect Me?

If a backup occurs in a utility sewer line, wastewater will typically overflow from the lowest opening in the system.

In homes with a basement or ground-floor drain that sits level with or below the sewer line, wastewater may back up through

- Floor drains
- Toilets
- Lower-level plumbing fixtures

Understanding your home’s plumbing setup is the first step in protecting your property.



## What Should I Do If Sewage Backs Up Into My Home?

If you experience a backup:

- Protect people and property immediately
- Close drains with stoppers or plugs if possible
- Do not run water until the blockage has been cleared
- Call Evansville Water and Sewer Utility (EWSU) Emergency Sewer Service: 812-421-2130 (24 hours/day)

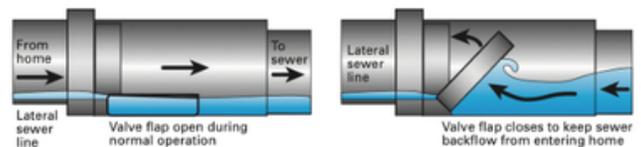
If the problem is in your home’s lateral sewer line (the line connecting your home to the utility main), you may need to contact a licensed plumber.

## How Can I Help Prevent Sewer Backups?

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## What About Insurance?

Most standard homeowner or renter insurance policies do not automatically cover sewer backup damage.

In many cases, you must add a special rider to cover water or sewer backup damage. Check with your insurance agent to understand your coverage.