

Town of Pelham Announces Sanitary Sewer Backflow Prevention Incentive Program for Residents Affected by Flooding

During their Monday, October 6, 2014 meeting, Pelham Council approved a new Sanitary Sewer Backflow Prevention Incentive Program to assist homeowners in the Town's northeast quadrant affected by flooding from severe rain storms on May 14, 2014.

The program sets aside \$165,000 to provide approximately 130 eligible properties up to \$1,000 to offset the cost of installing sanitary sewer backflow preventers and waives the mandatory \$210 inspection fee.

"After learning the results of our investigation, Council reacted quickly on this preventive solution," said Mayor Dave Augustyn. "I am pleased that we are also taking immediate measures —by disconnecting uncovered storm water sources and examining the entire sewer-shed— to ensure this will never happen again."

Eligibility Criteria

- To qualify for the \$1,000 compensation, homeowners must have a licensed plumber install a sanitary sewer backflow valve to stop potential wastewater from returning into the home.
- The property must be within the Hurricane Road Pumping Station area that includes Shorthill Place, Leslie Place, Scottdale Court, Stonegate Place, Station Street north of Hurricane Road, Lorimer Street north of Hurricane Road and Hurricane Road east of Parkdale Crescent.
- Homeowners will be reimbursed \$1,000 after a final inspection (at no cost) is completed by the Town's Building Department.
- The program is retroactive to May 2014 and also applies to homeowners who have already installed sanitary sewer backflow valves.

Impacted residents can download the Sanitary Sewer Backflow Prevention Incentive Program Application Form from pelham.ca or pick one up at the Town Hall Front Counter Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.

To help establish the new program, staff reviewed incentive programs offered by other municipalities and recommended the necessary funds be allocated from the sewer budget. Council further directed staff to investigate the additional requirement of installing backflow preventers in future subdivision and site plan agreements.

Incentives for Other Properties

Also during their October 6th meeting, Council approved an additional \$25,000 to expand the incentive program to include any properties that have experienced a documented sewer backup. It is expected that only five properties within the Town may qualify for this extended incentive program because, with the exception of the reported basement flooding in northeast Fonthill in May, basement flooding is extremely rare in the Pelham sanitary sewer system.

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For additional information, please contact:

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