

Pike Lake Area Wastewater Collection System (PLAWCS)

USER INSTRUCTIONS FOR YOUR GRINDER (SEWER) PUMP SYSTEM (May 2015)

Care and Use of your Grinder Pump

Your Sewage Grinder Pump is capable of accepting and pumping normal wastewater. PLAWCS Ordinance advises the following items should NOT be introduced into any sewers via drains, toilets, kitchen waste disposals, showers, dishwashers, etc. If any non-acceptable items are discovered and/or cause a pump failure, the homeowner will be liable for any and all costs associated with the repair, also known as a Bill-Back.

EXAMPLES OF NON-ACCEPTABLE ITEMS

Glass	Strong Chemicals	Coffee Grounds	Drugs	Plastic Objects
Metal	Flammable Materials	FOG (Fats, Oils, Grease)	Socks	Rags / Cloth
Fuel Oil	Lubricating Oil	Plastic	Toys	Solid Objects
Groundwater	Storm Water	Diapers	RV Waste	Condoms
Gasoline	Explosives	Wet Wipes	Tampons	Sump Pump H2O
Food Wastes	Paper Towels	Medications	Sanitary Napkins	

Loss of Power

The grinder pump cannot dispose of wastewater without electrical power. If electrical service is interrupted, keep water/wastewater usage to a minimum. TRY NOT to introduce portable power and continue usage as the major pump stations may also be disabled and unable to handle the added wastewater.

Pump Alarm

The Grinder Pump System has an alarm located in the control panel. If a problem is detected a red light on top of the control panel will illuminate and/or an audible alarm will sound. If the audible alarm is silenced, the red light will illuminate until the problem is resolved. *IF YOUR ALARM IS ACTIVATED, DO NOT INTRODUCE ANY WATER TO THE GRINDER PUMP SYSTEM. PLEASE TURN OFF ALL WATER SOURCES UNTIL IT IS REPAIRED.*

If the light and/or audible alarm comes on:

1. **DO NOT** turn the pump electrical supply off.
2. **DO NOT** attempt to repair yourself.
3. **Silence** the audible alarm by pressing a button/switch on the bottom of the control box. Newer control boxes: place finger over the hole on the bottom of the box where the alarm sound is coming from. Light will continue to illuminate until repaired.
4. Contact PeopleService **218-590-5911**

Homeowner Responsibility

1. If your grinder station alarms, please silence the alarm, wait for approximately 10 minutes to see if the alarm will clear, if not, please call PeopleService @ 218-590-5911 any time, day or night. Do not turn off the power and do not access the basin lid or control panel. If the lid or control panel is accessed, costs associated with the repairs may be billed back to the owner of the property.
2. Be cautious of what is introduced to the grinder station, non-acceptable items will be reviewed as billed back which may be an expense to the owner of the property.
3. Keep any and all clear water sources from entering the system, i.e. sump pumps. Any discovery of clear water sources will be reviewed by PLAWCS and fines may be assessed.

PLAWCS Responsibility

1. PLAWCS owns and operates the grinder basins along with the effluent low pressure sewer piping located on the external side of the home, including mainline piping and controls. The residential gravity portion of the system is not covered by an easement, therefore is privately owned, but must comply with all plumbing codes and free of any groundwater also known as inflow and infiltration (I/I) or clear water.
2. PLAWCS will be responsible for any repairs associated with "normal" failures. If non-acceptable items or homeowner "caused" failures occur, the costs associated will be reviewed by PLAWCS.
3. The PLAWCS perpetual easement covering that portion of the Property lying within ten (10) feet of the Centerline (the Permanent Easement Area). The easement also covers the portion of the pressure sewer line and grinder basin. Nothing can be constructed or placed within the easement area without prior approval from PLAWCS.

Periods of Non-Use

1. If your home or building is left unoccupied for longer than a month during **summer** months: DO NOT turn off the power to the grinder pump. Power must remain ON at all times throughout the year.
2. If your home or building is left unoccupied for longer than a week during **winter** months, as a recommended precaution and if feasible, allow a flowing water source to run long enough to initiate at least one or two pump cycles. An approximate pump cycle is 35 to 45 gallons, which is approximately 10-15 minutes of flow from a sink. Running a dishwasher and a laundry machine will typically also allow enough flow for a pump cycle. Additionally, please contact PeopleService to inspect the system before leaving, 218-590-5911.

Contact Information 24 Hour Service

CALL PEOPLESERVICE, INC.

Contact Phone/Pager Numbers

24 Hour Phone #: *218-590-5911*

OFFICES: Duluth (218) 525-4582

Corporate (877) 774-4311

PeopleService O&M Coordinator: 218-464-8243

Cell phones (pagers) are on at all times. If you do not reach an operator on the first try, please leave a message and we will get back to you as

When you call or receive a call back from an operator, you will be asked to describe the problem you are currently experiencing, along with your address, telephone number and name.

BILLING Mailing Address: PLAWCS, c/o Evergreen Accounting

Evergreen Accounting:

PO Box 15221

218-722-2661

Duluth, MN 55815

www.plawcs.com

www.peopleservice.com