Know your sewer system

Parts of a sanitary sewer system:

1. Sewer lateral pipe (drains from toilet, sink, and showers)
2. Manhole
3. Main sewer line
4. Municipal wastewater treatment plant
5. Outflow into natural systems

The city's main sewer line carries raw sewage for miles from homes and businesses to wastewater treatment plants, where it is treated to protect the environment and human health.

Public Works can access the main line through sanitary sewer manholes.

The lateral line connects and carries waste to sewer main line.

Responsibility for maintaining the sewer lateral line on private property lies with the property's owner.

Recommended actions

- Report all sewage problems to 311. If you need help navigating a concern, please contact Bayou City Waterkeeper for support.
- Renters: Talk to your landlords about sewer problems. To create a record, also report any issues to Houston 311.

Learn more: https://bayoucitywaterkeeper.org/justice-in-the-sewers-hub/
Help prevent overflows
Protect sewer pipes, the treatment system, and our waterways

1. Repairs to private sewer lateral lines, including clogs in toilet, sink, & shower
   - Clean Up Service: ( )
   - Home Insurance: ( )
   - Plumber: ( )
   - Houston Public Works or 311**: (832) 395 2500

2. Overflows from manholes
   - Houston Public Works or 311**: (832) 395 2500
   - Houston, Texas 3-1-1 Help and Information (houstontx.gov)

3. Sewer main line
   - Houston Public Works or 311**: (832) 395 2500
   - Houston, Texas 3-1-1 Help and Information (houstontx.gov)

4. Odors and discharges of untreated sewage into local neighborhoods, streets, greenspaces, or water bodies
   - Houston Public Works or 311**: (832) 395 2500
   - To report pollution to TCEQ please contact: https://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/compliance/monops/complaints/complaints.html

For extra assistance or if you need help finding your representatives by address and zip code, please visit: https://house.texas.gov/members/find-your-representative/ or https://www.houstontx.gov/council/whosismycm.html