

What can residents and families expect to pay out of pocket once the sale is complete?

\$55 Cap for 3 years of service I understand.

However, how much are we going to have to pay for new lines if we fail pressure ratings?

If you fail the pressure test how much will it cost? Each home or business is different to some extent so, the price can vary. The “average” traditional replacement has come down to around \$3,600 and the “average” slip lining (trenchless method) pricing is expected to be around \$2,000 - if that is an option.

Using a trenchless method depends on a few things; one of the most important is whether your line is a candidate for using this method. Your contractor would be the person to ask. Ask them to evaluate your line and give you their professional opinion as to whether this method will work for your home. By televising your line, the contractor should be able to determine if this is feasible. It will do you no benefit to use a trenchless method if the final result is that your lateral still will not pass a pressure test or will not function correctly.

Regardless of which method you finally decide upon it is highly recommended that you seek two or three quotes for the work needed to bring your home or business into compliance.

Once you select a contractor you will have several options available to make the work process more affordable. The following are programs that the City supports and recommends:

1. JRA Loan Program - This is a low interest loan program available to City of Johnstown land owners which costs \$6 per month per each \$1,000 borrowed. The loan has a 20 year term. In addition, for completing the Sewer Lateral, your sewer treatment bill will go down by \$10 per month
2. City Lateral Support Program - For those meeting the income requirements, the City will subsidize remediation in an amount of up to \$1,000.

An owner should avail themselves of the JRA Loan Program and the City's Lateral Support Program (if qualified). An example of how using the above programs can make the cost of compliance more affordable is:

Using Average Cost of Traditional Installation of \$3,600.

\$3,600 - \$1,000 (if qualified) = \$2,600 Total Cost. Using the JRA Program would only cost the Owner approximately \$15.60 per month for an approximately 20-year term.

But, this will reduce your bill for Sewer Treatment by \$10 per month, once the work is completed for a net cost to the home owner of only \$5.60 per month.

Using Average Cost of Trenchless of \$2,000.

\$2,000 - \$1,000 (if qualified) = \$1,000 Total Cost. Using JRA Program would only cost the Owner \$6 per month for the 20-year term. But, this will reduce your bill for Sewer Treatment by \$10 per month, once the work is completed for **a net savings to the home owner of \$4.00 per month.**

Remember, the law requires the owner to pass the pressure test. Failure to comply is expected to cost approximately \$25 per month in surcharges **whether the City sells the Sewer System or not.** Property Owners should compare the costs of remediating with the cost of paying surcharges and will hopefully realize that the cost of compliance is much better for them and much better for the City.