



## Chemung County Sewer Districts

600 Milton St., Elmira, NY 14904

607-733-2887

8/1/93

### **POLICY REGARDING PROPERTY OWNER'S SEWER TROUBLE/COMPLAINT CALLS**

Today, the Administrative Board of the Chemung County Elmira Sewer District adopted the same policy currently followed by the Chemung County Sewer District No. 1 administration regarding response to sewer drainage complaints.

***Any party in the Sewer District who has a sewer problem, such as a blockage, or slow drainage, shall be responsible to first contact a local sewer plumber of their choice to investigate the problem. In otherwords, call a plumber first, not the Sewer District or City of Elmira.***

***The property owner is responsible for all costs and repairs associated with the resolution of any problem that occurs on their privately owned sewers.***

***If the plumber determines that the trouble is in the municipal sewer system, that which is maintained and operated by the District, then the plumber should contact the District's maintenance personnel who will investigate and make a determination as to responsibility. If the determination is made by District personnel that the problem is indeed to be the responsibility of the District, the plumber costs for that complaint may be paid for by the District.***

### **CLARIFICATION REGARDING SEWER OWNERSHIP/RESPONSIBILITY**

The following describes for the most part the ownership/responsibility of building sewer connections. In Sewer District No. 1, the Sewer District owns and is responsible for that part of the sewer pipe that is beneath the public right-of-way. This includes the sewer main in the street and that part of the building sewer in the street right-of-way, provided that the same has been legally conveyed to the District for ownership. In the Elmira Sewer District, the District owns and is responsible only for the sewer main beneath the street and not for any building sewers whether or not they are located in the public right-of-way. Questions regarding ownership should be directed to the Sewer District Administrative office.

#### **PLEASE NOTE:**

***It is also reminded here that all subsurface drainage fixtures must be protected by a backflow preventor, check valve or shut-off valve to prohibit sewerage backups into these fixtures. This is a requirement of the New York State Building Code, and of the Chemung County Sewer Districts. The Sewer Districts, or their agents, are not responsible for backflow of sewerage from the sewers into subsurface drainage fixtures.***

Any questions regarding the above policy may be directed to the Administrative offices of the Chemung County Sewer Districts at the above phone number.