

Borough of Tipton

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[VIEW THE SKETCH OF ILLEGAL SEWER CONNECTIONS](#)

The Borough of Tipton, as required by the PA Department of Environmental Protection (PA DEP) will be conducting home inspections to determine if there are improper or illegal connections to the sanitary sewer system. Some examples of illegal connections to the sanitary sewer system are floor drains, sump pumps, roof drains, and exterior yard, walkway and driveway drains connected to the sewer system, which are discharging clear water (such as rainwater and groundwater) into the sewer system. A floor drain or sump pump, which is not connected to the sanitary sewer system and is discharging to the homeowner's property, is not an illegal connection. Floor drains that are part of a basement shower, or washing machine outlet shall be legal provided that they are constructed and maintained in a fashion that prevents the inflow of ground water or extraneous storm water into these fixtures. Illustrations of a legal connection will be available at the Borough office. These regulations were enacted to control or prevent inflow and infiltration that allows, or has the potential to allow non-sewage flows into the collection system. These regulations are a stipulation of the Consent Order and Agreement the Borough signed with the PA DEP. Failure on the part of the Borough to comply with the Consent Order and Agreement could cost the Borough tens of thousands of dollars in fines and penalties.

The Borough, through the duly appointed person or persons, shall provide for inspection of residential dwelling units, commercial and industrial enterprises, and all educational and religious institutions connected to the sanitary sewage system to determine if illegal connections to the sanitary sewer system exist.

The inspections shall occur for all customers of the Tipton Sewer System and at the time of transfer of a property that is a customer of the Tipton Sewer System. The cost of the inspection as noted above shall be borne by the Borough. If violations are found, the property shall be re-inspected after repairs are made. The cost to re-inspect shall be borne by the Borough.

If the inspection discloses an illegal connection or other non-compliance, a written notice of non-compliance, signed by Council's designated representative, shall be posted conspicuously on the front door of the premises. A certified letter shall also be sent to the owner informing him/her of the observed violations. The current owner shall bear all costs for removal, remediation, and or abatement of any violation found and, if needed, bringing the premises into code compliance or regulation compliance. The owner of the premises shall have sixty (60) days from receipt of the written notice to abate or remediate the violation.

Any person who violates or permits the violation of the Ordinance shall upon conviction pay a fine prescribed by the Borough, not exceeding \$1,000.00 plus all court costs and reasonable attorney's fees incurred by the Borough. Each and every day during which a violation of this Ordinance shall occur will constitute a separate violation.

The Borough appreciates your cooperation with this very important endeavor. The hope is that with the elimination of the extraneous flows into the sanitary sewage collection system and to the satisfaction of The Pennsylvania State Department of Environmental Protection, the residents will experience lower operational costs and a more efficient system.