

LOW PRESSURE SEWER SYSTEM

Homeowner's Guide



CHARLOTTE COUNTY
FLORIDA



Charlotte County Utilities
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LOW PRESSURE SEWER SYSTEM

How Your Low Pressure Sewer System Works

A Low Pressure Sewer (LPS) system is a waste collection and treatment system which is an alternative to conventional gravity collection or septic tank drain field systems. LPS systems utilize a low pressure pump rather than gravity to transport wastewater through the transmission system.

A LPS system is composed of a control panel and tank, with a chamber unit housing a small sewage pump. The control panel is found on an outdoor wall, while the tank and pump are placed underground. Wastewater generated inside the home flows into and is collected in the tank. Once the water in the tank reaches a predetermined level, the pump activates and sends the water through a small pressure line into a main pressure pipe. The pump is a high quality submersible pump that will turn on and off automatically and will most likely not be heard while running.

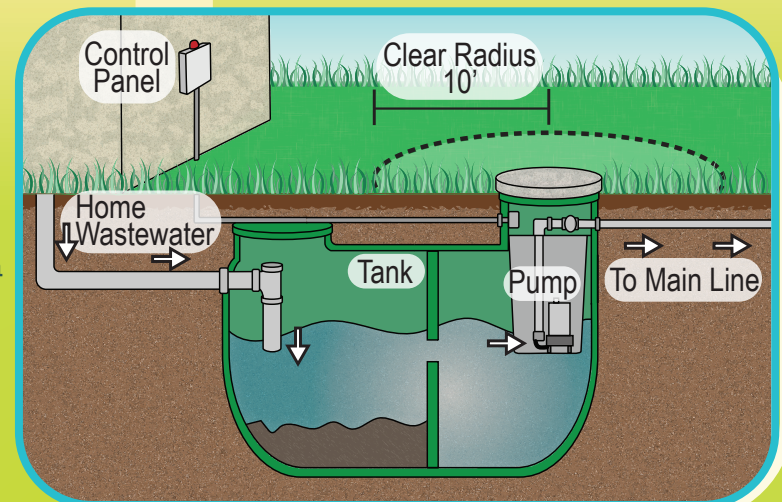
The water will continue to a main pressure pipe off the property and on to a water reclamation facility for final treatment. Solid waste remains in the collection tank and will naturally degrade on its own.

Maintaining Your System

While the system between your sewer tank and the sewer plant is maintained by the Charlotte County Utilities (CCU) Department, the plumbing between the house and the tank is the responsibility of the homeowner.

Outdoors, the homeowner is responsible for maintaining the area surrounding the system. The chamber is covered by a removable cement patio stone to allow easy access by CCU service technicians when maintenance or repairs are required. No lawn ornaments or objects over 50 lbs should be placed on the stone to prevent damage. Additionally, do not drive over the top of the LPS Tank with anything larger than a lawn tractor.

A 10-foot radius around the patio stone should be kept clear of any trees or large plants to prevent roots from potentially entering the LPS system. Do not connect external drainage lines- such as roof drains, down spouts, floor drains, outside yard drains and RV pumps- to the system.



Indoors, the homeowner is responsible for monitoring the disposal of material through drains into the system. To protect your system and prevent clogging, do not dispose of any of the below material down drains or toilets.

STOP DO NOT DISPOSE STOP

- Sanitary napkins or feminine hygiene products
- Flushable and non-flushable wipes
- Cotton swabs or dental floss
- Medications
- Greases and cooking oil
- Coffee grounds
- Hair
- Septic Tank Treatment / Cleaner
- Chemicals or paints
- Cloth
- Plastic, rubber, metal or glass
- Cigarettes or cigarette filters
- Inorganic materials
- Excessive laundry detergent (follow instructions of packaging)

Household hazardous materials can be safely disposed of for free at either of the County Recycling/ Transfer Facilities below:

Mid County Mini-Transfer
19675 Kenilworth Blvd, Port Charlotte

West County Mini-Transfer
7070 Environmental Way, Englewood

If failure or damage to the system occurs due to failure to follow these maintenance instructions, the homeowner will be charged for repairs.

Issues with Your System

Issues with your LPS system should be detected by the control panel, which will activate a warning light and an audible alarm sound when it detects a higher than normal water level in the sump chamber. The alarm can be silenced by pressing the SILENCE button located at the bottom of the alarm panel. Immediately call the CCU Department if the alarm is activated.

It is recommended that you familiarize yourself with the location of the alarm silence button before an issue occurs.



The pump will not function in the event of a power loss. The interceptor tank has a reserve capacity that will allow approximately 8 hours of normal use, excluding washing laundry and bathing, without power. If a power failure occurs, please report the date and time of the failure to the CCU Department.

If the alarm has activated or you suspect an issue with your LPS system, call the CCU Department to have a service visit scheduled. Every effort will be made to provide you with prompt, courteous, and effective service. A CCU service technician will contact you within the hour to provide you with an estimated time of arrival.

In the meantime, stop all unnecessary use of water- such as laundry, bathing/ showering, and dish-washing, and limit toilet flushing- to ensure the LPS system does not overflow or backup. All service technicians drive a Charlotte County vehicle and have proper identification with them. The service technician will perform all maintenance outside and will not need to enter your residence or business.

For problems and questions regarding your system, please call:

941.764.4300
OR
1.800.524.3494

Available **24 hours, 7 days** a week.

Do **NOT** call a private company! Maintenance and repairs are to be performed **ONLY** by CCU technicians.

Maintenance or repairs by any unauthorized personnel is strictly prohibited.