

## THE CORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE OF WARFIELD

POLICY TITLE: **BLOCKAGE IN PRIVATE SEWER**

POLICY #5430

### POLICY STATEMENT:

It is the policy of Council to establish guidelines for the Village's involvement in cleaning private sewers.

### POLICY BACKGROUND:

The Village has Bylaw #619 Sewer Service Bylaw that will be repealed effective January 1, 2006. This bylaw gave free service on private property during Village working hours and after hours the services for \$100.00.

While it was agreed that this is an excellent service it was recommended by CAO to discontinue this service for liability and financial reasons.

### POLICY GOAL:

To provide cost effective services to all residents of the Village.

### POLICY FOR CLEARING BLOCKAGE IN PRIVATE SEWERS:

1. It is the responsibility of the owner or occupant to have a qualified plumber respond to all private sewer problems.
2. The owner is responsible for all costs for blockages and backups that occur within their property.
3. The Owner is responsible for all costs for blockages and/ or sanitary sewer backups caused by neglect of the owner or the occupant of the premises. This includes but is not limited to blockages due to grease build-up and blockages due to large material being discarded into the sewer.
4. If the plumber determines that the blockage is located within Village property and not caused by neglect of the owner or occupant the plumber must advise the Village of Warfield to this effect, the Village at its sole discretion will:
  - a) Have its crew respond to and unplug the line at the Village cost;
  - b) Instruct the plumber to unplug the line at the Village cost.
5. In the event the backup or blockage is a result of problems on both the Village of Warfield side and the private residence side the cost for blockage removal shall be equally shared.
6. The Village is not responsible for property damage of any kind caused by sanitary sewer backups. In the event of extenuating circumstances the Village may pay the insurance deductible without prejudice to a maximum of five hundred dollars (\$500.00).
7. The Village of Warfield is not responsible for blockages on or damage to private sewer resulting from tree roots regardless of their origin.
8. In the event there is a dispute as to the location of the blockage origin, the Village of Warfield will use video investigation to determine the location of the problems.

Initially approved at meeting 22-05 on July 13, 2005

Reviewed and confirmed at meeting November 22, 2006

Scheduled to be reviewed on November 14, 2006