

Water/Sewer Project Definitions

Different terminology is used for the hardware associated with water and sewer projects. Following are definitions to assist in developing project proposals. Use these terms in communications with the engineer to ensure that all necessary aspects of the project have been planned and budgeted.

Water

- Transmission (Main) Line – Larger size water line that serves as the transmission for water to the distribution system.
- Distribution Line – Medium size line that runs from the main/transmission line to distribute the water to customers.
- Service Line – small size line located on private property that extends from the meter to the customer.
- Service Connection - represents the tap of the distribution line to the meter. This occurs within the right of way. Can be single service or double service.
- Meter – located at the point of connection of the service line and distribution line and is considered part of the utility system located within the right-of-way.

Sewer

- Outfall – Line that takes treated wastewater to the stream, lake, lagoon, sprayfield, etc. after treatment.
- Interceptor Line (Trunk or Main) – Large size line that carries raw sewage from collection lines to the treatment facility.
- Collector/Collection Line – Medium size line that collects waste from service lines and feeds into the interceptor line.
- Force Main – Pressurized line that requires a pump to transport wastewater.
- Gravity Line – Main line that transports wastewater by gravity.
- Service (Lateral) Line – Smaller size line located on private property connecting the customer to the collector lines at the right of way.
- Wye- hardware for the sewer service connection.
- Clean-out valve – hardware that allows maintenance on the service and/or collection lines on right of way.

Connections

- House connection – connects the customer to the service line or lateral.
- Single service/Double service –hardware for the service connection; single service serves one customer and double serves two customers.
- Short and Long service – hardware for the service connection; one is for the property closest to the line and long allows a cross over to property on the other side.
- Stub-out- is a service that does not connect to a service line. These are for future services to identified parcels of property to avoid having to go back and install them later when services are needed.