

Checklist: 5 Easy Tips to Keep Your Sewer Line Happy

Blog: The Tricks to Finding the Best Company for Sewer Line Replacement in Monroe

Is your sewer line in good condition? You probably won't be able to answer this question until you face a plumbing disaster. Think of all the gross things floating around in wastewater. Now, do you want any of that inside your home? It's up to you to make sure your pipes are free of leaks and damage.

Follow these simple tips to keep your sewer line happy and to help prevent a sudden emergency:

- 1. Pay attention to what you flush.** No, you can't put anything you want down the toilet. In reality, toilets can only handle liquid, solid waste, and a little bit of toilet paper. Flushing anything else is a recipe for disaster. Homes with young children should make sure no small toys or knickknacks find their way down the commode. Females should take care not to flush any feminine hygiene products. Even "flushable" wipes should not go down the toilet, no matter what the package says.
- 2. Don't landscape on top of your sewer pipes.** If you want to update your lawn, make sure you don't plant any trees or bushes on top of the existing sewer pipes. As the plants grow, the roots will dig deeper into the ground. Instead of moving around the pipes, the roots will try to go through them. In fact, roots are one of the leading causes of foundation and pipe leaks. Be sure to prune greenery regularly to avoid root damage down the road.
- 3. Let enzymes lend you a hand.** Every month, pour an enzyme cleaner down your drains. Unlike other commercial cleaners, enzymes are completely natural. You don't have to worry about them eating through your pipework. Enzymes break apart small clogs. Be sure to pour the cleaner down all your sinks, toilets, and showers. These cleaners are safe for the environment and don't contain any harsh chemicals.
- 4. Replace clay or lead pipes.** If you live in an older home, there is a high probability that the pipes are original. Have a plumber inspect the pipes to determine what kind you have. You should remove and replace any lead or clay pipes. They are prone to cracking and may lead to problems down the road.
- 5. Develop a relationship with a local plumber.** Too many homeowners make the mistake of only calling out a plumber in the event of an emergency. You go to the doctor for regular checkups even when you're not sick. At the very least, you should give your sewer pipes the same level of respect. During an annual inspection, the plumber will look for signs of corrosion and hunt down any small leaks. If they find any problems, it's much more cost-efficient to fix them while they're still small.