

SECTION 1 – GENERAL INFORMATION

The MHOG Utility Department, oversees the operation and maintenance of the municipal water systems in Marion and Howell Townships, and the municipal water and sanitary sewer systems in Genoa and Oceola Townships. This Connection Manual outlines the processes for the various ways in which property owners and developers can connect to, modify, or expand the existing municipal sanitary sewer and water systems.

SUMMARY OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONSHIP

Through an Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement, the MHOG Utility Department (Department) oversees the day to day operations, planning, and operation of the MHOG (Marion, Howell, Oceola, and Genoa) Sewer and Water Authority, the Genoa-Oceola Sewer and Water Authority, and the Genoa Charter Township Systems of Oak Pointe and Lake Edgewood. Together, this comprises joint operations of three (3) wastewater and two (2) water systems. This combined function saves each system operational expenses and provides a level of technical expertise and staffing that the systems would be unable to support independently. Additionally, it allows cost sharing and partnership between these member systems that otherwise would not be possible.

DESCRIPTION OF MUNICIPAL UTILITIES

Municipal utilities are the water and sanitary mains owned, operated, constructed, maintained and repaired exclusively by the Department. These utilities provide public water and sewer service to privately-or publicly-owned properties. Water mains typically range from 8” to 24” in diameter, and include such features as gate valves and hydrants. Sewer mains typically range from 8” to 27” diameter, and include manholes, gravity mains, force (pressure) mains, grinder pumps, pump (lift) stations, generators and other features. Municipal utilities are located in a public right of way or dedicated easement, to guarantee permanent right of access to the Department and its personnel.

Private service leads are located on private property, and they typically extend from the building premises to the municipal service lead at the public right of way. Municipal utilities are typically not located on private property.

The Department reserves the right to prohibit the installation of any private main connected to the municipal water or sanitary sewer main, except by prior authorization of the Township and the Department.

Municipal Water:

In general, the Department operates and maintains the municipal water main and all of its components up to the shut off valve (curb stop), typically located at the right of way line.

All new hydrants installed are operated and maintained by the Department; therefore all water main leading up to hydrants shall be public and shall fall under system expansion requirements of this manual.

Municipal Sanitary Sewer:

Applicable to Genoa and Oceola Township municipal systems that are operated by the MHOG Utility Department.

In general, the Department operates and maintains the municipal sanitary sewer and all of its components located within the public road right of way or within an easement. Individual parcels are served by either a gravity sanitary lead or a grinder pump, and the limits of municipal ownership for the service leads vary by the type of lead to the parcel.

For a gravity sewer lead, the Department operates and maintains the lead up to the right-of-way line.

For a grinder sewer system connected to a publically owned low pressure force main, the Department operates and maintains the municipally owned control panel on the home, the electric lines from the pump to the house, the grinder pump and pump chamber, the discharge line from the pump up to the public right of way, and the main line.

Example diagrams of the municipal and private components of the water and sanitary sewer systems are shown in the following attachments:

- Attachment 1: Water Service Connection to Home or Business
- Attachment 2: Fire Suppression with Hydrants
- Attachment 3: Grinder Pump System to Home or Business
- Attachment 4: Gravity Lead Service to Home or Business

DESCRIPTION OF PRIVATE SYSTEM COMPONENTS

The MHOG Utility Department does not maintain the private components as outlined below:

The private components of water systems include:

- The connection between the curb stop and building and all internal plumbing. Multiple connections to a private lead or private main are prohibited. Private mains having service leads to multiple parcels are prohibited except by prior authorization of the respective Township and/or governing Authority. The meter is the only internal component the Department owns and maintains.
- Private fire suppression lines beyond the shut off valve from the main. (Note: Fire suppression lines can only be private if no hydrants are connected to them).

The private components of the sanitary sewer system include:

- The lead from the building up to the right-of-way line. Multiple connections to a private lead or private main are prohibited. Private mains having service leads to multiple parcels are prohibited except by prior authorization of the Township and/or the governing Authority.
- The gravity lead from the building to a grinder pump.
- All internal sanitary sewer components.
- The Department may require a new grinder pump be privately owned if it does not meet the requirement outlined in Section 5.2 – New Grinder Pump Connection – of this Manual

DESCRIPTION OF MUNICIPAL SYSTEMS NOT COVERED BY THIS MANUAL

The MHOG Utility Department Does Not maintain the following municipal sanitary sewer and water systems in the Howell and Brighton Area:

- City of Brighton Municipal Utilities. Contact 810-225-8004 for more information
 - The City of Brighton maintains the municipal water and sanitary sewer in the eastern portion of Genoa Township, including the Pine Creek Subdivision.
- City of Howell Municipal Utilities. Contact 517-546-3500 for more information
 - The City of Howell maintains the municipal sanitary sewer in Marion Township. MHOG provides operational services for the municipal water in Marion Township.
- Sanitary sewer in Howell Township. Contact 517-546-2817 for sewer information. MHOG provides operational service for the municipal water in Howell Township.

PRE-CONNECTION PHASE – SUMMARY OF TOWNSHIP REQUIREMENTS AND CONNECTION ASSISTANCE SERVICES PROVIDED BY MHOG UTILITY DEPARTMENT

In all instances, the property owner must meet Township planning and zoning requirements prior to connecting to a participating MHOG Utility Department utility. A summary of the Township requirements is listed below:

- Verify the parcel requesting connection is within the municipal water and/or sanitary sewer district boundary
- Payment of tap fees
- Issuance of land use permit
- Collection of meter fees, flushing, and sewer fees
- Provide lead sheets (if one is available)
- For larger scale developments requesting expansion of the municipal sanitary sewer and water system, site plan approval from the Township will be required.

The MHOG Utility Department is pleased to offer the following services during the investigation phase of a potential connection to the municipal utility system:

- As Built Record Drawings of Transmission Mains and Subdivision Plans
- Available Fire Flow Maps from the Hydraulic Water Model
- Evaluation of the Type of Connection
 - In all new connection instances, the Department will evaluate the type of site use being proposed for the new connection. Depending on the type of use, additional requirements may be implemented. For instance, to protect our sanitary sewer system, grease traps are required for all restaurants, and backflow devices are required for all irrigation and commercial uses.
 - In addition, the quantity of usage associated with a new connection will be evaluated by Department staff. Typically, new developments with greater than 100 projected residential equivalent units will be required to go through an Impact Assessment process to determine if the existing utility systems can handle the increased usage.
 - Due to these potential additional steps that may be required, it is recommended that the property owner and/or Township contact the MHOG Utility Department during the planning phase of all new connections to the utility systems.
 - Meter sizing

The MHOG Utility Department is located within the Genoa Township Hall; therefore for the above listed items please contact the main line of Genoa Township at (810)227-5225 or planreview@mhog.org