



**District Bureau of Public Works  
July 12, 2023**

**Agenda Item 5: Sewer House Connection Program**

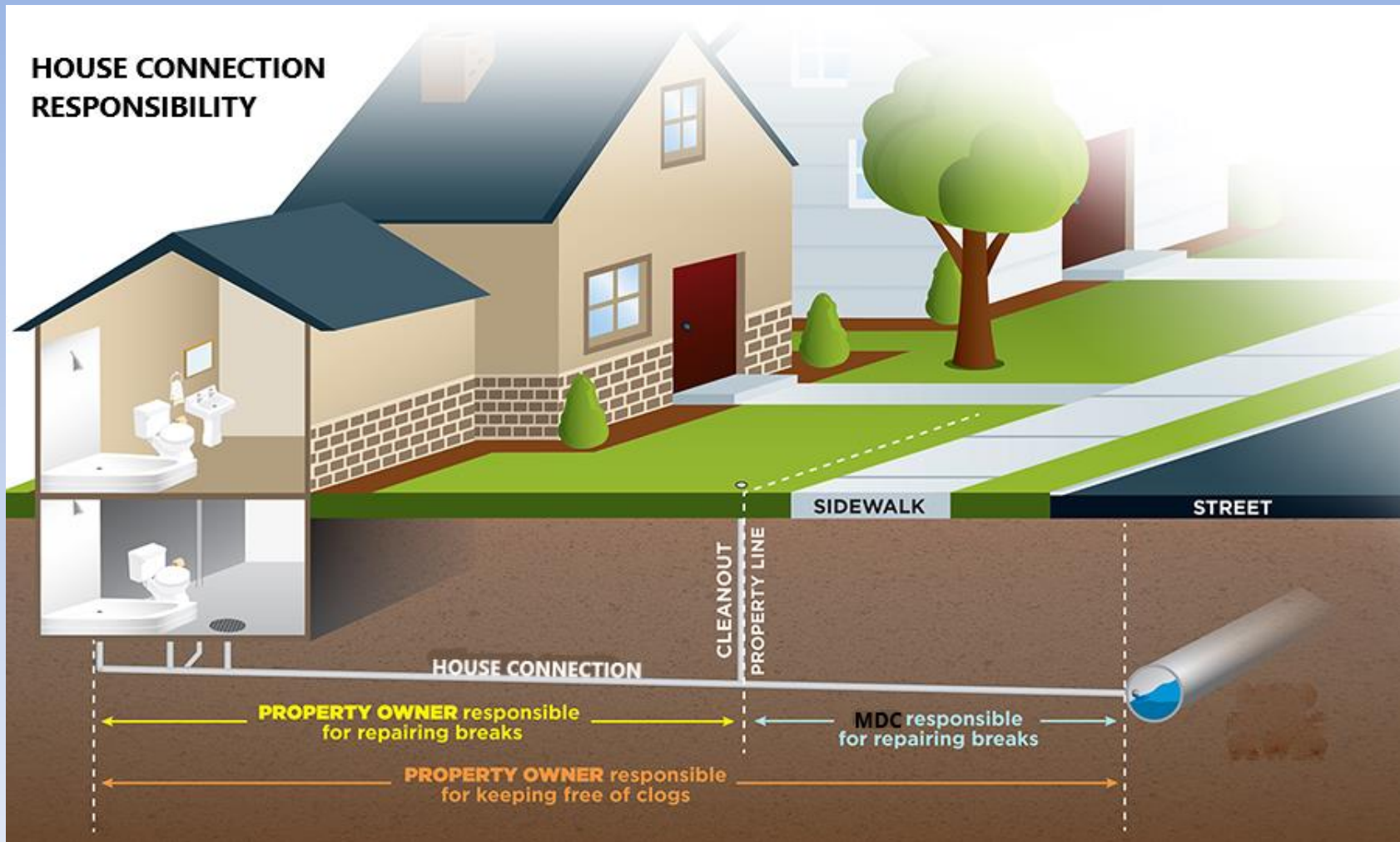
# Program Objectives

- The benefits of renewing sewer house connections are:
  - Reduction in infiltration from private property – contributes to the goals of the Clean Water Program
  - More effective Customer Service/Operations involvement in renewing house connections extending onto private property
  - Reduction of potential and real private property backups caused by deteriorated house connections
  - Improved financial benefit to MDC sewer customers

# Who Owns the House Connection?

- If you own a building, then you also own the house connection.
- House Connections extend from the building to the point of connection with the public sewer. The property owner owns the entire pipe, even the parts of the pipe that lie under the publicly owned sidewalk and street.

# HOUSE CONNECTION RESPONSIBILITY



# Who is Responsible for Fixing House Connection Problems?

## **Problems that can occur with house connections include:**

- Clogs or blockages.
- Broken or collapsed pipe.

## **Property Owner Responsibilities**

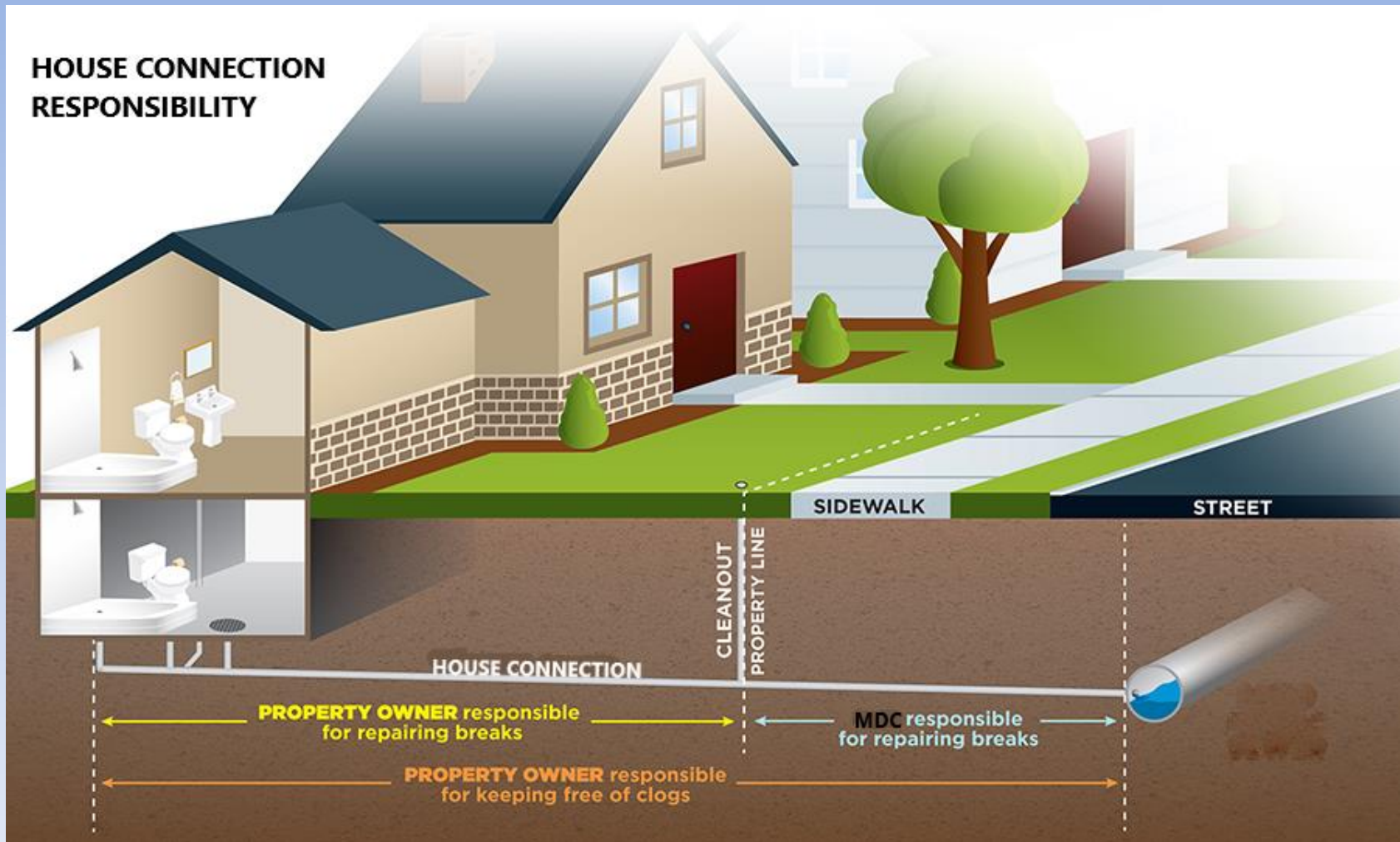
- The property owner is *responsible for keeping the entire length of the house connection clear of clogs and blockages*. If the house connection becomes clogged or blocked (e.g., tree roots, diapers, grease), the property owner is responsible for clearing out the pipe.
- Clearing a blocked house connection often requires *rodding*. This process is performed by a professional and involves threading a flexible metal rod or cable with a cutting tool attached to the end of it into the house connection. MDC has standards for rodding shall be conducted and provides inspection services to the customer at no cost.
- Rodding generally can cut through blockages. Depending on what's on the end of the rod when it's removed, the professional may be able to tell what's causing the blockage. The professional may also CCTV inspect the house connection to visually determine the cause. MDC currently provides this service as part of the BWV program.
- *The Property Owner is also responsible for repairing any broken or collapsed portion of the building sewer that is located on private property (outside of the public ROW).*

## **MDC Responsibilities**

- MDC is responsible for fixing broken or collapsed private house connections if the broken section is located within the public right-of-way (e.g., beneath the sidewalk or street).



# HOUSE CONNECTION RESPONSIBILITY



# New Connection Scenarios

Scenario	Sewer Type	New 6-inch House Connection in Public Right of Way	New 6-inch House Connection in Private Property	House Connection Renewal **
1	New sewer main – Layout & Assessment	District installs as part of the project, cost to property owner \$4,420* plus frontage and dwelling unit assessment	Property owner responsible for actual cost. District pays contractor and property owner repays District over time	N/A
2	Existing sewer main with existing lateral in ROW	District installed as part of the previous project, cost to property owner \$4,420* plus frontage and dwelling unit assessment	Property owner responsible for actual cost. District pays contractor and property owner repays District over time.	District responsible for public portion within the ROW.
3	Existing sewer main with no lateral in ROW	Property owner responsible for actual cost plus any assessment or connection charges due. District pays contractor and property owner repays District over time.	Property owner responsible for actual cost. District pays contractor and property owner repays District over time.	N/A

# Existing Connection Scenarios

Scenario	Sewer Type	New 6-inch House Connection in Public Right of Way	New 6-inch House Connection in Private Property	House Connection Renewal **
4	Existing sewer main with existing house connection to be renewed or replaced not under MDC construction contract	N/A	N/A	<p>Property Owner hires contractor to renew or replace house connection and District will pay contractor up to \$10,000.</p> <p>Property owner must fully participate in BWV Program, as determined by the District, to qualify.</p>
5	Existing sewer main with existing house connection to be renewed or replaced under MDC construction contract	N/A	N/A	<p>With Property Owner permission, the District or its contractor will renew or replace house connection at no cost to property owner.</p> <p>Property owner must fully participate in BWV Program, as determined by the District, to qualify.</p>



*Questions?*