

2021 ROCKLAND BOARD of SEWER COMMISSIONERS

New Connection Moratorium

The purpose of this Moratorium / Ban on permits is to allow the Sewer System to stabilize, so that we can come into Compliance with our EPA Permit, ascertain our current capacity limitations and to reduce our Inflow and Infiltration volume.

Effective June 1, 2021 The Rockland Board of Sewer Commissioners will place six (6) month hold on the issuance of new Sewer Connection Permits. This will be reviewed after December 31, 2021.

Previously approved connections from January 1, 2020 through June 1, 2021 will remain valid.

Individual residential connections will continue to be allowed.

As of June 1, 2021 the Rockland Sewer Department has approved approximately 40,000 Gallons per Day of new flow that has not been included in our flow count. To meet our EPA corrective action, we must remove at least 440,000 Gallons per Day (GPD) of Inflow and Infiltration to come into compliance.

CONDITION 1: BEFORE new permits are issued, approximately 600,000 Gallons per Day of Inflow and Infiltration (I&I time the 11:1 EPA Ratio) must be located, identified and removed from the System by the Town of Rockland Sewer Department. The funding for this must come from the fees collected from the approved applicants, grants or from funds approved by the Voters at Town Meeting.

CONDITION 2: No new permits will be issued if at any time six (6) months prior to the application, our Monthly Rolling Average Flow exceeds 2.25 Million Gallons per Day.

The Rockland Board of Sewer Commissioners is the sole authority to issue Sewer Connection Permits.

This moratorium is an amendment to the TOWN OF ROCKLAND, MASSACHUSETTS "PLAN FOR COMPLIANCE WITH NPDES PERMIT NO. MA0101923, AS REQUIRED IN ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER DOCKET NO. 06-33 dated February 2007, and prepared and submitted by Metcalf & Eddy, and approved by the US EPA.

ABSOLUTELY NO PERMITS FOR NEW CONNECTIONS WILL BE APPROVED BY THE ROCKLAND BOARD of SEWER COMMISSIONERS UNTIL CONDITIONS 1 and 2 ARE MET.

1.0 SEWER MORATORIUM

- 1.1 Once Conditions 1 and 2 have been satisfied, there will be a strict sewer connection moratorium placed on all new users to the Rockland Wastewater Treatment Facility and the Sewer Department will establish an Available Sewer Flow Account (ASFA).
- 1.2 There will be no New Connection Permit issued unless the Flow Capacity required to satisfy the permit request exists in the Available Sewer Flow Account (ASFA) on the date of the application.
- 1.3 There will be no New Connection Permit issued on the presumption that the Inflow and Infiltration requirement with the 11:1 ratio will be found later to satisfy the required permit request.
- 1.4 There will be no New Connection Permit issued if at any time six (6) months prior to the date of application, the Monthly Rolling Average Flow, exceeds 2.25 Million Gallons per Day.
- 1.5 A request for tie in to the Rockland Sewer System must have a New Connection Permit which can only be issued with a majority vote by the elected members of the Rockland Board of Sewer Commissioners.
- 1.6 There will be no more than two (2) new applications for New Sewer Connection Permits at a regularly scheduled Rockland Board of Sewer Commissioners meeting. Any applicant with a significant or Emergency situation that requires a Special Meeting may request one in writing. However, it must meet all of the required filing requirements and timelines.
- 1.7 **THERE WILL BE NO EARLY HEARINGS FOR NEW CONNECTIONS.** All Permit Applications for New Connections to the Rockland Wastewater Sewer System must meet all of the requirements contained in the Town of Rockland, Ma Sewer Use Ordinance By-Laws. All applicants must adhere to the time lines specified in **SECTION 2.4 NEW SEWERS and SEWER CONNECTIONS, NOTE 3, & NOTE 4.** This section contains the details for the filing dates along with the conditions for Residential, Large Developments, Institutional, Large Commercial Facilities and Sewer Main Installations. This is without exception, filings after these date will be heard on the next available meeting date.
- 1.8 The Town of Rockland Sewer Department will allocate **50,000 Gallons per Day (GALLON PER DAY)** of sewer flow capacity into their **Available Sewer Flow Account (ASFA)**. All new permit connections and maximum flow limits for Municipal, Residential, Business, Industrial or Commercial use will be on a first come, first served, basis effective on the date the elected Rockland Board of Sewer Commissioners vote connection approval, not on the date of the new Connection Application.
- 1.9 The Sewer Department may establish a Permit Waiting List, on a first come first serve basis, based on the date of application pending review and approval. The waiting list does not

guarantee or grant a permit for connection, until the wastewater flow capacity exists in the **ASFA** and formal Board of Commissioners vote approval.

- 1.10** Any existing connection permit holder, who requires additional flow volume to the Sewer Wastewater System, must apply for a new permit. Additional flow volume will only be granted if each of the following conditions is satisfied **without exception**;
- (A) The required flow volume amount exists in the **ASFA** account at the time of request.
 - (B) The required flow volume does not exceed 3,300 GALLONS PER DAY for residential use.
 - (C) The required flow volume does not exceed 10,000 GALLONS PER DAY or 20,000 GALLONS PER DAY Business/Commercial and only after the 11:1 ratio for removal is satisfied.
 - (D) There are no requests for New Connection Permit on the waiting list.
 - (E) If it is considered a new permit application for a change of use to an existing connection.

2.0 Available Sewer Flow Account.

- 2.1** A maximum balance of **50,000 GALLONS PER DAY** of available flow can exist in **ASFA** at any time. It can only be released for use, if the Rockland Sewer Department has successfully documented and removed a total of **550,000 GALLONS PER DAY** of I&I by the above approved methods;
- 2.2** The elected Rockland Board of Sewer Commissioners must vote by majority, to release additional flow to the **ASFA**, not to exceed the calculated amount from the total documented **I&I** removal for that calendar year (**total I&I removed divided by 11**), not to exceed the **maximum 50,000 GALLONS PER DAY** total balance.
- 2.3** Additional volume of flow capacity that may be made available, and placed into the **ASFA** will require a majority vote by the elected members of the Rockland Board of Sewer Commissioners. This will be reviewed and voted on the following Dates each year that the moratorium remains in effect.
- April 1 September 1**
- 2.4** There will be no additional flow capacity made available to the **ASFA** until the Town of Rockland Sewer Department meets the following requirements.
- 2.4.1** Strict adherence to the EPA Administrative Order, Docket No. 06-33, for Flow Violations dated (September 29, 2006) and the accepted Corrective Actions agreed to by the Town submitted and approved February 2007. That Administrative order and the Town's corrective actions mandate the Town of Rockland, must remove eleven gallons of Inflow & Infiltration (**I&I**) for every one gallon of wastewater flow that is added (11:1 Ratio) to the System. Based on the initial available flow in the **ASFA** of **50,000 GALLONS PER DAY**, and calculated with the 11:1 removal ratio, a total of Five hundred fifty Thousand Gallons per Day (**550,000 Thousand**

Gallons per Day) I&I must be identified, documented and removed from the system before additional capacity is made available.

- 2.5** At no time will additional flow be placed back into the Available Sewer Flow Account (ASFA) if at any time the six (6) Month Rolling Average for flow, exceeds the 2.25 Million Gallons per Day amount.

3.0 Inflow and Infiltration Removal (I&I)

- 3.1** Under the provisions of a Sewer System Evaluation Study (SSES), documented removal of **I&I** from Pipes, Manholes, Laterals, drains or Chimneys will be done by following Best Engineering Practices for location using some, or all of the following approved methods. Accepted and approved methods will consist of, in-Line camera scanning and recording, Man Hole Inspection, Smoke Testing or Dye Testing. Each documented location, whenever possible, will be followed by the installation of a flow meter to validate the removal of the **I&I**.

- 3.2** The amount of **I&I** found by the approved methods will be divided by eleven, and that will be the total amount made available and placed back into the ASFA, and only after the removal/repairs have been made and approved by the Rockland Sewer Department.

EXAMPLE: A SSES identifies 200,000 GALLONS PER DAY of I&I and the Sewer Department makes the appropriate repairs, 18,182 GALLONS PER DAY will be made available to be placed into the **ASFA (200,000 GALLONS PER DAY / 11)**, if so approved by a majority vote of the elected Board of Sewer Commissioners.

3.3 Inflow and Infiltration Funds

- 3.3.1** Funds for Inflow and Infiltration (**I&I**) removal will be allocated by Articles presented and approved at Town Meeting and, from the connection fees charged for Development and placed in the **I&I** ledger account.

- 3.3.2** If those Funds (I&I) are used for any other purposes such as repairs to equipment including sub stations, it is at the discretion of the Sewer Superintendent, and therefore the amount will be deducted from I&I investigation account, limiting any additional flow being placed into the ASFA.

4.0 New Connection Permits

- 4.1** Any permit for New Connection to the Sewer System will be issued for a specific wastewater flow amount, without a guarantee or promise of additional flow being made available or added onto the original permit amount.

- 4.2 All connections to the Rockland Sewer System are subject to the 11:1 I&I removal ratio without exception. If for any reason connection fees or charges are waived, the 11:1 removal ratio remains in effect.
- 4.3 The Rockland Sewer Department will not accept any Bonds covering work to locate, or repair Inflow and Infiltration in exchange for a Permit prior to actual I&I work being completed or connection to the Rockland Sewer System.
- 4.4 Under the direction and supervision of the Rockland Sewer Department, It is the responsibility of the Developer, Builder and/or the property owner to repair the required amount of I&I with the 11:1 ratio applied BEFFOR a permit is approved.
- 5.0 **Municipal Connection**
- 5.1 **Effective January 1, 2022**, all new connections into the Rockland Sewer System for Municipal (Town) use will be exempt from the restrictions of the Available Sewer Flow Account (ASFA). However, the requesting Department must write an Article for Town Meeting approval, in the amount to cover the costs associated with an SSES Investigation to locate and remove/repair the required amount of I&I with the 11:1 ratio applied, prior to connection to the Rockland Sewer system.
- 5.2 This requirement is to prohibit the Rockland Sewer Department from utilizing I&I funding for Municipal project on repairs to the Wastewater Treatment System.
- 5.3 The Rockland Sewer Department is prohibited from using Municipal building projects I&I funding for repair work of any kind.
- 6.0 **Residential Connections.**
- 6.1 **Effective January 1, 2022**, all new connections into the Rockland Sewer System for Residential Single Family Homes, Apartments/ Condominiums is subject to the availability of flow that exists at the time of application in the Available Sewer Flow Account (**ASFA**) without exception.
- 6.2 **IF AVAILABLE**, new residential connections will be limited to a maximum of **10** total individual single family Housing units, **OR 10** total apartments **OR** condominiums, and a maximum of **30** total bedrooms and a not to exceed maximum of **3,300 GALLONS PER DAY** of total wastewater flow without exception. A multi-unit apartment/condominium development that has on-site laundry facilities must not exceed 3,500 GALLONS PER DAY of total wastewater flow.

7.0 Business / Commercial / Industrial Connections.

7.1 Effective January 1, 2022, all new connections into the Rockland Sewer System for Business, Commercial or Industrial use are subject to the availability of flow that exists at the time of application in the Available Sewer Flow Account (**ASFA**) without exception.

7.2 IF AVAILABLE, there will be a maximum allowed wastewater flow for Business, Commercial and Industrial connections not to exceed **10,000 GALLONS PER DAY**.

8.0 Additional Flow Requirement Business / Commercial / Industrial Only.

8.1 If a Business, Commercial or Industrial user **ONLY** requires additional wastewater flow, that will not exceed a total of **20,000 GALLONS PER DAY**, and it is not available in the **ASFA**, Business / Commercial / Industrial Developers that require additional wastewater flow volume may apply for a Sewer System Evaluation Study Permit (SSESP). This permit must be approved by a majority vote of the elected members of the Rockland Board of Sewer Commissioners.

9.0 SSES Permit Risk and Liability

9.1 Under this permit, Developers may at their own non-refundable expense, at their own risk, assume all associated costs and liabilities, under a Scope of Work and an Insured Contractor approved by the Rockland Sewer Department and under the direct supervision of the Rockland Sewer Department, conduct a Sewer System Evaluation Study (SSES) by a fully licensed and insured Engineering firm. Under this requirement, and before a Sewer Connection permit is issued, a Developer under the approved methods must investigate, locate and repair sufficient volume of I&I to satisfy their additional wastewater flow requirements not to exceed **20,000 GALLONS PER DAY**.

9.2 If a Developer options to locate sufficient flow volume through an approved **SSESP** investigation, they do so at their own non-refundable expense, at their own risk, assume all associated costs, liabilities, with no guarantee of a permit being issued.

9.3 If sufficient flow volume is not located all associated costs, expenses and liabilities by the Developer are not refundable by the Rockland Sewer Department or The Town of Rockland Massachusetts.

9.4 New Connection Permits will not be issued until the requested wastewater flow, not to exceed **20,000 GALLONS PER DAY** for the project actually exists in the ASFA, and only after all necessary repairs are verified complete by the Rockland Sewer Superintendent.

10.0 Conditions.

10.1 If a Developer selects this waiver to conduct an **SSESP** investigation, The Rockland Sewer Department 11:1 ratio will still apply, and that volume will be placed into the **ASFA** for the sole use of that Developer.

EXAMPLE: A Developer requires **10,000 GALLONS PER DAY** of additional wastewater flow the developer must locate, identify, make repairs and remove **110,000 GALLONS PER DAY of I&I. (10,000 GALLONS PER DAY x 11).**

10.2 If a Developer conducts an **SSESP** study to identify and repair sufficient I&I to meet their additional wastewater flow needs, a Development fee of **\$20. P/Gal** for every gallon over **10,000 GALLONS PER DAY** will apply for the located amount. No permit will be issued until the Rockland Sewer Superintendent documents and verifies that all repairs have been made.

10.3 This **SSESP** will be valid for one year after the date of issue. If after one year from the date of the **SSESP** being issued, the developer does not use their allocated amount placed in the **ASFA**, that amount will be made available to all future applicants on a first come first served basis.

10.4 If repairs made to locate and repair sufficient I&I do not reach amounts to satisfy the full permit request, the application must be adjusted to match the exact discovered and repaired amount of I&I.

ANY VARIANCE FROM THESE CONDITIONS WILL REQUIRE A MAJORITY VOTE OF APPROVAL FROM THE ELECTED MEMBERS OF THE ROCKLAND BOARD of SEWER COMMISSIONERS.