

CURRENTS

September/October 2025



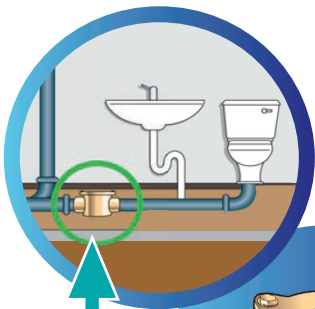
BWSC @ WORK

East Boston Sewer Separation Project

As BWSC and its contractors continue working to improve the overall efficiency and reliability of Boston's water, sewer and drainage systems, residents and businesses in East Boston can expect to see sewer separation projects happening in their neighborhoods. Phase IV sewer and drain improvements will continue during September through April, weather permitting. This project will reduce pollution levels in local waterways by substantially decreasing the number and volume of combined sewer overflows, as well as improving surface drainage to mitigate area flooding. Many streets will also receive water main replacements as part of this work.

View upcoming projects in your area any time on our website:
<https://www.bwsc.org/projects/project-lookup>

Sewage Backups are Preventable



No Valve = No Protection!

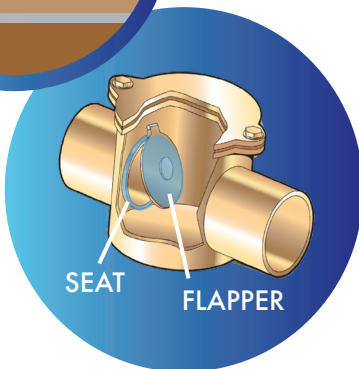
If your home has plumbing fixtures in the basement, like a toilet or sink, a backwater valve will prevent sewage from flowing into your home during heavy rains or sewer backups.

Maintenance Matters!

Without a properly installed and maintained valve your basement is vulnerable to costly and hazardous sewage backups.

Simple Maintenance Requirements:

- Inspect regularly, especially before storms.
- Wear protective gloves and eyewear.
- Remove debris from valve seat and flapper with water and gentle scrubbing.



Help Keep Catch Basins Clear

Help BWSC and Public Works Reduce Flooding

Boston is a beautiful place to be for the Autumn season. However, leaves that fall can collect on top of the city's catch basins. Leaves, and other debris, can block rainwater from entering into the storm drain system, potentially causing flooding in our neighborhoods. Residents can help BWSC and the Department of Public Works keeping catch basins clear of debris.

How You Can Help

- Use gloves when clearing leaves and other debris from the top of catch basins in your neighborhood.
- Put leaves and other yard debris in large paper bags or open barrels labeled "YARD WASTE".
- Place barrels, bags and branches curbside by 7 AM on your neighborhood's designated recycling day.

Leaf and Yard Waste Collection

Leaf and yard waste collection continues through the first week in December. For more information, call the DPW at 617-635-7573 or visit their website at boston.gov/trash-day-schedule. On the website, you can view the dates for your designated collection and drop off days.

Making a Splash this School Year

BWSC provides year-round, interactive presentations for students of all ages. It's never too early or too late to start learning about water, our most precious natural resource. BWSC is committed to protecting and conserving this resource by learning how we can all help protect our waterways and drinking water. Part of our outreach is to bring this knowledge to the classroom for schools interested in learning more about how Boston's water, sewer, and storm water systems work. Lets create a ripple effect in Boston's community and get the word out about water as we dive into another school year!

Water Main Flushing - Preventive Maintenance

Flushing hydrants is an important procedure that ensures the continued delivery of high quality water and fire protection to our customers. If your water is discolored after BWSC crews flush, run your faucets for a minute or two, this will clear your water service line. Flushing may also cause a temporary reduction in pressure. It should be noted that these conditions are not permanent or harmful. If, however, these conditions persist, please contact Operations at 617-989-7900 The water main flushing program will continue in September. Water main flushing takes place during the hours of 10pm and 6am. The schedule and a full list of streets is available on our website: www.bwsc.org/flushing.