



ADDITIONAL ROAD CONSTRUCTION INFORMATION

SEWER PIPES

Due to the fact that your road is being resurfaced this year, we recommend giving consideration to your sewer line, specifically the portion that extends under the road. These are frequently overlooked by homeowners, being out-of-sight out-of-mind, but when they fail, they can be incredibly expensive to repair.

Sewer pipeline inspection is a relatively cheap and very effective means to assess the condition of the pipe between your house and the public sewer main, typically located under the road. The equipment and expertise required to do this work is widespread, with numerous local contractors available.

The benefit of performing such an inspection now lies in the potential cost to repair a pipe under the road. While Meridian Township is responsible for the large public sewer main, the individual house services, which run between the public main and each house, are the responsibility of the homeowner. Under normal circumstances, if a house service breaks under the road, the homeowner is responsible not only for the cost of the pipe repair, but also the cost to repair the asphalt road where it is disturbed.

However, if a pipe defect under the road is identified now, the homeowner has the option of making the repair in conjunction with the road resurfacing. This means that the homeowner would only be responsible for the cost to replace the pipe, and not the cost to replace the asphalt.

Please note, this is only a recommendation – you are not required to take any action at this point. However, if you have had previous issues with your sewer, then we strongly urge you to consider having your line inspected. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to the Department of Public Works (contact information above).

TREE TRIMMING

Removal of the existing roadway asphalt is accomplished by cold milling, a process that grinds the asphalt into relatively small pieces (“millings”) for transport away from the construction site. The milling machine (“mill”) sits on the asphalt surface and feeds the resultant millings into a separate dump truck. While in operation, the total height of the mill can reach up to 15 feet above the existing roadway.

Although contractors attempt to maneuver around vertical obstacles, one of the most common and unavoidable challenges are trees that have grown over the roadway. While the mill operators have the ability to make minor adjustments to the mill height and truck placement, the mill still must pass under these trees in order to effectively and thoroughly remove all of the asphalt. In areas where branches hang within 15 feet of the road surface, this can result in tree limbs inadvertently being damaged or removed by the milling process.

Typically, only minor branches and foliage are disturbed, and the long-term health of the tree is not impacted. However, if there are trees in front of your house that have limbs extending over the road (within approximately 15 feet vertically of the road surface) and you are concerned about potential damage, please take the opportunity to perform any tree trimming prior to the start of the asphalt work.

Please note, this recommendation only applies if there are tree limbs within approximately 15 feet vertically of the road surface in front of your house **and** you are concerned about potential damage. However, you are not required to take any action at this point. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to the Department of Public Works (contact information above).
