

## **PHASE 5 SANITARY SEWER PROGRAM SUBSTANTIAL COMPLETION**

On August 15, 2008, P.M. Construction Company completed the installation of sewer mains, sewer laterals, and a limited number of water mains in the Phase 5 Sanitary Sewer Project areas throughout the Township.

The property owners with laterals connected to a gravity sewer line have been notified that they can proceed immediately with their individual hookups. The property owners with laterals connected to pressure sewer lines require individual pumps as part of the hookup of their properties. These property owners will receive notices in the near future when the pumps are delivered to the Township.

Although the Contractor has reached "substantial completion" by installation of the mains and laterals, there are a number of "punch list", and restoration items such as landscape repairs which will be completed this Fall. Some of the roadways which were excavated at the beginning of the Phase 5 Project will receive the final top course pavement this Fall. The roads which were excavated in the later areas of the Project will be paved in the Spring of 2009. The roadway trenches require a period of time over the winter so that areas of roadway settlement can be repaired before final pavement in 2009.

Upon completion of the Project in early 2009, the Township Council will appoint a Special Assessment Committee to determine the monetary value of the benefit received by each property as a result of the installation of the sanitary sewer lines. The amount of the assessment cannot be determined at this time. The property owners will have an opportunity to discuss their preliminary assessments and they will receive formal notice of the public hearings held by the Special Assessment Committee.

When the Township Council confirms the final special assessments for the properties, the property owners may pay the assessment in one lump sum or in installments over ten years with interest at the municipal bond rate.

Each property owner will hire a private contractor at the time of hookup to make the connection to the new sewer lateral and to decommission the existing septic tank and fields. The property owner is responsible for payment to the private contractor. The Township will provide the required pump (at no additional cost) for the properties utilizing ejector pumps.

The property owners have one year from written notice that the sewer lines are operational to hookup to the sanitary sewer line.

Under section 17-7.7(d) of the Township Code (as recently amended by Ordinance No. 1614), waivers of the one year hookup may be granted if:

1. The dwelling is more than 200 feet from the lateral, or

2. The existing septic system was installed after January 1, 1990 in accordance with the applicable code, or
3. The dwelling is owned and occupied by a person at least 65 years of age, or
4. Installation requires an ejector pump, blasting rock or encountering other significant obstacles.

Once the property is converted, the property owner will receive quarterly sewer bills for the measured flow (based on a winter quarter use by the municipal customer). The quarterly sewer bill for properties utilizing private water wells will be based on a minimum flow.