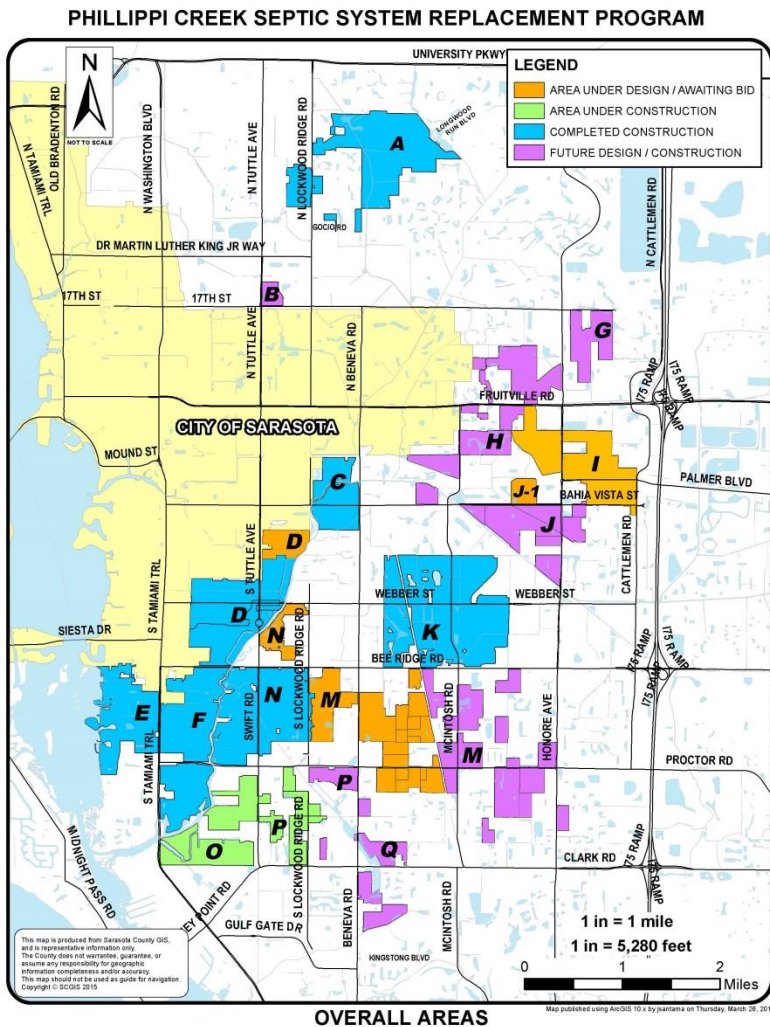


Phillippi Creek Septic System Replacement Program (PCSSRP)

Sarasota County is in the midst of a multiyear utilities project to protect public health and safeguard our environment. The septic system replacement program was initiated to improve wastewater treatment for homes and businesses.

Central sewer lines and other needed infrastructure are replacing individual septic systems and small, private package wastewater treatment plants in many Sarasota County neighborhoods. About 14,000 septic tanks will be replaced over the life of the project.

The map below shows the project areas. All properties within those boundaries will be assessed when the work is done. For a larger map and more information, including project status reports, visit [this link](#).



Neighborhood Roads Get Resurfaced

When the central sewer construction is complete, the roads in each area will be resurfaced. This new surface will eliminate potholes, uneven surfaces and the "patchwork" look of existing roads. The resurfacing will increase the life expectancy of the streets and enhance the entire area.

If you have any questions, please contact Sarasota County Utilities:

Utilities Connection Office

Phone: 941-861-6767

En Español (Spanish): 941-861-6734

Fax: 941-861-0603

Email: sarasotasewers@scgov.net

Notice: Existing Sarasota County Utilities customers please visit Utilities Customer Service:

<https://www.scgov.net/utilities/Pages/CustomerService.aspx>

Frequently Asked Questions

Q If I am in the area to receive central sewer, do I have to connect?

A Yes. Florida Statute No. 381.00655 and the current Sarasota County mandatory utility connection and water well setback requirement ordinance require that you connect to an available central sewer system within 365 days of written notice that service is available to your property.

Violations of this ordinance may be enforced by the following remedies, which are cumulative and may be pursued simultaneously or consecutively:

- (1) Code enforcement action pursuant to Chapter 2 Article VIII of the Sarasota County Code for which each day or fraction thereof that the violation continues shall be considered a separate offense;
- (2) Treated as a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, punishment by a fine not to exceed five hundred dollars (\$500.00) and/or imprisonment in the County Jail not to exceed sixty (60) days or any other remedy available under the law;
- (3) Complaint for injunctive relief filed in the Twelfth Judicial Circuit in the State of Florida;
- (4) Termination of any current utility service being provided by Sarasota County to the property until such time as compliance is achieved;
- (5) Any other civil or criminal remedy available at law.

Q Whose responsibility is it to pay for the connection cost?

A The property owner(s).

Q Are there any exceptions to this requirement?

A No. Connection is mandatory for anyone receiving official notification that service is available to the property. Failure to comply as required in the ordinance may result in code enforcement procedures against the property owner. See above remedies for Sarasota County Ordinance No. 2006-093.

Q What if I have more than one tank on my property?

A All tanks must be abandoned. On-site Sewage Treatment and Disposal System means a system subject to Department of Health Rule 64E-6, F.A.C., that contains a standard subsurface, filled, or mound drainfield system; a septic tank, an aerobic treatment unit; a laundry wastewater system; a grease interceptor; a dosing tank; a solids or effluent pump; a waterless, incinerating or organic waste-composting toilet; or a sanitary pit privy.

Q What do I have to do to connect to central sewer?

A Sarasota County will notify you in writing when service is available in your area and will provide information you need to establish your sewer account with Sarasota County Environmental Services. The county will also provide details on abandoning your septic system and connecting your house to the central system.

Q Do you have a list of plumbers we can contact to make the sewer connection for us?

A A plumbers list is provided under the construction process section. This list is not intended to imply endorsement. Any licensed plumber is qualified to perform this work.

Q When can I expect to hook up?

A A projected schedule is provided with the map showing areas to be served. More information is available for each area by clicking on the map.

Q On which side of the street will you construct the sewer lines?

A The county will hire an engineering firm to design each phase of the program. The engineering firm will determine where sewer collection lines will be placed and where connection points will be located. In general, sewer lines will be installed along the side of the road. As a property owner, you will be offered several opportunities to discuss the design with the engineer. During construction, every effort will be made to avoid or repair disruption to driveways and landscaping.

Q If roads, driveways, sidewalks or mailboxes are affected by construction, will the county fix the damage?

A Yes. The county requires that the area be restored to its original, or better, condition. Some landscaping may not be saved or replaced if it is located in the right-of-way. Homeowners with site-specific concerns will be able to discuss them with the engineer during the design phase.

Q How long will my street be disrupted by construction?

A That depends on many factors, including weather, the number of connections on the street, and the sewer technology installed. Generally, a street may be disrupted for construction from three to four weeks; however, conditions may require more time.

Q What are the candy-cane shaped or gas vent cap-style pipes installed in front yards?

A The pipes are an air intake that allows the system to "breathe" and are an important part of the system. They should not be covered. Camouflaging bird baths or fake rock coverings which sit over

the structure don't allow for sufficient air. The placement and concealment of this device should be a discussion between the property owner and a licensed plumber since this is work done on private property. Painting of the PVC does work but requires maintenance re-coating over time. Residents have purchased camouflaging paint at their local hardware store to make it blend into the landscape. Some homeowners instruct their plumbers to use a pigmented vent piece (typically a very dark green) that blends into grass or shrubbery. Many homeowners will just instruct the plumber to install the air intake near existing landscaping and then increase plants in the vicinity.

Q For homes using wells for drinking water, will central water be provided at the same time the sewer system is installed?

A In most cases, central water will be made available, but the connection will not be mandatory. For information on costs, call Utilities Customer Service at 861-6790.

Q Will other services and neighborhood improvements, like stormwater management, sidewalks or streetlights, be included with the sewer construction?

A There are no plans to construct additional improvements, except those already included in the county's Capital Improvement Program. Neighborhoods with specific needs or desires may contact Customer Service at 861-5000, for referral to the appropriate county representative.

Q How will the county address vacant lots?

A A future connection will be provided for during design and construction of the collection system. The capacity fee will not be levied until a home is built and connected to the central sewer system. The non-ad valorem fee and potential surcharge (see "Customer Costs" information) may be instituted while the lot is still vacant and would be due for payment similar to any other non-ad valorem fee that may be associated with the property.