

## **REPAIR OF WATER LEAKS OR SEWER LINE LEAKS ON PRIVATE PROPERTY**

Many times we get calls from town residents telling us that they have a water line leak or a sewer line leak and the caller expects the City of Petersburg to fix their problem.

While the City recognizes that the average homeowner does not have the capability to repair their sewer or water leaks the City is not in the business of performing plumbing repairs and does not repair plumbing leaks on private property or that are the responsibility of the homeowner.

The homeowner is responsible for any water leak from the point where the homeowner's water line connects to the water meter and then proceeds to the residence. The City is responsible for any leak in the meter itself or in the water line that goes from the water meter to the City's main water line. The City is also responsible for any leak in the main water distribution line.

For sewer line problems the City is responsible for the main sewer line and the homeowner is responsible for all parts of the homeowner's sewer line including where it connects to the City's main line.

In the past the City has made repairs to sections of lines that the homeowner was responsible for and the homeowner then failed to pay the City for the repairs. Therefore, the City has changed its policy and now requires the homeowner to sign the attached Water/Sewer Repair Agreement before the City will dig up the connection near the water meter or dig up where the sewer line connects to the City's main trunk line to ascertain the problem.

The attached Agreement requires the homeowner to make a \$250.00 deposit before the City will dig up the area and the homeowner also agrees by signing the Agreement that they will pay for any repair if the leak is on that section of line that is the homeowners responsibility.

If the City digs up the water meter or sewer connection and the problem is on the City's side of the water meter or if the problem is on the City's main sewer line then the City will make the repairs and the homeowner will not be charged for the repairs and the homeowner's deposit will be refunded in its entirety.