

By law, all properties are required to connect to the rectified sewer system. **The deadline to connect is Dec. 20, 2019.** There will be no exceptions. The following overview has been provided to assist you in completing the connection process. For questions regarding this process contact the Franklin County Department of Sanitary Engineering (FCSE) Permits Desk at 614-525-4757.

1. A qualified contractor who is approved by the City of Columbus Department of Public Utilities (DPU) to work on sewer systems is required to connect the property to the sanitary sewer system and to decommission the septic tank. This may require two separate contractors although there may be some who work on both systems. The most current approved sewer contractor list can be found at: <https://ca.columbus.gov/CA/>. (Scroll down the page to General Information/Search for a Contractor. On the next page, search under the License Type drop down menu, select Sewer Contractor or Sewer/Water Contractor and fill in the information to see the list of contractors.) You may also request the list be emailed to you by contacting FCSE.
2. Franklin County Public Health (FCPH) regulates the abandonment of septic tanks. You will be required to coordinate an inspection with FCPH to ensure the septic tank was abandoned properly. They are located on the same floor as FCSE at 280 East Broad Street, 2nd Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215. Please make sure the proper forms and permits are obtained. (See item 5 below.) For more information, call 614-525-3160 or email fcph@franklincountyohio.gov.
3. We encourage you to obtain three (3) separate quotes and consider teaming with your neighbors to obtain a group quote from a contractor that will help reduce costs.
4. Plumbing code states there must be a minimum of 10 feet between your sewer lateral and any surrounding water service. Your contractor may provide additional information.
 - a. You must apply for a sanitary sewer permit with FCSE. (See item 2 for address.)
 - b. You must file in person. Alternatively, your contractor may file on your behalf; however, we must have a letter from you stating that they have your permission to act on your behalf.
 - c. You must have your septic system abandonment form at the time you apply for the sanitary sewer permit. This is obtained from FCPH. They are located in the same building as FCSE. (See item 2 for address.)
 - d. It is assumed that all residences are currently connected to well water. As such, your contractor will need to purchase a water meter to be installed on your existing well line as part of the sanitary sewer connection process for sewer usage billing. The water meter must be purchased from an outside vendor and must be compatible with DPU's water meter specifications. For more information, call DPU at 614-645-8275. If your home is not connected to well water and is currently connected to City of Columbus water, your existing water meter can be used for sewer usage billing. FCSE does not charge for or provide water meters in this service area. FCSE will provide the water meter read to DPU at the time you connect to the rectified sewer system to inform the City of when your sewer service began.

- 5. Full payment of all permit, inspection and meter fees is required at the time of obtaining the permit. Checks or cash are the only payment method.** Make checks payable to: Franklin County Department of Sanitary Engineering. Fee summary:

Description Fees	Fees
Capacity Charge	\$3,348
Inspection	\$85
Total	\$3,433

- 6.** You will be required to purchase a meter if you are currently on a well. (See item 4(d).)
- 7.** If you believe you may qualify for low income assistance, please contact Benjamin Amick with Amick Consulting Group, LLC at 614-282-2959 or benjamin@amickconsulting.com for more information. There are several criteria to be met. If qualified, Amick Consulting and FCSE will discuss the terms of the qualification and will solicit a contractor to perform the work, including septic tank abandonment.
- 8.** At the appropriate time, your contractor will coordinate with FCSE to inspect the proper installation of the sewer lateral and to read your water meter. Access will be required to both the outside and inside of your home to complete the inspection. A separate inspection may be needed for your septic tank abandonment through FCPH.
- 9.** Billing for sewer services will be handled via DPU. You can refer to their customer page at <http://tinyurl.com/ogtg5al>. This area is considered an outside rate area (County Rural) and also subject to a County surcharge. From the City's customer page, income-based and senior discount programs are offered, as well as information to reduce utility bills through conservation, high bill investigation and more.