

INTERCEPTOR SYSTEM MASTER PLAN FAQ

Q: What is an Interceptor?

An Interceptor is a pipe which conveys wastewater. In Northeast Wisconsin, sewer pipes can be broken down into three categories: 1) Homeowner. These sanitary sewer laterals start at your house and flow into the sanitary sewer collector system; 2) Municipal. This is a system of pipes runs along streets, providing a connection point for homeowner laterals; 3) NEW Water. These interceptors collect wastewater from the collector systems.

Q: How many miles of interceptors does NEW Water own and maintain?

NEW Water is a wholesale provider of services to 18 municipal customers. NEW Water's service area is approximately 220,000 people, and covers a 285-square mile area. NEW Water's sanitary interceptor system incorporates: 78 miles of gravity sewer, 25 miles of force main; 13 lift stations, 22 permanent metering stations.

Q: What is an Interceptor System Master Plan (ISMP)?

It's a comprehensive survey of our existing sanitary sewer interceptor system. The Plan will assess the condition of existing system, and consider future needs of the system. Part of the ISMP is to provide a 20-year capital improvement plan to help guide what capital projects should be considered. In the Greater Green Bay area, some of the NEW Water interceptors were constructed as early as the 1930s. Infrastructure is aging, and NEW Water wants to take a proactive approach to tackle these issues.

Q: Why is NEW Water doing an Interceptor Master Plan?

NEW Water is undertaking an ISMP to allow NEW Water to plan for and meet customers' desired service levels at an acceptable level of risk and at the lowest life cycle costs.

Q: What does the Project entail?

This multi-phased Project encompasses various components, including: evaluating the existing system, installing flow monitors at strategic locations throughout the area, looking at inflow and infiltration (clear water leaking into pipes), conducting hydraulic modeling of the system (which will utilize a computer model that will be calibrated according to flow monitoring), harnessing data collected from televising. Based on the information collected, capital projects will be established and prioritized.

Q: Does NEW Water televise its pipes? Does televising help assess the interceptors?

Yes. NEW Water televises its interceptor system every five years, undertaking 20% of the system per year. Televising allows NEW Water to detect defects in the system, which NEW Water categorizes, then can then fix. During televising, a "defect code" is assessed each defect, which is fed into a database. That database will help inform the work of the ISMP.

Q: What is the duration of the ISMP Project?

Approximately 2.5 years.

Q: How can I find out more?

NEW Water will continuously update the ISMP page of the website throughout the course of the project: www.newwater.us/projects/interceptor-system-master-plan.