

## ***Millcreek Township's Sanitary Sewer System***

Sanitary sewer service is one many of us take for granted, but is very important to our quality of life and the use and value of our properties.

### *Millcreek's Sanitary Sewer System*

Millcreek's sanitary sewer system is owned by the Millcreek Township Sewer Authority, but under lease and management agreements in effect since the Authority's creation in the 1950's, is managed and operated by Millcreek Township. The Authority and the Township play important roles in the growth and operation of the sewer system and work closely with one another.

The Authority is responsible for projects to extend public sewer lines and expand their capacity, and assists the Township in administration. The Township's Sewer Department is responsible for inspections and maintenance of, and repairs to the system. Millcreek's Sewer Revenue Department is responsible for billing and collection of sewer rental that pays for the substantial costs of our system.

### *Inter-Municipal Sewer System*

Millcreek's sanitary sewer system, like those in Fairview Township, Summit Township, Harborcreek Township and other "tributary" communities, directs flows to the City of Erie for treatment. Tributary sewer systems like Millcreek's pay to the City of Erie charges for transportation and treatment of their sewerage flows, and also contribute toward the City's costs of administration and capital projects that allow it to receive and treat other municipalities' flows.

Like other municipalities, Millcreek's sewer system has paid for certain "capacity" in the City's system - or a designated volume of peak flows from each point at which flows from Millcreek enter the City's system. This capacity was established in the mid 1990's and was intended to accommodate future growth in Millcreek's system. If Millcreek's peak flows exceed its designated capacity, it can be liable for surcharges to the City.

### *System Costs*

Costs of Millcreek's sanitary sewer system and its maintenance, operation and expansion are paid by sewer rental paid by owners of properties using the system. The principal costs of the system are charges paid to the City of Erie for transportation and treatment of sewerage flows and toward the City's capital and administrative costs. System users also pay for the Township's and the Authority's administrative, repair, inspection and maintenance services and interest and principal on bonds issued to finance improvements to Millcreek's system.

### *Other Information*

This section includes information on *Regulations Governing the Sanitary Sewer System*, *Unlawful Connections*, *The 2003 COA with PaDEP*, *Identifying and Terminating Unlawful Connections* and *Frequently Asked Questions*.