



**TOWN OF TORBAY**

**WATER AND SEWER BREAKAGE**

**AND**

**BLOCKAGE BY-LAW**

Revised March 2026



TOWN OF TORBAY  
WATER AND SEWER BREAKAGE AND BLOCKAGE BY-LAW

**CAME INTO EFFECT:** The Water and Sewer Breakage and Blockage By-law came into effect and were adopted by Motion of Council this   14   day of   April   2026.

Motion No.:   RES-93-2025  

Craig Scott  
Mayor

Kim Osmond  
Town Clerk

TOWN OF TORBAY		
WATER AND SEWER BREAKAGE AND BLOCKAGE BY-LAW		
Original Adoption to align with new Towns and Local Service Districts Act, 2023	March 31, 2025 – Motion # RES-93-2025	Rev 0
	March 2026 – Motion # RES-XX-2026	Rev 1

Pursuant to the authority conferred in section 8 of the *Towns and Local Service Districts Act, 2023*, the Town Council of The Town of Torbay has adopted the following by-law on March 31, 2025.

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## **1.0 TITLE**

This document will be known and cited as *Water and Sewer Breakage and Blockage By-law*.

## **2.0 PURPOSE**

The purpose of this By-law is to provide guidance to Town staff and residents in relation to water and sewer line breaks and or blockages.

This By-law reflects the current and past practice of the Town in relation to water and sewer line breaks and or blockages.

## **3.0 PROCESS**

- 3.1 When the Town is made aware of a potential break or blockage within a water or sewer line, it will first investigate the situation to try and determine where the issue is located.
- 3.2 If the sewer line blockage is determined to be in the service line within the Town's right of way, the Town may complete the work and back charge the property owner for all costs incurred, or the property owner may choose to complete the repair themselves. All work must be inspected prior to backfilling.
- 3.3 If the sewer line blockage is determined to be in the service line inside the residence's property line (on private property) then the resident is responsible for having it repaired at their own cost. This work will not be completed by the Town.
- 3.4 If the resident endures a cost to determine the location of the sewer line breakage or blockage and it is determined that it is not in the service line, then the Town will reimburse the resident for that cost. Original receipts must be provided.
- 3.5 If the water line break is determined to be in the service line or is a curb stop issue within the Town's right of way, it will be repaired by the Town.
- 3.6 If the water line break is determined to be in the service line inside the residence's property line (on private property) then the resident is responsible for having it repaired at their own cost. This work will not be completed by the Town.

- 3.7 Any breakage or blockage must be repaired within a **two-week** time frame. If the work isn't completed within that time frame the Town will complete the work and back charge the property owner for all costs incurred. This is to ensure a limited amount of water loss occurs and to limit damage to the environment. If the resident prevents the Town from completing the work, all services to the property will be turned off.
- 3.8 All work being completed to repair a break or blockage must be inspected by the Town prior to backfilling. If backfilling occurs prior to inspection, it is the property owner's responsibility to excavate the pipe for inspection. Any extra costs incurred by the Town will be charged back to the property owner.
- 3.9 If damage occurs as a result of the break or blockage, then both parties will be responsible to contact their respective insurance companies to determine liabilities.

#### **4.0 LOSS OR DAMAGE**

The Town shall not be responsible for any loss or damage from flooding water occasioned by rainstorms, thaws, or breakage, or blockage of any water main or sewer of form any cause over which the Town has no control.