

# INTEGRATED WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT, LLC

## **User Manual – Gravity System**

Congratulations on purchasing your new home! Your home is connected to a private sewer system operated by Integrated Wastewater Management, LLC, (IWMI).

The rate is set by the tariff approved by the Alabama Public Service Commission and cannot change without their approval.

It is your responsibility to maintain the tank and any sewer equipment located on your property. It is also your responsibility to provide electricity to the pump control and alarm panel mounted on your house.

### **What do I do if there is a problem with the sewer?**

If the sewer is backing up in your house, there are a couple of things to check first.

Is it only one sink or toilet? If so, it is probably a plumbing problem in your house. You should call a licensed plumber to help you fix the plumbing problem or clear the clogged line in your house.

If you see sewage coming out of the green pump tank lid or the cleanout, that is located between your home and the tank.

Contact IWMI or a local licensed service provider.

### **How does the sewer system work?**

The sewer system includes an interceptor tank. Sewage is conveyed by gravity from your house to the interceptor tank. Liquid waste then flows by gravity to the sewer system treatment plant. Solid waste will remain in the interceptor tank where it naturally degrades and is eventually pumped out.

If you suspect that your tank may need maintenance, please give us a call. We will be glad to inspect your tank and guide you on actions needed.

## **Use water efficiently!**

Average indoor water use in the typical single-family home is about 175 gallons per day. Dripping faucets can waste as much as 2,000 gallons of water each year and leaky toilets can waste as much as 200 gallons each day. The more water a household conserves, the less water enters the sewer system.

## **Flush responsibly**

Be careful with undesirable substances that could be flushed into the sewer. Never flush dental floss, fats, cooking oils or grease, feminine hygiene products, condoms, disposable diapers, wipes, paper towels, cotton swabs, cigarette butts, coffee grounds, cat litter, mud, sand straw, metal shavings or other items that can clog and potentially damage the sewer system. These items should be disposed of in your garbage can.

Never flush household chemicals, photographic developing chemicals, gasoline, oil, pesticides, antifreeze, and paint or paint thinner. These items can create hazardous conditions for maintenance personnel. These items should be taken to the appropriate local hazardous materials handling or recycling station.

Please do not add any additives like Rid-X to your system.

## **Minimize Use of Garbage Disposals**

The use of garbage disposal is not recommended.

Using your garbage disposal increases the amount of Fats, Oils, Grease, and solids entering the tank. This increases the frequency of required maintenance/ repairs to your equipment.

## **Keep rainwater out of the system!**

Watch out for rain drains or storm drains that may flow in the direction of the sewer system. Additional water depletes the available capacity of the sewer system, adds needlessly to the daily volume of the water that the treatment plant must process, and increases costs for everyone.

## **Report vandalism to IWMI**

We want to make sure that any vandalism hasn't caused some underlying malfunction to the system that may not be immediately apparent.

## **Maintain your own plumbing**

You are responsible for maintaining the plumbing in your house and the sewer line that runs from your house to the interceptor tank.

## **Do not damage or tamper with your tank or sewer lines**

Do not attempt to enter your tank or remove the green access lid! The sewer environment creates gases that can cause illness, unconsciousness or death. If your lid has been removed or damaged, let us know and we will repair it in a timely manner.

Do not drive your vehicle or any heavy machinery over the lid or surface of your tank or over any buried components of your system. If there is a chance of vehicular traffic over your system, construct a barrier or plant rows of shrubs that would block this traffic. You are responsible to pay for any repairs for damage that you cause to the sewer system.

## **Call before you dig**

The telephone number of the Alabama One Call utility location service is 811 and IWMI (205) 532-0745. If you need to dig in your yard, please call both numbers to have your utilities located. The utilities that have underground facilities in your area will come to surface mark their lines. This is the law!

## **Unpermitted sewer work is dangerous and against the law**

For your own safety. If your sewer system needs repair, please call IWMI or a licensed service provider to schedule a repair time. Please be sure to put pets in the house during times when service personnel are servicing the sewer equipment.

f TYPICAL LOT - SEWER PLAN  
FIELDSTOWN CROSSING

THE HOMEOWNER IS RESPONSIBLE FOR  
MAINTENANCE OF THE GRAVITY SEWER  
LINES IN THE HOUSE AND FROM THE HOUSE  
TO THE INTERCEPTOR TANK

