



## **Private Service Line Defect Remediation (PSLDR) Program** **Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) Application**

The City of Fort Smith ("City") has entered into a Consent Decree with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). As a part of the Consent Decree, the City has developed an assistance program to repair homeowners' broken sewer lines. This packet contains important information about the Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) and the necessary forms to apply for assistance with the cost of your private service line repair/replacement.

### **How to Apply**

#### **1. Review the following and keep for your records:**

- *Financial Qualifications for Participation in the SEP*
- *Attachment A – 2018 Income Limits Summary*
- *Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) – Qualified Plumbers*

#### **2. Complete or gather the following items and return to the Private Service Line Program:**

- Attachment B – SEP Application (pages 1 and 2)
- Copy of Property Deed
- Property Tax Receipt
- Proof of Income

### **What Happens Next**

The Utility Department will review your completed application upon receipt. We will notify you if your application is approved or denied. If approved, you will need to:

- Choose a plumber from the enclosed list of qualified plumbers.
- Advise the plumber that you are applying for assistance from the City of Fort Smith SEP funds and schedule a service call.
- Notify us of your plumber selection.

We will also contact your selected plumber to validate your claim and provide to them appropriate forms and contracts.

### **To submit your application or ask questions about the program, please contact:**

Fort Smith Utility Department  
Attn: Private Service Line Program  
801 Carnall Ave, Suite 500  
Fort Smith AR 72901  
Phone: (479) 494-3907  
Email: [PrivateServiceLine@FortSmithAR.gov](mailto:PrivateServiceLine@FortSmithAR.gov)

**More information is available at <http://fortsmithwater.org/psldr/>:**

The Consent Decree

Private Service Line Rules and Regulations

Fort Smith Code Section 25-11

Fort Smith Code Section 25-185(h)

Fort Smith Code Section 25-186(a)

Fort Smith Code Section 25-4

Fort Smith Code Section 25-5

This notice is regarding the City's Private Service Line Defect Remediation Program and the Supplemental Environmental Project. This project was undertaken in conjunction with the settlement of an enforcement action, United States et al. v. City of Fort Smith, (C.A. No. 2-14-cv-02266-PKH, W.D. Ark.), taken on behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency under the Clean Water Act.

**Financial Qualifications for  
Participation in City of Fort Smith  
Private Service Line Defect Remediation Program (“Program”)  
Supplemental Environmental Project (“SEP”)**

The City’s Wastewater Collection and Transmission System (“WCTS”) becomes a conduit for storm water when defective Private Service Lines allow rain or groundwater to enter the WCTS. The purpose of this Supplemental Environmental Project (“SEP”) is to reduce extraneous flows, including inflow and infiltration caused by defects in private service lines serving residences from entering the WCTS through Private Service Lines. This project was undertaken in conjunction with the settlement of an enforcement action, United States et al. v. City of Fort Smith, (C.A. No. 2-14-cv-02266-PKH, W.D. Ark.), taken on behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency under the Clean Water Act. For purposes of this SEP, a defective private service line is any Private Service Line connected to the WCTS that allows the introduction of extraneous flow or debris, such as storm water, surface water runoff, ground water, roof runoff or root intrusion.

Beginning on January 1, 2016, the City shall spend at least \$400,000 of eligible SEP funds for the repair and/or replacement of Private Service Lines for eligible residential property owners when the City discovers a Private Service Line in need of repair or replacement. Eligible SEP costs are only the costs of performing repair or replacement work, by either City employees or private contractors/plumbers on Private Service Lines owned by private residential customers who reside on the subject property.

The average cost of the services on each private residential property is estimated to range from \$1,500 to \$2,500 for repair or replacement of a defective Private Service Line. Actual cost will depend on length of Private Service Lines, surface and sub-surface interferences to the Private Service Lines, and other relevant factors.

Residential property owners must meet the financial guidelines of family income (Attachment A) in order to qualify for SEP payment of the costs of the Private Sewer Line defect remediation for their homes. The financial guidelines are based on 2018 information identifying moderate, low, and very low income residential property owners.

The Financial Qualifications for the SEP are a part of the City’s Private Service Line Defect Remediation Program (“Program”) now being developed and, therefore, are subject to all restrictions and limitations stated in the Program.

All applicants for the SEP shall complete and provide to the City the application, required submittals and certification (Attachment B).

SEP eligibility shall be determined on the basis of the Program, these financial qualifications, the application (with submittals) and all other available relevant information.

December 31, 2015\*  
City of Fort Smith, Arkansas

\*Amended June 1, 2018 to substitute Attachment A based on 2018 income information from HUD for Fort Smith Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA).

# Attachment A

## Fort Smith, Arkansas

### 2018 Income Limits Summary

#### Maximum Family Income to Qualify for SEP Eligibility

| Income<br>Limit Category | 1<br>Person | 2<br>Person | 3<br>Person | 4<br>Person | 5<br>Person | 6<br>Person | 7<br>Person | 8<br>Person |
|--------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Moderate (80%)           | \$29,650    | \$33,850    | \$38,100    | \$42,300    | \$45,700    | \$49,100    | \$52,500    | \$55,850    |
| Low (50%)                | \$18,550    | \$21,200    | \$23,850    | \$26,450    | \$28,600    | \$30,700    | \$32,800    | \$34,950    |
| Very Low (30%)           | \$12,140    | \$16,460    | \$20,780    | \$25,100    | \$28,600    | \$30,700    | \$32,800    | \$34,950    |

In the event that more eligible residents apply for the SEP than there are funds available, preference shall be given to eligible very low income residents, then eligible low income residents, and then eligible moderate income residents.

**Attachment B**  
**City of Fort Smith**  
**Private Service Line Defect Remediation Program**  
**Supplemental Environmental Project Application**

Homeowner: \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_ City: Fort Smith State: Arkansas Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing (if different from above) \_\_\_\_\_ City: Fort Smith State: Arkansas Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Head of Household:  Male  Female Property status:  Paid in Full  
 Mortgaged

Please use the space below to fill out the information for ALL persons living in your home. You do not need to include yourself in the section below. Please note anyone living in your household ages 18 or older must show proof of income.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate (if 18 or over): \_\_\_\_\_

Disabled?  Yes  No

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate (if 18 or over): \_\_\_\_\_

Disabled?  Yes  No

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate (if 18 or over): \_\_\_\_\_

Disabled?  Yes  No

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate (if 18 or over): \_\_\_\_\_

Disabled?  Yes  No

Total Residents in Household: \_\_\_\_\_

# What do I need to turn in with my application?

The following documents must be submitted with your SEP application:

- Copy of Property Deed. In order to apply for the SEP, a filed deed in the applicant's name must be provided. Unfortunately if you, the homeowner, cannot produce a deed in your name, we will not be able to process the SEP application.
  
- Property Tax Receipt. Not to be confused with a personal property tax receipt (vehicle), a property tax receipt will show that the taxes on your home are paid in full. If you have homestead status and/or are exempt in any way from paying property taxes, a receipt can still be obtained at the County Courthouse and must be provided with your application.

Proof of Income\* Qualification for the SEP is family income\* based. Income must be reported for the applicant as well as anyone residing in the house over the age of 18 years old.

Provide the following:

- A. Your most recent IRS 1040 Series OR the IRS 1040 EZ form for individual Federal annual income tax purposes. The tax form submitted must be dated and signed.

– or –

- B. Three consecutive months of income source documentation which can include the following: Social Security Benefits Statement; Pay Stubs for Wages, Salaries and Tips earned and Bank Statements, Unemployment Compensation Statements, etc.

\*The following are considered income: Wages, salaries, tips, taxable interest, dividend income, taxable refunds/credits/offsets of state/local income taxes, alimony received, business income, capital gain, other gains, taxable amount of IRA distributions, taxable amount of pensions and annuities, rental real estate, royalties, partnerships, trusts, etc., farm income, unemployment compensation, taxable amount of Social Security benefits and any other income.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, certify that I have read and completed the above application to the best of my knowledge. I understand that it is a program requirement that I own and reside in my home within the city limits of Fort Smith. I also understand that my home will not qualify for the SEP if I have purchased it under a contract for sale. I must occupy this property as my principal residence. I also understand that by failing to turn in a completed application, deed, proof of income and a property tax receipt my application will be incomplete and shall be considered ineligible.

Applicant Signature:

Date:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



**SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECT (SEP) - QUALIFIED PLUMBERS**

| BUSINESS NAME                             | CONTACT NAME        | ADDRESS              | CITY       | STATE | ZIP   | BUSINESS PHONE | EMAIL                           |
|-------------------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|------------|-------|-------|----------------|---------------------------------|
| Blaylock Plumbing Services                | Matt Blaylock       | 1900 N O Street      | Fort Smith | AR    | 72901 | (479) 782-8940 | blaylock@blaylockhvac.com       |
| Bobbys Plumbing Service, Inc.             | Bobby Campbell      | 12518 Windy Acres Pt | Fort Smith | AR    | 72916 | (479) 648-3749 |                                 |
| Borengasser Plumbing Inc.                 | Aaron T Borengasser | PO Box 5131          | Fort Smith | AR    | 72913 | (479) 424-1208 | borengasserplumbing@cox.net     |
| Circle W Plumbing                         | Sean Wright         | 10211 W Hwy 96       | Hartford   | AR    | 72938 | (479) 806-7555 | cowpuncher73@gmail.com          |
| Elite Plumbing                            | Jason Payton        | PO Box 6224          | Fort Smith | AR    | 72906 | (479) 646-7747 | jkpayton@rocketmail.com         |
| May Avenue Plumbing                       | Mark Chamberlain    | 1514 May Avenue      | Fort Smith | AR    | 72901 | (479) 782-9918 | amhosier@yahoo.com              |
| Mr. Rooter Plumbing of Greater Fort Smith | Steve Nichols       | PO Box 7167          | Van Buren  | AR    | 74956 | (479) 262-6261 | mrrootersteve@yahoo.com         |
| River Valley Plumbing                     | James Bernard       | 4151 Antler Dr       | Greenwood  | AR    | 72936 | (479) 452-8889 | rvp8889@yahoo.com               |
| Westark Plumbing                          | Michelle Cernak     | PO Box 6089          | Fort Smith | AR    | 72906 | (479) 646-5151 | bookkeeper@westark-plumbing.com |

Updated 3/7/18