

Bolton Lakes Sewer Project

Sewer Project Costs

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What Will the Bolton Lakes Sewer Project Cost?

The current cost to construct the sewer system is estimated at \$21.7 million.

How is the Sewer Going to Be Paid For?

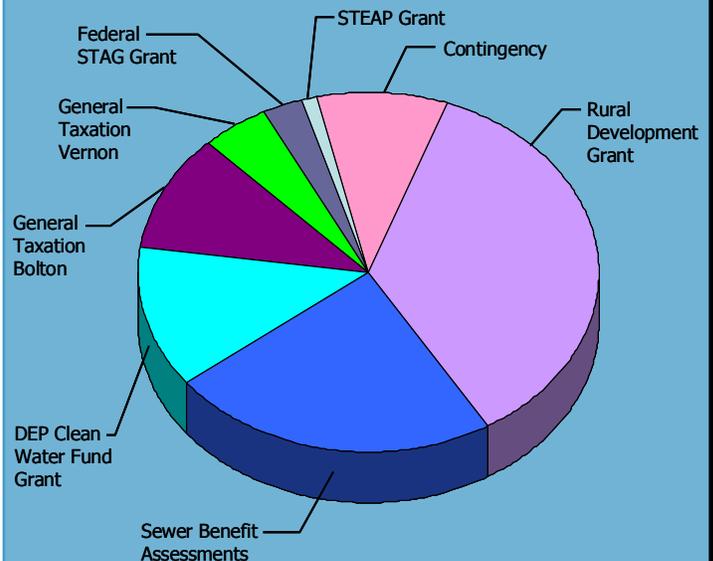
The Bolton Lakes Regional Water Pollution Control Authority (BLRWPCA) and the Towns of Bolton and Vernon have worked hard to line up significant grant and loan funding assistance for the sewer project. Funding for this project is expected to come from 7 different sources:

1. *The Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection Clean Water Fund* - which will be providing grants and long term (20 year) loans
2. *The United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development Program* - which will be providing grants and short term loans
3. *The Federal Environmental Protection Agency* - which will be providing a grant from the State and Tribal Grant (STAG) Program
4. *The Small Town Economic Assistance Program* - which will be providing grants to the Town of Bolton for use in constructing the sewer project
5. The *users of the system* through sewer benefit assessments
6. *The Town of Bolton* will provide some funding via taxes
7. *The Town of Vernon* will provide some funding via taxes

Capital Costs

The capital costs are the one-time costs associated with constructing and starting up the sewer system. These include the low pressure sewers, grinder pumps and service connections, the gravity sewer at the western part of the project, the connection fees for using the Town of Manchester sewer system, the technical, legal and administrative costs and short term interest.

The DEP, USDA, STAG and STEAP grants will be applied to these capital costs to significantly reduce the "local share" of the costs, i.e. the portion borne by the users and the towns. Furthermore, the local share of the capital cost will be funded by long term loans (20 years at 2% interest for DEP's Clean Water Fund). These loans will be repaid through sewer benefit assessments and by a small tax increase to all tax payers of Bolton and Vernon as a result of the financing for this project. It has been estimated that the increase will be **0.33** mils in Bolton and **0.036** mils in Vernon.



Sewer benefit assessments will be levied on each property that has access to the sewer system, to cover a portion of the capital costs. The BLRWPCA has already set the sewer assessment amount at \$10,000 per "equivalent dwelling unit". (An equivalent dwelling unit, or EDU, is intended to be able to relate various types of property uses to the sewer use of a single family home.) The sewer assessment can be paid all at once or the BLRWPCA will finance this over the duration of its loans. The annual loan payment will be \$612 per year for 20 years.

Connecting to the Sewer System

Once the sewer system has been installed in your area, you will be notified to hook up to the system. You will be responsible for hiring a contractor to connect your building to the newly installed grinder pump and to crush and fill your existing septic tank per the BLRWPCA requirements. You will be responsible for these costs, which are estimated to be between \$1000 and \$2500.

Operating and Maintenance Costs

There are ongoing costs associated with operating and maintaining the low pressure sewer system and grinder pumps as well as the costs associated with the treatment of the wastewater in Manchester. An annual sewer usage fee will be charged to cover these operation and maintenance costs. This fee will be related to wastewater generation at each property, and since water use is generally not metered in the sewer service area, the charge will be based on estimated flows (e.g. the number of equivalent dwelling units). The BLRWPCA will bill each user of the system quarterly for these charges, which have been estimated at **\$130** per equivalent dwelling unit per quarter.

What Will I Have to Pay If I Am Served by the Sewer System?

If you own property within the Sewer Service Area you will pay your share of both the capital and operating costs of the system. Estimated costs for a single family home (one EDU) are shown; other users will pay in proportion to the number of EDUs assigned to their property.

Capital Costs:

Sewer Benefit Assessment \$10,000 or \$612/yr for 20 years
Town Tax Vernon **0.036** mils, Bolton **0.33** mils
Building Sewer Connection \$1,000 to \$2,500 one time cost

Ongoing Operation and Maintenance Costs:

Sewer Use Fee \$130/quarter
Grinder Pump Power \$20 - \$25/year

For More Information

Additional information is available on the BLRWPCA's website: www.blrwpc.com and sewer maps may be viewed at the Bolton Town Hall (Town Administrator's Office) and the Vernon Town Hall (WPCA Office)



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