Municipal Drain Maintenance & Billing Timeline

Understanding how municipal drain maintenance costs are assessed and billed

Municipal drain maintenance and billing occurs over multiple years. Following maintenance work, Haldimand County applies for available grant funding and calculates each property's share of the remaining costs based on the engineer's assessment schedule. **Becuase final costs cannot be determined until grant funding is received and assessments are finalized, charges may not appear on a property tax bill until one or more years after maintenance work is completed.**

Timeline

Spring/Fall - Year 1

Drain Maintenance Completed

- Notice of drainage works provided to affected landowners
- Maintenance work completed and drain functions restored

Fall/Winter - Year 2

Grant Received & Final Costs Calculated

- Maintenance grant received
- Final assessments calculated
- By-law prepared authorizing billing

February - Year 3

Assessment Added to Tax Roll

- Final assessment added to property tax account
- Collection process begins

Winter - Year 1

Capital Budget Approved

- Tax-supported capital budget approved
- Drain maintenance work awarded
- Initial notification sent to affected property owners

Spring - Year 2

Cost Assessment & Grant Application

- Estimated assessments shared with property owners
- Maintenance grant application submitted to OMAFRA

Winter - Year 2

Final Assessment Notice

- Property owners receive notice of their final assessment
- Payment and financing options provided, where applicable

"Why am I paying for drain maintenance?"

- Drains are maintained by the municipality under the Drainage Act
- Maintenance costs are shared among properties within the watershed
- Each property's share is determined using an engineer's assessment schedule
- Available grant funding helps offset a portion of the total maintenance cost before final assessments are issued

For information on how municipal drains are inspected, maintained, and managed through Haldimand County's ongoing maintenance program, see the **Municipal Drain Maintenance Lifecycle** reference guide