

## TREE ROOTS

in your sewer pipes



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Roots from trees growing on private property and on boulevards throughout Edmonton can cause flooded basements and damage sewer pipes. Homes built before the early 80's generally have sewer services constructed with clay tile pipe. Sewer water may leak out of the joints in these pipes providing trees with moisture to grow and thrive in the warm, nutrient-rich soil surrounding the pipe.

Once a sewer pipe is penetrated by tree roots it will continue to grow and separate the joint allowing more sewer water to escape creating a great environment for the roots to spread. Roots will also act as a filter in the sewer pipe allowing water to pass through but not any other items. Once enough material has collected at the roots the water flow is restricted causing it to back up in your basement.

Tree roots in pipes can be managed by auguring through the sewer pipe, this can be done by a certified plumber or by EPCOR. This is not a long term solution as the roots will continue to grow back and may eventually cause the pipe to collapse. This problem can be eliminated by relining or replacing the pipe.

