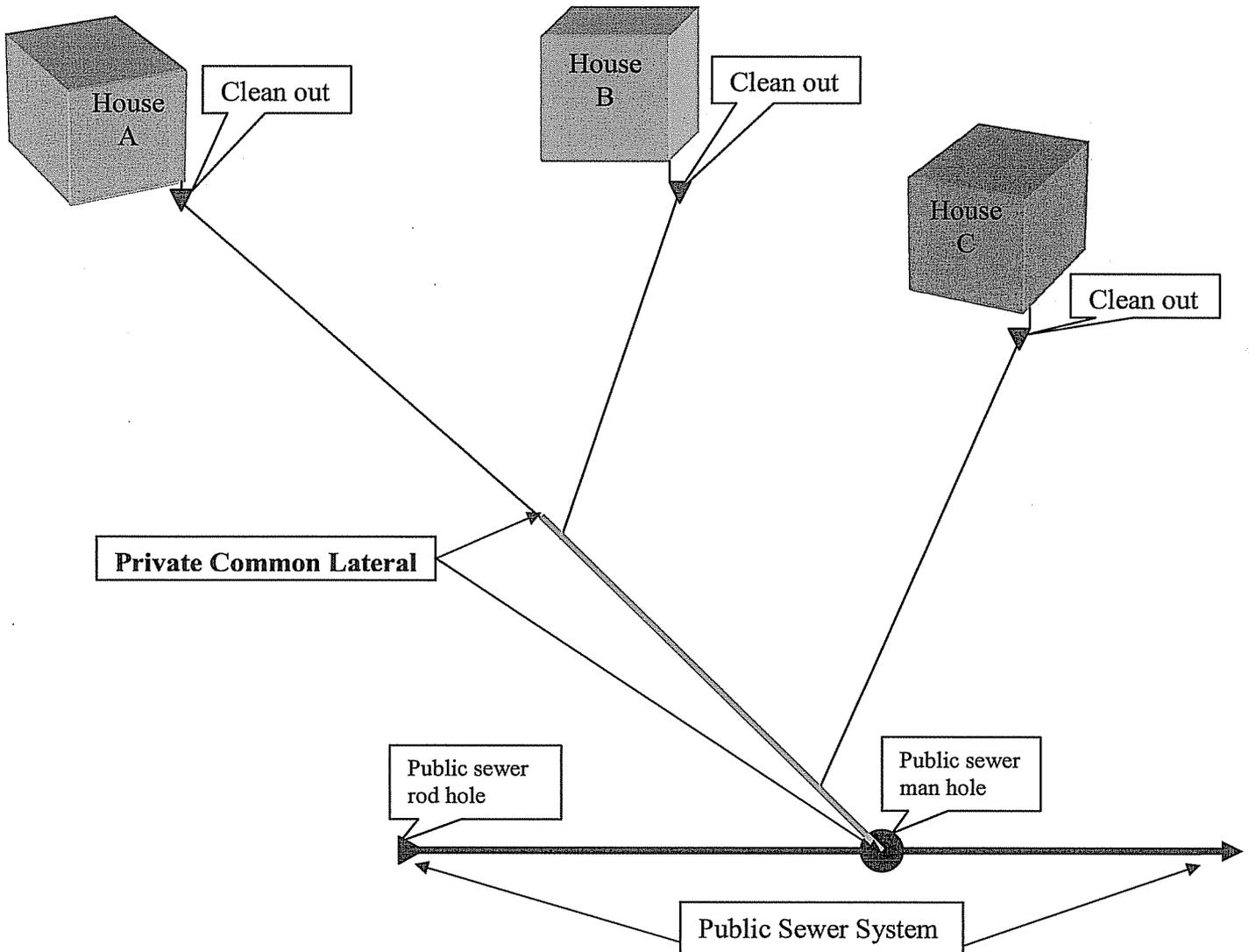


## What is a Private Common Lateral?



### The Common Dilemma of COMMON LATERALS

In the City of Sausalito there are several identified sewer lateral configurations known as private common laterals.

In many cases property owners have no idea they share a portion of a private common lateral.

The above diagram shows three houses with black lines leaving each house; these are the individual private side sewer laterals for each house.

Each property owner is responsible for (black lines from House A, B and C) their respective line.

***All homeowners who share a private common lateral (blue line) are responsible to provide proper access points to this line; not only for maintenance reasons, but for very important blow off release, if a sewage overflow occurs.***

All homeowners that share a private common lateral are responsible for cleaning the common portion of the line.

***Common dilemmas associated with private common laterals include:***

- Many property owners don't realize they are connected with other property owners' sewer lines, and in most cases the configuration is hydraulically under rated for peak flows.
- Many property owners, in most cases, don't realize there is minimal or no access to the common portion.
- Many common laterals were installed with little or no oversight; long before accurate records were kept.
- Some common laterals were created without proper authorization by homeowners or the City of Sausalito.
- Many common laterals are not in compliance with the California Plumbing Code and are not installed to City or County Specifications.

***The City of Sausalito Sewer System Coordinator suggests that a maintenance responsibility agreement between all current property owners that share common laterals be created.***

If you have any questions regarding Common Laterals please do not hesitate to contact the Sewer System Coordinator Pat Guasco.

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