

Maintenance Responsibilities for Water and Sewer Easements/Outfalls

Utility easements are normally a minimum of 20 feet wide for a single utility pipeline, and a minimum of 30 feet wide for pipes deeper than 16 feet. For multiple pipes, easements have a minimum of 10 feet of clearance on either side of each pipe.

Town Responsibilities. The Town of Hillsborough is responsible for maintaining water/sewer easements and/or outfalls by clearing the area of undergrowth, including trees and bushes, at least once per year. The Town is also responsible for any repairs to damages on property caused by the use of heavy equipment in clearing said easement/outfalls.

Customer Responsibilities. Property owners of land containing easements and/or outfalls are responsible for the upkeep, i.e. mowing, of their property on their own maintenance schedule. Furthermore, customers are to maintain sufficient clearances around town water and sewer apparatus located near and or on customer's property to enable access, operation, and maintenance of said apparatus. Clearance requirements are to be measured from the center point of the device (radius) as follows: a.) fire hydrants = three feet, b) manholes and concrete vaults = six feet, and c) water meters, valve boxes, sewer cleanouts, and other utilities apparatus not listed = two feet.

Additional information regarding technical specifications for utilities and sanitary sewer use can be found in Hillsborough's Town Code, Chapters 14 (Utilities) and 15 (Sanitary Sewer Use, at https://www.municode.com/library/nc/hillsborough/codes/code_of_ordinances).