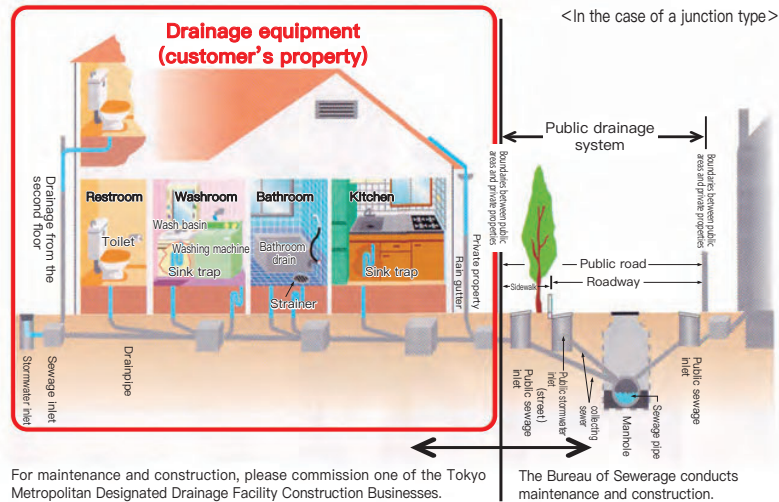


How Sewerage Systems Support Our Everyday Living



The sewerage system is composed mainly of 3 facilities: the sewage pipe system that collects and drains sewer water; the pump area that draws up the sewer water midway to keep the sewage pipe system from going too deep underground; and the Water Reclamation Center that processes and purifies the sewer water. All facilities are regularly tested, cleaned, and repaired to keep them working correctly.

Unclean water (sewage) from households and rainwater flow through the sewage pipe system via inlets, as pictured below. There are two ways to drain sewer water (sewage and rainwater): the combined sewerage system, and the separated system. In the combined sewerage system (pictured left), sewage and rainwater are sent to the Water Reclamation Center together in one pipe.

However, in the separated system, sewage and rainwater flow in separate pipes, with the sewage headed to the Water Reclamation Center and the rainwater headed straight to rivers and oceans. About 80% of Tokyo's 23 wards use the combined sewerage system.

Public Sewage Inlet

Public sewage inlets connect household drainpipes to the sewage pipe system, and are opened for cleaning the pipes or examining them for dirt or clogs.



Public Stormwater Inlet (street)

Public stormwater inlets allow rainwater to flow into the sewage pipe system from the street, and help prevent flooding. (There are large holes to facilitate the collection of rainwater from the street.)



The process from households and factories to rivers and oceans

