

Attacking Severe Root Problems

We all wish there was magic solution that you could just drop into a sewer line and have root problems just disappear instantly, but the fact of the matter is there is no product out there that will instantly disintegrate the roots upon contact. Here are a couple of options for attacking those severe root problems:

1. When you find you have a severe root problem causing a blockage, first you must cut or jet out the root mass. Then you can either treat the line with RootX within the first hour of cutting OR wait 6-8 weeks and then go back in and do a RootX treatment. Ideally the 6-8 week time frame is the best one, because treating new root growth is always preferred over treating newly damaged root tissue. Damaged tissue doesn't absorb the RootX at as high a rate as actively growing roots that are vigorously feeding.
2. Your second option for attacking severe root problems is to leave the root mass in place, if it's not causing a full blockage, and do a treatment without cutting the mass out.

Think of it like you are trying to spray to kill blackberry bushes. If you cut the blackberry bushes down and spray them, you are going to get a hit and miss spray coverage and in time you will see sporadic growth starting. If you spray those blackberry bushes when they are in full growth, they will completely absorb the herbicide and kill the whole bush. The one difference with RootX is that RootX is a *contact* herbicide, which means that it will only kill what it comes in contact with. So if you have some large root masses you may kill the outer layer of roots but you will need to do a subsequent RootX application to kill the remaining roots.

We would suggest doing a first RootX application to kill most of the roots then come back in in 2-3 months and jet or cut out all of the dead roots and reapply the RootX to kill off what is remaining and prevent that new growth. Just make sure to do an annual RootX application for 4 and 6 inch lines and an application every 2-3 years on 8 inch and larger lines.