

## WHAT IS INFLOW?

Inflow is storm water that enters the sanitary sewer system through the following:

- Footing drains
- Cistern roof collection systems
- Sump pumps
- Downspouts
- Yard drains

## WHAT IS INFILTRATION?

Infiltration occurs when ground water seeps into sewer pipes through cracks, leaky joints or deteriorated manholes.

## INFLOW AND INFILTRATION IS ILLEGAL!

The City Code specifically states that inflow and infiltration is illegal. It will cause:

- Basement sewer backups
- Sanitary sewer overflows
- Unnecessary treatment costs

## WHY IS THE CITY OF NEWTON SPENDING MONEY TO REDUCE I & I?

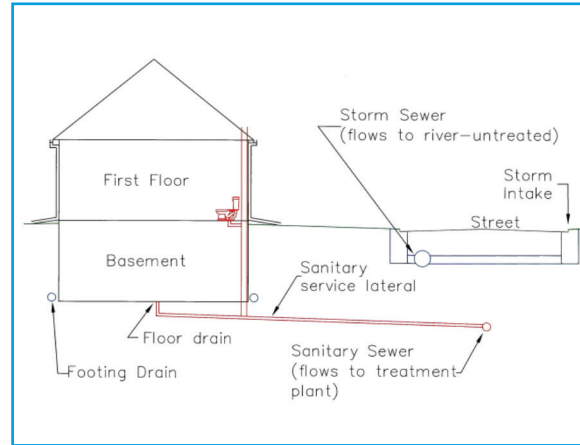
Compared to the cost of upsizing sewer pipe and building a larger wastewater treatment plant, reducing the amount of I & I in our sanitary sewer system is very beneficial for the long-term financial interest of every household, business and industry in the City.

## HOW WILL I KNOW THE INSPECTOR IS FROM THE CITY OF NEWTON?

The inspector will drive a vehicle with a City of Newton Logo on the door, will be wearing a City of Newton employee identification nametag.

**NOTE:** There must be an adult (age 18 or over) present at the property during the inspection.

## DEFINITIONS



**SANITARY SEWER:** an underground pipe system that carries wastewater from toilets, bathtubs, showers, and basement floor drains to the City of Newton's Water Pollution Control Plant to be treated and released to creeks and rivers.

**STORM SEWER:** a system designed for the purpose of carrying rainwater or melting snow to creeks and rivers. This water is not treated.

**STORM DRAIN/STORM INTAKE:** a drain that carries away excess rainwater or melting snow to the storm sewer system

**FOOTING DRAIN:** a drain tile along house foundation walls that collects groundwater to keep your basement dry.

**SUMP PUMP:** a pump located in a pit beneath the basement floor that pumps groundwater to the outside of a building to either a storm intake or storm sewer pipe.

**CISTERN:** a tank used to collect roof rainwater, often located in the basement or yard and the water is often used for washing clothes.

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## INFLOW & INFILTRATION PROGRAM



*A city-wide program to prevent sanitary sewer overflows and sewer back-ups by eliminating storm water and groundwater from entering the sanitary sewer system.*

Revised: 10-15-2021

## SANITARY SEWER CUSTOMERS KNOW YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES!

According to Newton's City Code:

It is illegal for sanitary sewer customers to discharge storm water, surface water, groundwater, roof runoff, subsurface drainage, (including interior and exterior foundation drains) uncontaminated commercial or industrial cooling water, or unpolluted industrial process waters to any sanitary sewer.

## WHAT ARE THE BASIC STEPS IN THE CITY OF NEWTON'S INFLOW AND INFILTRATION (I & I) PROGRAM?

1. A property owner calls the City to schedule an inspection.
2. City staff will perform initial inspections outside of the house/building and in the basement.
3. If there are illegal connections, the property owner obtains quotes and plans to have them removed.
4. The property owner submits the quotes and plans to the City for approval.
5. After approval, the property owner hires a contractor to have corrective work completed.
6. City inspector makes a final inspection of completed improvements.
7. City mails the property owner a *Notice of Compliance* and a *Reimbursement Application*.
8. The property owner pays contractor for completed work, returns a signed *Reimbursement Application* and any required supporting documentation to the City.
9. City mails reimbursement check to the property owner.

## WHAT MAY BE REIMBURSABLE THROUGH THE CITY OF NEWTON'S INFLOW & INFILTRATION PROGRAM:

1. Disconnect footing drains from sanitary sewer and route to an existing sump pit.
2. Install sump pit and sump pump.
3. Install interior perimeter drain lines beneath basement floor.
4. Disconnect sump line from sanitary sewer and discharge sump water outside of building.
5. Disconnect roof drains from an unused cistern system or route cistern overflow to sump pit.
6. Limited repairs to sanitary service line.
7. Disconnect downspouts from sanitary sewer and install extensions for surface discharge.
8. Basic restoration upon completion of corrective action(s). Concrete floor is patched and smoothed and the work site is cleaned. Holes are filled with dirt and grass seed is sown outside the building.

## WHAT IS NOT REIMBURSABLE THROUGH THE CITY OF NEWTON'S INFLOW AND INFILTRATION PROGRAM:

1. Sanitary sewer backflow prevention valves (check valve).
2. Extensive landscaping repair or enhancements.
3. Cleaning of sanitary service lines.
4. Backup power supply for sump pump and backup sumps.

**QUESTIONS?**  
CALL THE CITY OF NEWTON'S  
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL PLANT  
641-792-3422

## EXAMPLES OF PROPER CONNECTIONS

The photo below shows a sump pump discharging it's water outside of the house through rigid piping.



The drawing below shows the disconnection of footing drains from the sanitary sewer and being properly routed to a sump pump pit.

