**Function of Sump Pumps & Downspouts**

Rainwater can enter the basement through many sources. The job of a sump pump is to divert the water from inside your basement to a location outside of the home. A sump pump is usually installed in a sump pit, which stores the water. When this water reaches a certain level, it triggers the sump pump to activate. This will then pump the water back outside away from the house. A downspout’s purpose is to direct water from the roof gutters away from the house.

**The Problem of Inflow**

Inflow is caused by improperly connected foundation (footing) drains, sump pumps and downspouts. Instead of directing the clear rainwater outside and away from the house, it directs the water into the sanitary sewer system. Inflow is a problem because it creates an extra water burden for the sanitary sewer system. When the system is overloaded, sewage can back up into our streets, buildings and your home. It also means that our utility bills are higher because we are collectively paying for the unnecessary treatment of clean water!

**Rules and Regulations**

Inflow is a problem for all of Dover Township. Dover Township has adopted ordinances which make it illegal to have improper connections to the sanitary sewer system. Fees and other enforcement measures can be used to achieve compliance. To avoid fees, make sure your sump pumps and downspouts discharge properly.

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For more information regarding what is being done about inflow and infiltration in the community, please contact:

**DOVER TOWNSHIP**

YORK COUNTY, PA

Established 1743

DOVER TOWNSHIP

2480 West Canal Road

Dover, PA 17315

www.DoverTownship.org

(717) 292-3634

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Homeowners have an impact on preventing or causing the problem of inflow. Your community and neighbors are relying on you to take responsibility for making sure that your connections are not contributing to the problem.

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Disconnecting & Redirecting Your Sump Pump & Downspouts

In wet weather, it only takes a few improperly connected sump pumps to cause a sanitary sewer backup into basements, streets and waterways.

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FARIBAULT COUNTY

SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

BLUE EARTH, MN 56013

www.faribaultcountyswcd.com
Disconnecting Your Sump Pump

If your sump pump discharges to the sanitary sewer system, it must be re-directed out of the sanitary sewer system. The discharge should be directed through a hose, if you are familiar with the work, contact the licensed plumbing professional, or Dover Township.

Do I Know If My Sump Pump is Improperly Connected?

Your sump pump is improperly connected to the sanitary sewer system if:
1. Your sump pump is not connected to the discharge piping from your basement sump pump, and
2. A hose is used to discharge it directly to the sanitary sewer system.

How Should I Direct the Flow of My Disconnected Sump Pump and Downspout?

Water should be directed to an area where it can seep into the ground or be stored for later use. Directing water to a rain barrel, trees, or a lawn can help conserve water and keep stormwater from entering the sanitary sewer system.

Each household or business that has a disconnected sump pump or rain barrel must account for the water flow. The stormwater system helps solve the problem of stormwater backing up into basements, streets, and waterways.

Proper sump pump discharge connections are to the outside of the home only!

How Do I Know If My Downspout is Improperly Connected?

If your downspouts discharge into the ground, rather than discharging into your yard, they may be connected to the sanitary sewer system. However, houses and structures built before March 11, 2011, may remain connected to the sanitary sewer system. Connections to the sanitary sewer must be disconnected and re-directed.

(1) The downspouts of houses and structures built before March 11, 2011 may remain connected to a stormwater system. However, houses and structures built after that date are required to be disconnected from the sanitary sewer system.