



Information on Sewer Overflows

A sewer overflow, often called a sanitary sewer overflow, is when untreated (raw) wastewater escapes from the system and gets into the environment. The sewage may come from a man hole, a sewer pumpstation, or a sewer pipe. The sewage may make its way to a water body, which can be harmful for the environment.

What Causes a sewer overflow?

There are many potential causes. Too much rainwater can infiltrate the system causing the overflow. A broken sewer main may also allow raw sewage to leave the system.

Sometimes, harmful objects or substances may cause an overflow. For instance, non-flushable wipes or hardened fats, oils, and greases may clog the system or damage sewer pumpstations. This can cause a sewer overflow.

How can I help prevent sewer overflows?

The best way you can help prevent overflows is by never putting fats, oils, or grease down the drain. These substances will harden when they cool, causing sewer system problems.

Also, never flush “disposable wipes”. Even if they say “flushable,” these types of objects should never be put down the toilet. A good rule is to **ONLY** flush the three Ps: paper, poop, and pee.

What if I see a sewer overflow?

Call us immediately at 864.848.5500