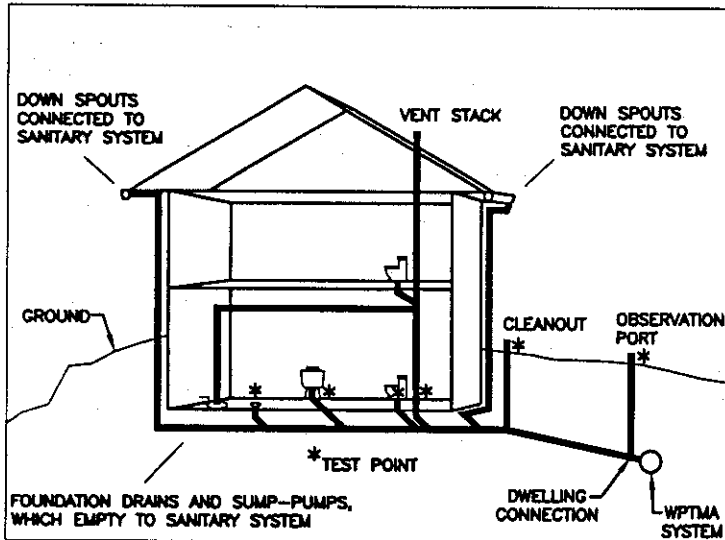


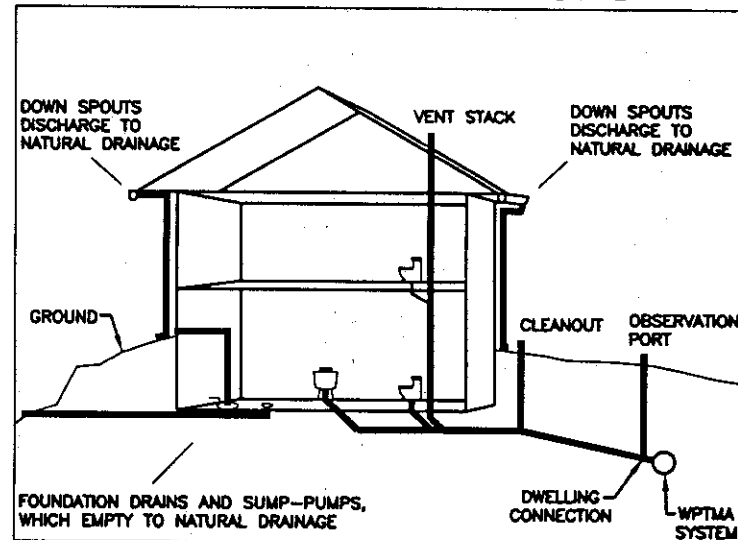
WEST PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY

WE NEED YOUR HELP NOW TO KEEP MONTHLY RATES DOWN IN THE FUTURE

ILLEGAL CONNECTIONS



PROPER CONNECTIONS



INFILTRATION: GROUNDWATER ENTERING THE SEWER SYSTEM THROUGH BROKEN PIPES, DEFECTIVE PIPE JOINTS, OR ILLEGAL CONNECTIONS OF FOUNDATION DRAINS.

INFLOW: SURFACE WATER RUNOFF THAT ENTERS A SEWER SYSTEM THROUGH MANHOLE COVERS; EXPOSED, BROKEN AND DEFECTIVE PIPE JOINTS; CROSS CONNECTIONS BETWEEN STORM SEWERS AND SANITARY SEWERS; AND ILLEGAL CONNECTIONS OF ROOF LEADERS, SUMP PUMPS, BASEMENT DRAINS, YARD DRAINS OR CATCH BASINS.

INFLOW DIFFERS FROM INFILTRATION IN THAT IT IS A DIRECT DISCHARGE INTO THE SEWER RATHER A LEAK INTO THE SEWER ITSELF.

ILLEGAL SEWER CONNECTION AWARENESS PROGRAM

THE WEST PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY IS CURRENTLY CONDUCTING AN INFILTRATION AND INFLOW (I&I) STUDY. THE PURPOSE OF THIS STUDY IS TO DETERMINE THE SOURCES OF "CLEAR" WATER ENTERING THE WPTMA SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM. OUR SYSTEM WAS DESIGNED TO ACCOMMODATE SEWAGE INFLOW ONLY. ANY SURFACE WATER AND/OR GROUND WATER IS A BURDEN TO OUR SYSTEM AND IS ILLEGAL.

A CRITICAL CONCERN FOR ALL OF US...

IN SUFFICIENT VOLUME, I&I CAN CAUSE SEWER BACKUPS AND MANHOLE OVERFLOW PROBLEMS. THESE BACKUPS NOT ONLY CAUSE SERIOUS PROBLEMS FOR THE AFFECTED HOMEOWNER, THEY COULD ALSO NEGATIVELY AFFECT OUR PROPERTY VALUES ON A COMMUNITY-WIDE BASIS AND SEVERELY RESTRICT FUTURE RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT. IN ADDITION, THE COST TO PUMP THIS EXTRANEOUS WATER THROUGH SIX PUMP STATIONS CREATES EXTRA EXPENSE FOR THE AUTHORITY, COSTS THAT WILL BE PASSED ON TO OUR CUSTOMERS. IT IS THE INTENT OF THE AUTHORITY TO REMOVE ALL SOURCES OF I&I FROM THE SYSTEM IDENTIFIED IN THE COURSE OF THIS STUDY. WE WILL NEED YOUR HELP IDENTIFYING AND REMOVING ILLEGAL CONNECTIONS TO THE SYSTEM.

WHAT IS AN ILLEGAL CONNECTION ?

SIMPLY STATED, AN ILLEGAL CONNECTION IS ANY CONNECTION WHICH ALLOWS STORM OR GROUNDWATER TO ENTER THE SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM. THESE SOURCES OF WATER SHOULD BE ROUTED TO STORM SEWERS, A DRAINAGE SWALE OR OTHER NATURAL DRAINAGE AREA; THE MOST FREQUENT ILLEGAL CONNECTIONS INCLUDE:

SUMP-PUMPS: SUMP-PUMPS ARE NECESSARY IN MANY TYPES OF CONSTRUCTION TO COLLECT GROUND WATER AROUND THE FOUNDATION AND LIFT WATER TO A HIGHER ELEVATION FOR DRAINAGE PURPOSES. IN SOME CASES, DRAINAGE PIPES FROM WINDOW WELLS, DOWN SPOUTS OR DRIVEWAYS ALSO EMPTY TO SUMP-PUMPS. AN ILLEGAL CONNECTION WOULD ROUTE THIS WATER TO THE SANITARY SEWER RATHER THAN AN EXISTING STORM SYSTEM.

FOOTER/FOUNDATION DRAINS: THESE CONSIST OF DRAINAGE TILES PLACED UNDER THE FOOTER, FOUNDATION OR UNDER THE SLAB TO COLLECT GROUNDWATER. TERRA COTTA PIPES UNDER THE HOMES WILL SOMETIMES SPLIT, CRACK OR THE JOINTS WERE NOT GROUTED. LEAVING INFILTRATION INTO THE SYSTEM. AN ILLEGAL CONNECTION WOULD ROUTE THIS WATER TO THE SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM.

DOWN SPOUTS: NORMALLY, DOWN SPOUTS CHANNEL WATER TO A STORM SYSTEM OR OTHER NATURAL DRAINAGE AREA AWAY FROM THE HOME'S FOUNDATION. DOWN SPOUTS CONNECTED DIRECTLY TO THE SANITARY SYSTEM ARE AN ILLEGAL CONNECTION.

YOUR HELP IS ABSOLUTELY CRITICAL...

ANY OWNER WHOSE LATERAL THAT DOES NOT PASS AN AIR TEST, WILL BE REQUIRED TO BRING THEIR LATERAL INTO COMPLIANCE, AS PER THE AUTHORITY'S RULES AND REGULATIONS. WE CANNOT CONTINUE TO ALLOW EXTRANEOUS WATER INTO OUR SYSTEM.

WHY STORM WATER IS SUCH A PROBLEM...

AN 8" SEWER LINE CAN SERVICE THE SANITARY NEEDS OF AS MANY AS 456 HOMES. YET, DURING TIMES OF SIGNIFICANT RAINFALL, THAT SAME 8" LINE CAN BE OVERLOADED BY ONLY 36 HOMES FROM WHICH RAINWATER DRAINAGE DISCHARGES THROUGH IMPROPER CONNECTION (EITHER DIRECT CONNECTION OR THROUGH SUMP-PUMP SYSTEMS).