

# TOWN OF HUDSON, MA



## How can I ensure my property drainage connections are proper?

**Roof Drains:** If your roof drains or down spouts are connected to the sanitary sewer systems, the drains should be redirected on to a landscaped area or to a dry well. **Another alternative is to utilize rain barrels to collect roof runoff for use on lawns or gardens especially during outdoor watering bans.**



**Area Drains:** Area drains located in driveways, basements or lawns that connect to the sanitary sewer system should be redirected to a dry well or other subsurface infiltration system.\*

**Sump Pumps:** If you have a sump pump that is connected to the sanitary sewer system, it is illegal. It should be redirected to a dry well or other subsurface infiltration system.\*

**\*You may also connect to storm drain systems after obtaining permission from the Department of Public Works.**



### Department of Public Works

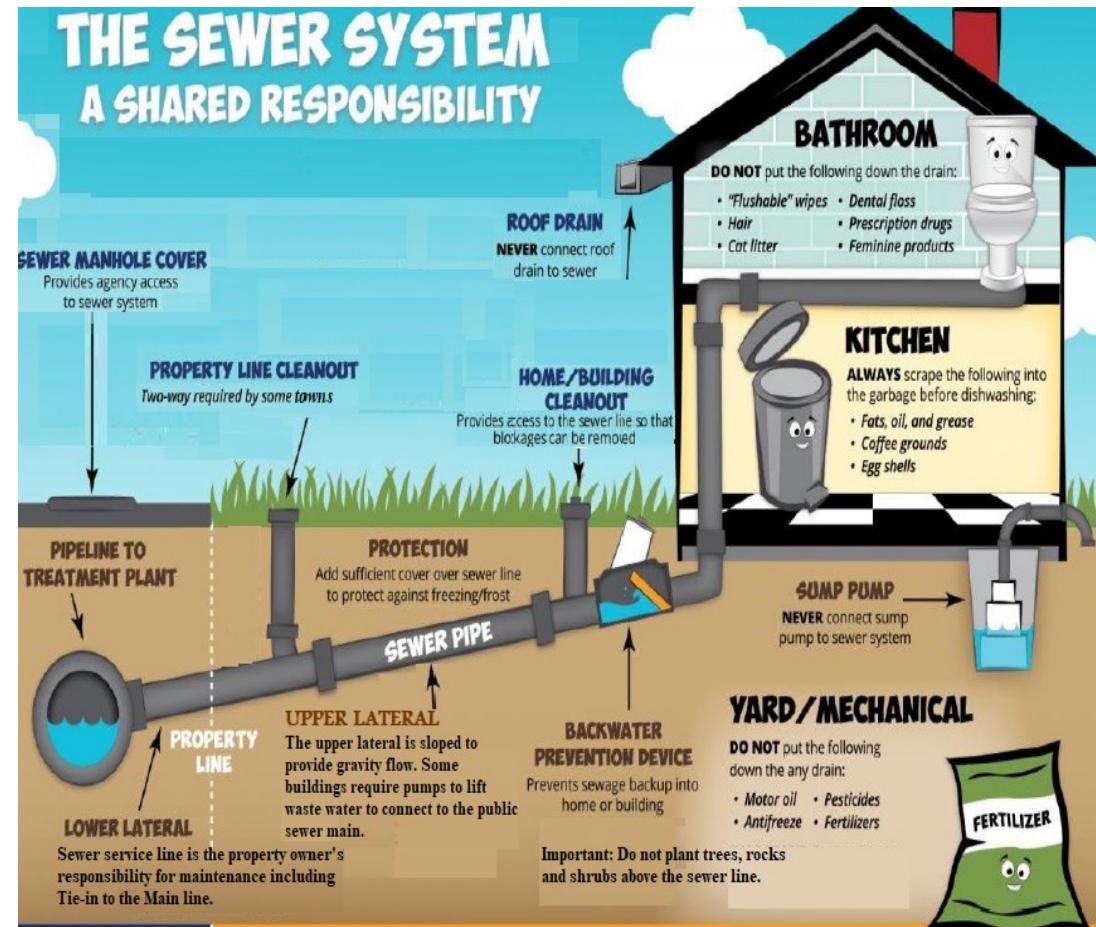
1 Municipal Drive  
Hudson, MA-01749

Phone: 978-562-9333  
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## SUMP PUMP CONNECTIONS AND OTHER INFLOWS

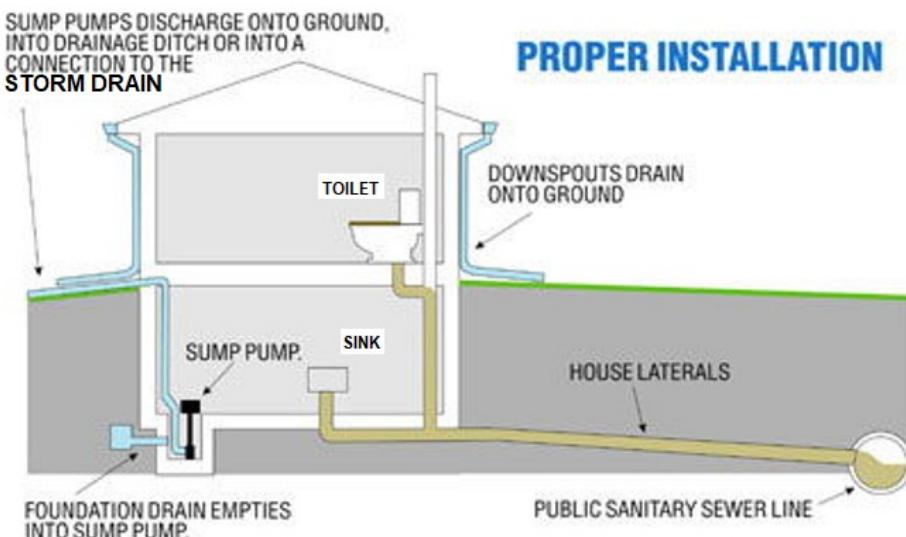
Prevent Sanitary Sewer overflows and backups by eliminating storm water inflow and groundwater infiltration into the sanitary sewer system.

To help keep Hudson's lakes, rivers and lands clean for the health and enjoyment of all, both homeowners and town sewer operators must do their part to keep the system free and flowing and reduce the risk of a sewer spill /overflow onto the roads and easements.



## How is storm water different from waste water?

Sewer/ Waste water is water discharged from bathrooms, sinks, showers, kitchens and other plumbing components. This water is carried through the Town's sewer pipes to be treated. Sanitary sewers are designed to carry waste water away from toilets, dishwashers, sinks etc. The pipes are smaller in size than the stormwater pipes.



Stormwater is water from rain or precipitation that drains into the street's drainage system where it flows into streams and creeks untreated. These drain systems help prevent flooding and erosion. Rain gutters from your homes and sump pumps from basements carry ground water / stormwater. Stormwater is not treated prior to entering waterways. Stormwater pipes are designed to carry rainwater away and are normally much larger in size than sanitary sewers.

## What is Infiltration and Inflow?

**Infiltration** occurs when water seeps into sewer pipes through cracks or joint failures and faulty connections.

**Inflow** is stormwater that enters the sanitary sewers through roof drains, downspouts, sump pumps, area drains, and cross-connections and is illegally connected to the sewer main.



Infiltration



Inflow

## Why is Infiltration and Inflow a problem?

When stormwater enters the sanitary sewer system, it is transported and treated like waste water and encounters all the costs associated with treatment and could cause rate increases to the community



Wet weather magnifies existing inflow and infiltration issues. As a rain event begins, the inflow and infiltration sources start filling the sanitary sewer systems with non-waste water, eventually filling the sewers to capacity. The system becomes overloaded and, if sanitary fixtures are below this overload level, water will flow backward through the sanitary sewer pipes, potentially flooding basements or households. It could also cause manholes to pop open releasing waste water onto the streets.



Infiltration and Inflow contributes to the hydraulic overloading of treatment processes, which can affect public health and the Town's compliance with state and federal water quality standards.