The Importance of I/I Control

Excessive I/I can cause many problems in the sewer system. Although most sewers are designed to carry some I/I, excessive quantities can overwhelm pipes and cause overflow of untreated sewage into the environment and backups onto streets and into private homes. Communities and residents must also pay to pump and treat this clean water once it enters the sewer system. Therefore, any I/I removed from the sewer system will help reduce flows and costs a well as prevent these adverse consequences.

Private Inflow Sources

Inflow from private sources such as sump pumps and floor/foundation drains have the greatest impact on the sewer system. During a rain event these sources discharge large volumes of clean water to the sewer and can quickly overwhelm the capacity of the system, resulting in overflows to the environment or backups onto the streets and into homes. It only takes a few sump pumps to cause major problems into the sewer system.

I/I Reduction Actions Needed

**Work to be Done to Eliminate/Reduce Inflow**

The excess inflow entering the sewer system through improper (illegal/illicit) connections can only be addressed with your help. If you have an ILLEGAL SUMP PUMP CONNECTION TO THE SEWER SYSTEM, please contact the Town of Grafton Sewer Department to discuss option to modify the plumbing on your property to permanently redirect your sump pump discharge to an appropriate location outside your house. Please note: your new chosen drainage location should not create a nuisance condition for your neighbors or be in the public right of way.

Options for exterior discharge include:

1. To your property, at least 5 feet from the building. Placing the drainage 5 feet from your building lessens the likelihood of water reentering your structure or causing wet foundation conditions.

2. To a dry well or other in ground drainage system on your property.

3. Nearby storm drainage system. This provides you with the most reliable discharge location which avoids nuisance conditions on your property or those adjacent to you. However your site may not allow this option.

This work should be completed by a licensed contractor of your choice. If you have any questions or need assistance with regard to a sump pump or its removal from the sanitary sewer system please contact the Grafton Sewer Department at 508-839-8526.