



CITY OF MARINE CITY

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

303 SOUTH WATER STREET
MARINE CITY, MICHIGAN 48039
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NOTICE TO RESIDENTS AND BUSINESS OWNERS

Marine City is asking for your cooperation in looking for illicit discharges into the City sanitary sewer system at your home or business. An illicit discharge would be any storm water that is pumped into the sanitary system by a sump pump in your basement/crawl or any roof drains that are connected to the sanitary system. Sanitary sewers have been designed to transfer sanitary waste only; extraneous storm water flow added to the normal sanitary flow can exceed the capacity of the sanitary sewer resulting in a surcharge. Surcharging occurs when the amount of flow trying to get through a pipe exceeds the maximum capacity of the pipe thus building pressure in the pipe. When this pressure builds up it seeks to relieve itself through any means possible, one of which is by backing up private sanitary services and filling basements and crawlspaces. For example a normal eight inch sanitary line can handle many homes; however it just takes five sump pumps at full capacity to overload that size sanitary line. If a home or business has any sanitary fixtures (i.e. shower or toilet) and/or floor drains at an elevation below the surcharge level, basement flooding could occur.

By reducing illicit discharge flows the City could expect:

- Reduced surcharges and sewer backups
- Reduced stress on our Pump Stations and Waste Water Treatment Plant
- Lowered electricity and treatment supply costs

If you find that you have an illicit discharge in your home or business, it should be removed by either:

- 1) Capping the downspouts where they go into the ground
- 2) Removing the sump pump from the sanitary sewer and rerouting it to your front or back yard or above ground drainage ditch.

Should you have any questions, please contact Department of Public Works Superintendent, Michael Itrich at (810) 765-9711.