

## Help Prevent Sanitary Sewer Overflows, Back Ups, and Rate Increases

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Do not connect the following to the sanitary sewer:

- Sump Pumps
- Down Spouts
- Yard Drains
- Area Drains
- Stairway Drains
- Foundation Drains

### Please

- Report broken clean outs
- Do not plant trees near sewer lines; keep bushes at least 5 feet away from clean outs

### Emergency Contact Numbers:

- Monday thru Friday, 8:00AM to 4:30PM:  
Wastewater Division  
(410) 996-6260
- All other times:  
Department of Emergency Services  
Dispatch Center  
(410) 996-5588



For Additional Information Contact:  
Cecil County Department of Public Works  
Wastewater Division  
P.O. Box 370  
Charlestown, MD 21914  
Phone (410) 996-6260  
Fax (410) 996-6263  
[www.ccgov.org](http://www.ccgov.org)



Cecil County  
Department of Public  
Works

## Did You Know?



**Discharging Storm  
Water or Ground  
Water to the Sanitary  
Sewer System is Illegal**

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## Cecil County Code States

- Cecil County Code, in Part II General Legislation, Chapter 365, Water and Sewers Article V, Discharges to Sewers Subsection 365-19 Prohibited Discharges
- Prohibited Discharges - No Person shall discharge or cause to be discharged any stormwater, surface water, groundwater, roof runoff, subsurface drainage, uncontaminated cooling water or unpolluted industrial process waters to any sanitary sewer.
- It further states in Subsection 365-20 Discharge of Stormwater and all other unpolluted drainage shall be discharged to such sewers as are specifically designated as storm sewers or to a natural outlet approved by the County. Industrial cooling water or unpolluted process waters may be discharged, on approval of the County, to a storm sewer or natural outlet.

## Why is discharging these waters to the sanitary sewer a problem?

- Sanitary sewers are not designed to handle the large volumes of water these discharges can generate.
- These large volumes of water can overload the sewer system causing backups into your and your neighbors homes and businesses.
- It can also cause SSO's, sanitary sewer overflows that discharge raw sewage endangering the environment, your drinking water, and your health.
- Cause the County to undertake costly improvement projects to the system and treatment plants to handle these large volumes of water costing millions of dollars and causing sewer rates to increase.



## If I can't discharge these waters to the sanitary sewer then where can I discharge them?

- Stormwater and groundwater drainage may be connected to a system designated as a storm sewer.
- Other natural outlet approved by the County
- Green areas of your yard.

