

The Issue

Infiltration & Inflow

Clear water has become a clear problem for local sewer systems and the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District's conveyance system

How I/I enters the system:

- Leaky manhole covers or deteriorated manholes
- Illegally connected downspouts, yard drains and sump pumps connected to the sanitary sewer system
- Collapsed, broken or leaky sewer pipes

Problems it creates:

- Takes up capacity meant for wastewater
- When clear water exceeds capacity of conveyance system, sewer overflows may occur

What Is Infiltration And Inflow (I/I)?

Clear Water:

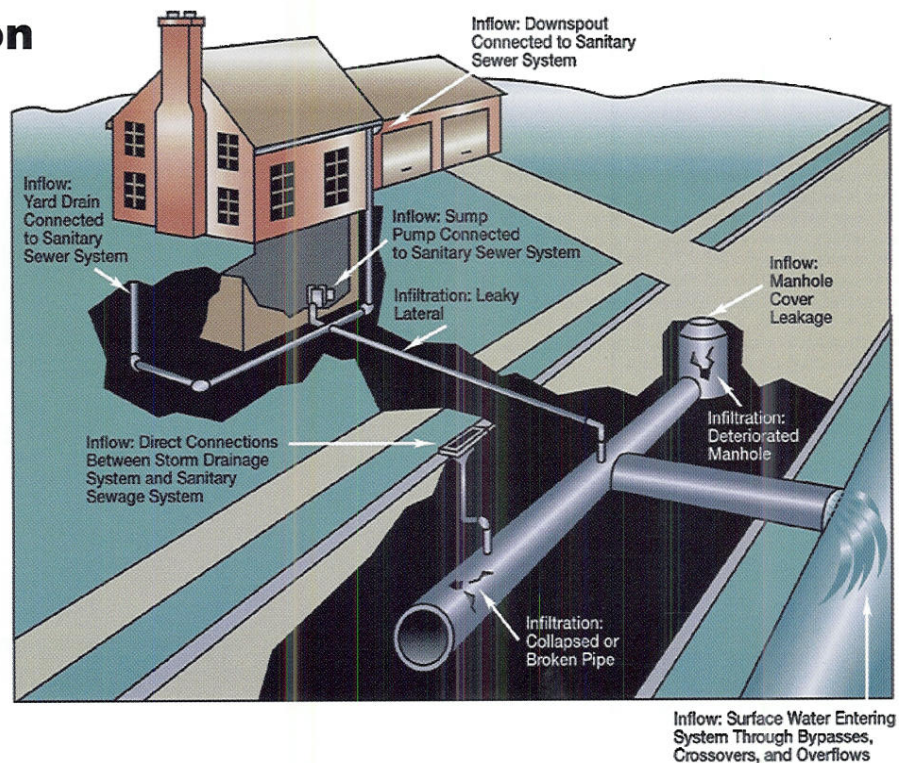
Water that does not need to be treated at a wastewater treatment plant that enters the sewer system.

Infiltration:

Groundwater that leaks into the sewer system underground.

Inflow:

Rainwater that enters the sewer system above ground.



One of the main components of the District's long-range plan is to address the amount of clear water entering local sewer systems and the District's wastewater conveyance, treatment and storage facilities. The District is undertaking demonstration projects in eight of the communities it serves to show a variety of innovative methods to reduce the amount of clear water entering the sewer system.

What's being done to address the I/I problem:

- Manhole inspections and rehabilitation
- Smoke testing and building inspections to detect illicit connections to sanitary sewer system
- Lateral and sewer inspections
- Demonstration projects on private property to evaluate I/I reduction methods

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