



TOWN OF STRATFORD NOTICE TO RESIDENTS

Clear Water Elimination Program

Your help is needed! Because of the high volume of clear water found to be entering the sanitary sewers, the Town of Stratford has been inspecting the sewerage system.

Why is this clear water a problem?

Clear water belongs in storm sewers or on the ground, and not in the sanitary sewers. When clear water gets into the sanitary sewers, it increases the cost of treatment at the Town's treatment facility. Too much clear water can also cause sewer backups and overflows.

What is the Town doing to find sources of clear water?

The WPCA has used several methods so far to evaluate the sewer system, including video inspections of pipes and sewer smoke testing. The next part of the field work phase includes building inspections of properties. This phase of the field work is set to begin shortly and will be completed this spring.

What is the goal of this Program?

The goal of this work is to save residents money, improve sewer system operations and minimize the chance for sewer backups. Clear water entering the sewer system reduces available capacity of the sewers, pumping stations and treatment plant, shortens equipment life, and impairs performance of the wastewater treatment system. All of these issues increase the cost of wastewater treatment to residents. **By finding and removing these sources, the Town can keep treatment costs in check, and avoid potential increases in sewer user fees.**

What are House Inspections?

House inspections will be performed by SDE Engineering as a subconsultant to Tighe & Bond, working on behalf of the Town of Stratford. All inspectors will carry an identification badge, and the names of all inspection personnel will be on file at the Town of Stratford Engineering Department. The inspectors will complete an inspection form for each property. They will request access to the basement to look for inflow sources such as sump pumps. In addition, the inspectors will observe downspout discharge points and look for any yard drains. The average inspection takes between 10 and 20 minutes.

What if I think I have a sump pump or downspout connected to the sewer system?

If you'd like to have your home inspected to confirm there are no sump pumps or downspouts connected to the sewer system, please call SDE Engineering to schedule a free home inspection at 1-800-207-5897. SDE will make an appointment to visit your home at a convenient time to complete the inspection. If any sump pumps or other drains are noted to be connected to the sewer system, the Town will work with each resident to determine the best way to redirect this flow.

The Town urges all residents to contact SDE if you think a home inspection is warranted

If you have any specific questions regarding the building inspection work, please contact John Casey, Town Engineer at (203) 385-4013; Tom Hyde, Stratford Water Pollution Control Superintendents at (203) 385-4065; or Lori Carriero, P.E., Project Manager at Tighe & Bond, Inc. at (203) 712-1126.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation in the Town of Stratford's inflow and infiltration reduction efforts.

