



# IS YOUR SUMP PUMP CONNECTED TO THE SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM?

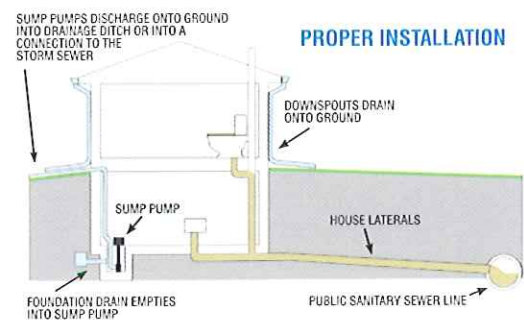
## Questions and Answers Regarding Sump Pump Connections

### Q: WHAT IS THE REASON FOR REGULATION?

A: Wastewater is the discharge from toilets, sinks, showers, bathtubs, dishwashers and washing machines. People produce wastewater. It must be treated. Wastewater is removed through the sanitary sewer system. Sanitary sewers carry it to a treatment facility.

Groundwater or storm water is water from rain or snow, which seeps into the soil. When soil becomes saturated, ground water seeps into basements. Sump pumps are commonly used to remove this water.

Sump pumps must not be connected to sanitary sewers, but rather must be connected to a storm sewer or discharged onto lawns.



### Q: WHY?

A: When sump pumps discharge into sanitary sewer, flooding often is the result. Sanitary sewers are not designed to handle the extra volume sump pumps add. This extra volume overloads the design capacity of the system.

Wastewater needs to be treated. Groundwater from sump pumps does not. When the volume of wastewater is increased by the addition of groundwater from sump pumps, the Authority's and ultimately the home and business owners' treatment cost increase significantly and unnecessarily.

On March 12, 2004, Northampton Township passed Ordinance No. 492, which prohibits sump pumps from being connected to sanitary sewers. A violation is punishable by a fine of \$1000.00 per day.

### Q: WHAT SHOULD I DO IF MY SUMP PUMP IS CONNECTED TO THE SANITARY SEWER?

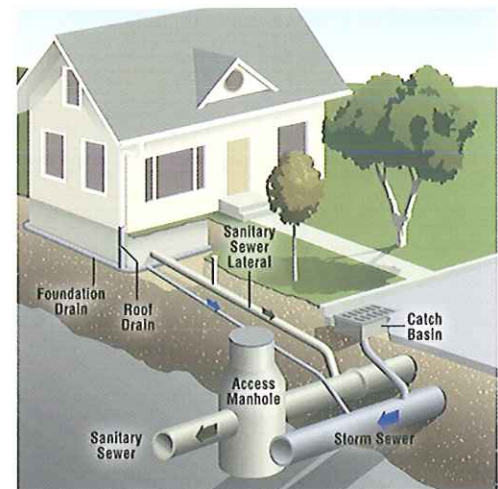
A: Reroute the pipe so that it discharges onto your lawn or into a nearby storm sewer. If you have questions, or need assistance or advice about how to bring your sump pump into compliance with the law, contact the Municipal Authority at 215-357-8515.

### Q: IF I ASK FOR HELP, WILL I BE SUBJECT TO THE FINE?

A: No, so long as you take immediate steps to disconnect your sump pump from the sanitary sewer. Our main mission is to eliminate those connections.

### Q: ARE WE THE ONLY TOWNSHIP HAVING THIS PROBLEM?

A: No. All communities are dealing with the same issues. We are seeking your assistance in promoting environmental responsibility.



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