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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT PERSON

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RAINFALL CAUSES BYPASS PUMPING IN DUBUQUE

DUBUQUE – Continuous rainfall and saturated ground are forcing the City of Dubuque to bypass-pump untreated wastewater on the west side of the city near Key Way Drive to prevent sewer backups into neighboring homes' basements. City workers are pumping the wastewater into a drainage ditch that leads to the north fork of the Catfish Creek, a tributary of the Mississippi River.

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) cautions people to keep their children and pets out of the Key Way ditch for the next 48 hours.

The City is sampling and testing the bypassed wastewater for fecal coliform bacteria, biological oxygen demand, ammonia, and total suspended solids. Results of the tests will be available in about five days.

The IDNR and the City of Dubuque will continue to monitor the situation.

For more information, contact the Manchester IDNR field office at 563-927-2640 or John Klostermann at the City of Dubuque at 563-589-4250.

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