



July 28, 2011

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT PERSON

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RECORD RAINFALL CAUSES SANITARY SEWER OVERFLOWS AND BYPASS PUMPING IN DUBUQUE

DUBUQUE – Continuous heavy rain from Wednesday evening through Thursday morning, and ground already saturated by last week's heavy rains, are the principal causes of a sanitary sewer overflow that occurred on West Locust Street. Manholes overflowed into the street Wednesday night, forcing the City of Dubuque to initiate emergency bypass-pumping of untreated wastewater into the West Locust Street storm sewer in order to alleviate the sewer backup situation which occurred in a number of nearby homes. City workers pumped the wastewater into the storm sewer, which eventually drains into the Mississippi River, until tanker trucks arrived. The large, truck-towed tankers, along with a City tanker, loaded and hauled the wastewater to the City of Dubuque water pollution control facility, thereby ending the overflow and bypass situation by 2:30 p.m. Thursday afternoon.

A sanitary sewer overflow also occurred on Thursday in the alley behind 2415 Kerper Boulevard, due to overloading in the Kerper Boulevard sanitary sewer lift station. The overflow started on Thursday morning and ended shortly after midnight.

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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