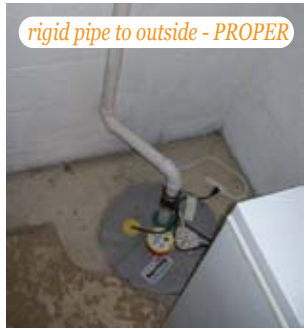


# Proper and Improper Installation Examples

## Sump Pumps

rigid pipe to outside - PROPER



flex hose to drain - IMPROPER



flex hose to outside - IMPROPER



rigid pipe to outside - PROPER



## Foundation Drains

foundation drain to floor drain - IMPROPER



foundation drain to sump pit - PROPER



## Disappearing Downspout

downspout connected to sewer - IMPROPER



## Frequently Asked Questions

**Do I have to remove inflow sources on my property?** Yes. By law, (City ordinance 13-2A-1) property owners cannot discharge “stormwater, surface water, ground water, roof run-off, cooling water, or unpolluted industrial process waters into any sanitary sewer.”

**I don't have a sump pump, do I still need to have the inspection?** Yes, all properties will be inspected regardless of whether a sump pump is present.

**How do I schedule an inspection?** You will receive a letter asking you to make an inspection appointment. You may either call the City's I&I Hotline at 563-690-6113 or email [i&i@cityofdubuque.org](mailto:i&i@cityofdubuque.org). Appointments can also be scheduled online at [www.cityofdubuque.org/i&i](http://www.cityofdubuque.org/i&i).

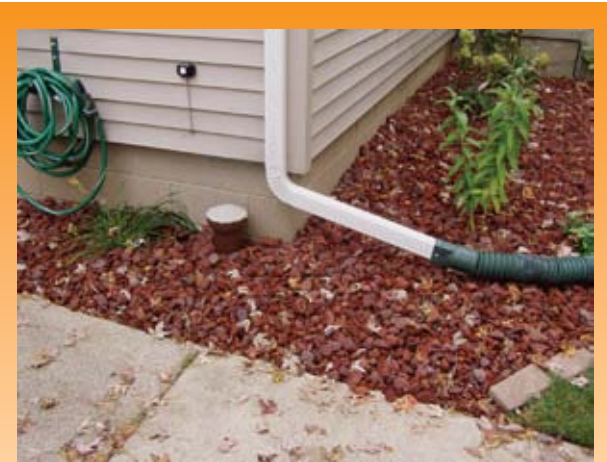
**Can I fix my sump discharge before the inspection?** Yes, eliminating inflow from sanitary system is the goal of this program. Property owners are encouraged to resolve any violations before their inspection. Contact the City's Engineering Department if you have questions on repairing the problem yourself. The property must still be inspected, however.

**How long after the inspection do I have to correct a violation?** The property owner will have 30 days to correct a violation from the date of the notification. If the property owner does not schedule a re-inspection within 30 days, the City will obtain an administrative search warrant to authorize the re-inspection. The costs to obtain the warrant will be added onto the sanitary sewer bills of any property that does not comply with the ordinance.

**Why are we doing this program?** Sump pump programs are typically the MOST cost effective methods to reduce I&I in the system. Removing I&I from the sanitary sewer protects investment in infrastructure, reduces potential for backups and property damage, and helps the City increase customer satisfaction.



# City of Dubuque Inflow & Infiltration Program



**A program to prevent sanitary sewer overflows and sewer back-ups by eliminating storm water inflow and groundwater infiltration into the sanitary sewer system.**

THE CITY OF  
**DUBUQUE**  
*Masterpiece on the Mississippi*

**Engineering Department**

563.690.6113  
[i&i@cityofdubuque.org](mailto:i&i@cityofdubuque.org)  
[www.cityofdubuque.org/i&i](http://www.cityofdubuque.org/i&i)

[www.cityofdubuque.org/i&i](http://www.cityofdubuque.org/i&i)

# What is Inflow?

Inflow is stormwater that enters the sanitary sewer system through:

- Sump pumps
- Disappearing downspouts
- Yard drains
- Catch basins
- Internal roof drains
- Loading dock drains

# What is Infiltration?

Infiltration occurs when water seeps into sewer pipes through cracks, leaky joints or deteriorated manholes.

# Excessive inflow and infiltration can cause:

- Basement backups
- Sanitary sewer overflows
- Unnecessary treatment costs

The City has identified five sewersheds or areas of the community which are the sources of high sanitary sewer flows during rainfall events. These high flows have caused sanitary sewer back-ups into basements, overflows into creeks and wetlands, and increased operational costs at the Water Pollution Control Plant. These five areas include approximately 7,000 properties.

A major component of the City's I&I program involves the mandatory inspection of private property connections to the sanitary sewer system. Due to the number of properties involved, and to increase the efficiency of the program, the inspections will be conducted in phases during the summers from 2011 to 2014.

Dubuque's I&I program is part of an agreement with United States Environmental Protection Agency and the Iowa Department of Natural Resources.

# The Inspection: *what to expect*



A 2-person inspection team from the City's Engineering Department will inspect your property. All inspection team members will clearly display identification as City of Dubuque employees, travel in vehicles with a City of Dubuque door sign, and wear attire bearing a City of Dubuque logo. A typical inspection is completed in less than 15 minutes. There must be an adult (age 18 or over) present at the property during the inspection.

Inspectors will review the following:

- **Sump Pit/Sump Pump:** Is there a sump pump? If present, does it discharge outside the basement through rigid pipe (proper), discharge to the floor drain (improper) or discharge to either location through a flexible hose (improper)?
- **Roof Drains:** Are there roof drain downspouts that go into the ground? If so, where do they drain?
- **Seepage Collection System (foundation drain):** Is there a seepage collection system? If present, does it discharge into a sump pit (proper) or the floor drain (improper)?
- **Exterior Grading:** Does exterior grading slope towards the building or away from it?

If an improper connection is found, the City Engineering Department will send a violation notification letter to the property owner and explain the necessary correction and timeframe for correction. A re-inspection must then be scheduled and conducted within 30 days to verify that the correction has been made.

A rain barrel or rain garden is a great way to soak up stormwater from your disconnected downspout! Visit [www.cityofdubuque.org/rainbarrels](http://www.cityofdubuque.org/rainbarrels) to learn more about these green and beautiful backyard features.



# Property Owners

## *Know your responsibilities*

According to Dubuque's City Code (13-2A-1), it is illegal for property owners to discharge stormwater, surface water, ground water, roof runoff, subsurface drainage, including interior and exterior foundation drains, floor drains used for collecting stormwater, uncontaminated cooling water or unpolluted industrial process waters, to any sanitary sewer.

Often, simple fixes can be made to ensure the property is in compliance. Occasionally, a more complex inflow removal may require the assistance of a professional contractor.

The City of Dubuque thanks you in advance for helping to remove inflow sources.

*Working together, we can achieve our environmental protection and economic sustainability goals!*



# Property compliance

See the photos on the back of the brochure to assess whether or not your property meets the City standards.

The most common problem areas in Dubuque may be the sump pump connection or disappearing downspouts. If your property does not comply, and you wish to address the issue before the inspection, please contact the Engineering Department for additional information on fixing the problem yourself. Additional details are available online at [www.cityofdubuque.org/i&i](http://www.cityofdubuque.org/i&i).