



Lancaster Area Sewer Authority

Sump Pump - Fact Sheet

What is a sump pump?

- A sump pump is used to remove water that has accumulated in a water collecting basin, commonly found in the basement of homes. The water may enter via the perimeter drains of a basement waterproofing system, or because of rain or natural ground water if the basement is below the water table. Sump pumps must discharge to a yard or storm sewer system.

Why are certain sump pumps a problem?

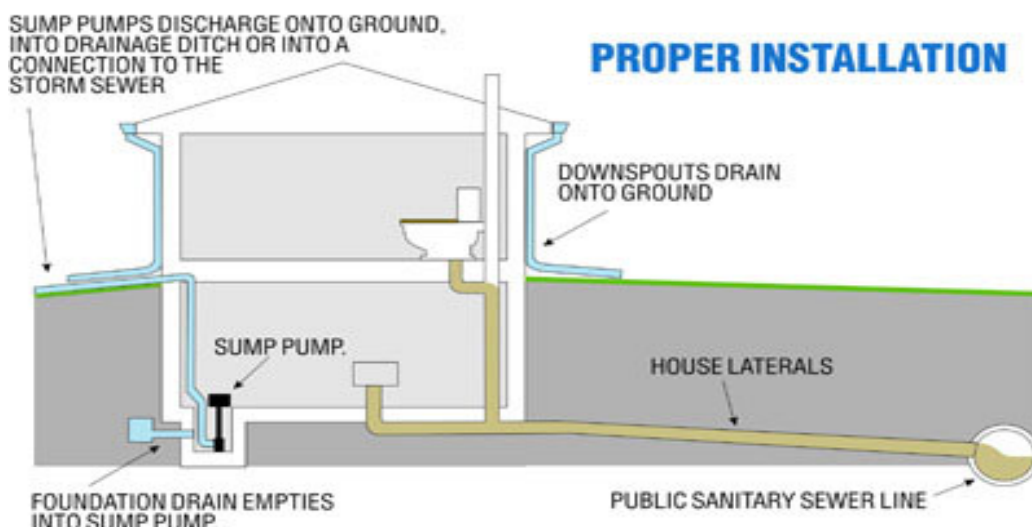
- When sump pumps are connected to the sanitary sewer system, their flow is taking up space needed to carry sewage to the LASA treatment facility. These illegal connections can cause sewage to back up into your basement or overflow into our rivers and streams.
- With an average discharge rate of between 42 and 53 gallons per minute (gpm), the flow produced by a sump pump can amount to several hundred or even thousands of gallons per illegal connection.

How do I know if my sump pump is illegally connected to the sewer system?

- If your sump pump is connected to any other pipe in your home, it is most likely illegally connected to the sanitary sewer system.
- The discharge line from your sump pump can usually be tracked to a discharge location in your yard or to a place where it connects with the storm sewer. If you cannot track the discharge pipe to a discharge location, it is most likely illegally connected to the sanitary sewer system.

What can you do if your sump pump is illegally connected?

- If you think your sump pump is illegally connected, please contact LASA at 717-299-4843.



For more information, please visit www.lasa.org.