

INFLOW / INFILTRATION



What is Inflow / Infiltration (I/I)?

Inflow/infiltration are the terms for how stormwater runoff and groundwater enter the sanitary sewer system.

Inflow is through direct connections from roof leaders, sump pumps, storm sewer cross connections that are connected to the sanitary sewer. Infiltration is where groundwater seeps into sanitary sewer pipes through cracks, leaks in pipes, or deteriorated manholes.

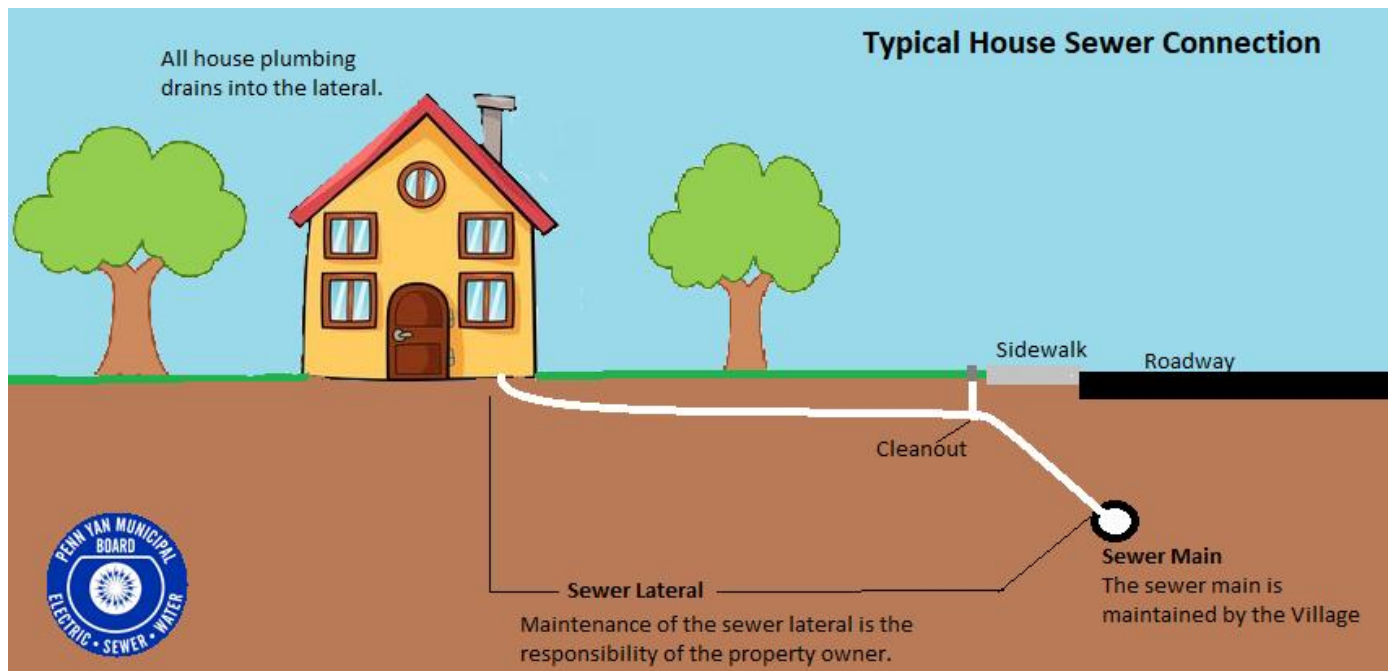
Why is I/I bad?

I/I takes clean stormwater and causes it to enter the sanitary sewer to be treated at our Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). This causes high flows at our WWTP for clean water that does not need to be treated. This causes capacity issues at the WWTP and within the sewer system that can lead to overflows.

What is the Village doing about I/I?

The Village works actively to repair pipes and manholes within our system that are known sources of I/I. We also continuously monitor to discover new potential sources.

The Village also conducts I/I inspections when houses are sold to ensure there are no cross connections within residences. Please read below to see how the public can help.



HOW THE PUBLIC CAN HELP

- Check that gutters and outside drains are not connected to sanitary sewers. You should only have one connection to the sanitary sewer as shown in the diagram above.
- Avoid planting trees over sanitary sewer laterals. This can lead to root infiltration of the sewers and damage your lateral.
- Replace loose, broken, or missing sewer lateral cleanout caps. Sometimes these are damaged or removed from lawnmowers.
- Ensure that sump pumps are not connected to the sanitary sewer.
- Repair or replace any known leaky or broken sewer pipes on your property.
- If you see or suspect a sanitary sewer problem, contact the Village of Penn Yan Department of Public Works.