

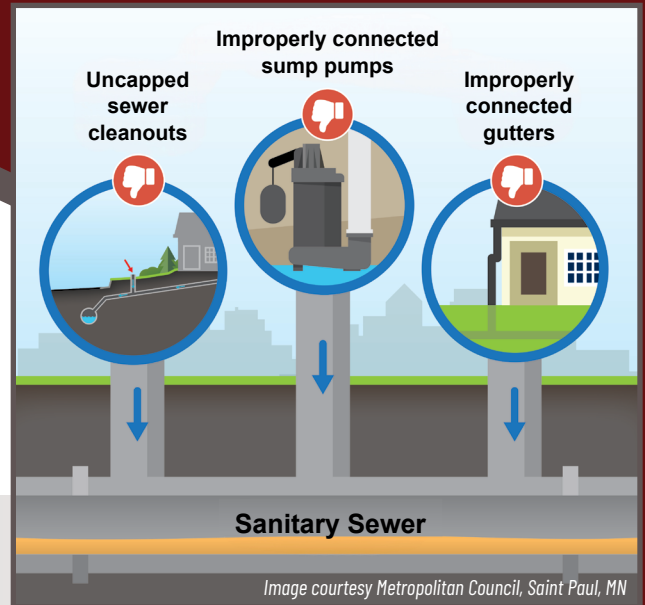
# The ins & outs of **Inflow**

The Borough of Naugatuck is working to minimize inflow in the sanitary sewer systems and needs your help to avoid costly repairs if inflow is not addressed.

## 💧 **What is Inflow?**

**Inflow** is stormwater (rain or snow melt) that enters the sanitary sewer system. A majority comes from **illegal** connections from homes, including:

- ◆ Sump pumps
- ◆ Driveway drains
- ◆ Downspouts
- ◆ Uncapped cleanouts
- ◆ Yard drains
- ◆ Window well drains



## **Why should you care?**

When there is heavy rainfall, the **sanitary sewer** cannot handle the excess flow from inflow. This leads to **sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs)** of untreated wastewater into buildings, streets, and yards. It also affects the treatment plant's ability to treat wastewater. All of this results in a more expensive system to operate and potentially higher costs to Naugatuck taxpayers.

It is **illegal** for sanitary sewer customers to discharge inflow into any sanitary sewer.

Your buildings may have an illegal connection, which means water from your property that doesn't need to be treated is unnecessarily traveling to the wastewater treatment plant, straining the sanitary sewer system.



### **BONA Sewer Ordinance:**

[www.naugatuck-ct.gov/filestorage/166/5007/Adopted\\_as\\_regulation\\_January\\_11%2C\\_2024-Naugatuck\\_Sewer\\_Ordinance\\_Jan2024.pdf](http://www.naugatuck-ct.gov/filestorage/166/5007/Adopted_as_regulation_January_11%2C_2024-Naugatuck_Sewer_Ordinance_Jan2024.pdf)

## **What is a sanitary sewer?**

A sanitary sewer is a network of pipes designed to carry wastewater from your home to the treatment plant where it is treated and discharged.

In Naugatuck, treated wastewater is discharged into the Naugatuck River.

## **FAST FACTS:**

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates the cost of treating excess inflow can be as much as<sup>1</sup>

**\$5<sub>per</sub> 1,000 GALLONS**

**WE DO NOT have a SEWER USE FEE in NAUGATUCK;**

instead, we rely on the incinerator operations at the WWTP for free wastewater treatment, which helps to prevent increased costs to taxpayers.

1. [www3.epa.gov/region1/sso/pdfs/QuickGuide4EstimatingInfiltrationInflow.pdf](http://www3.epa.gov/region1/sso/pdfs/QuickGuide4EstimatingInfiltrationInflow.pdf)

# How Can You Help?

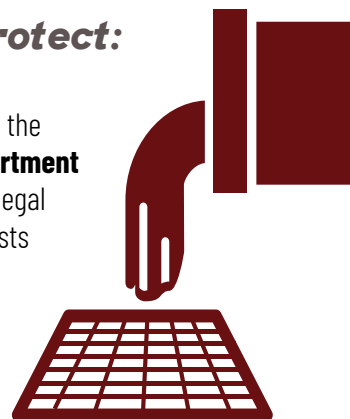
## Know Your System:

Where do your drains and downspouts direct stormwater? If they have a direct connection to the sewer system, contact the **Naugatuck Engineering Department**, at [Engineering@naugatuck-ct.gov](mailto:Engineering@naugatuck-ct.gov) for more information.



## Disconnect to Protect:

Have an illegal connection to the sanitary sewers? Consult the **Naugatuck Engineering Department** on how to disconnect for safe, legal drainage. This will limit high costs of treatment or repairs to the users, save the sanitary sewers, reduce SSOs, and more.



## Recycle Your Rain:

Rain barrels are an inexpensive and effective way to collect and reuse rainwater at home. Rainwater is redirected into a barrel, reducing localized flooding and strain on the sanitary sewer.



## Plant Protection:

Consider building a rain garden to reduce flooding in your yard and to prevent stormwater runoff from leaving your property. A rain garden offers many benefits, including pollution control and flood protection. You may even get a few visits from bees and butterflies.



**Raingarden site:**

[Nemo.uconn.edu/raingardens/](http://Nemo.uconn.edu/raingardens/)

## What's Next?

Naugatuck may use dye and smoke tests to identify sources of inflow and detect illegal connections. Information will be provided to neighborhoods where testing will occur closer to the testing dates.

- ◆ **Dye testing** occurs when a non-staining dye is poured into a suspected source (roof downspouts, sump pumps, and floor drains). A source is confirmed if the colored dye is observed in the sanitary sewer system.
- ◆ **Smoke testing** occurs when a non-toxic, non-staining smoke is blown by a large fan into sewer manholes located on the road. The smoke then enters the City's sewer pipe system. Crews will monitor where the smoke escapes and record the findings.



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

◆ **Engineering Department:** 203-720-7006

◆ **EPA Soak Up the Rain:** [www.epa.gov/soakuptherain](http://www.epa.gov/soakuptherain)

◆ **EPA Inflow Guidelines:** [www3.epa.gov/region1/ssu/pdfs/Guide4EstimatingInfiltrationInflow.pdf](http://www3.epa.gov/region1/ssu/pdfs/Guide4EstimatingInfiltrationInflow.pdf)