

## *What is an improper or unauthorized sewer connection?*

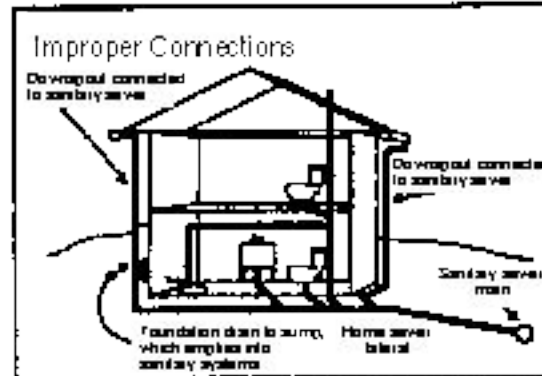
Simply stated, an unauthorized connection is any connection which allows rain or groundwater to enter the sanitary sewer system. These sources of water should be routed to storm sewers, a drainage swale or other natural drainage areas. The most frequent improper connections include:

**Sump Pumps** - Sump pumps are necessary in many types of construction to collect ground water around the foundation and lift water to a higher elevation for drainage purposes. In some cases, drainage pipes from window wells, downspouts or driveways also empty to sump pumps. An unauthorized connection would route this water to the sanitary sewer rather than an existing storm drainage system.

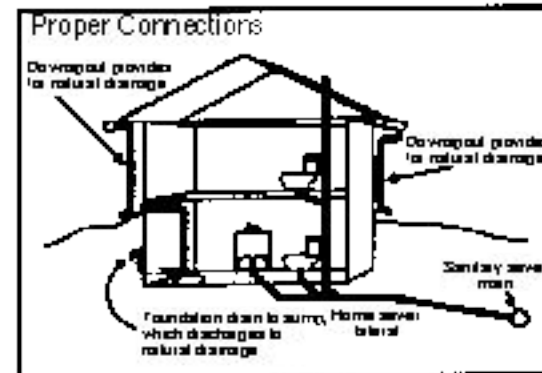
**Footer/Foundation Drains** - These consist of drainage tiles placed around the footer, foundation or under the slab to collect groundwater. An unauthorized connection would route the collected water to the sanitary sewer system.

**Downspouts** - Normally, downspouts channel water to a storm sewer or other natural drainage area, and away from your home's foundation. Occasionally, downspouts are improperly connected directly to the sanitary sewer.

For More Information or Assistance, Please Call Us At  
**419-647-6263**



*In this example, rainwater is channeled into the sanitary system, greatly overloading the system during periods of rain.*



*Millions of dollars in otherwise unnecessary upgrades to the sanitary system can be avoided when rainwater is diverted away from the system, as shown above.*

## *How do I spot a potential problem?*

Since most people are unaware of an improper connection, they also do not know where to begin to check for a potential problem. If you cannot determine where stormwater discharges around your home, or if you notice any unusual piping configurations, you may want to have someone from the Village provide a free check of your system.

# Your help now could save all of us millions!



*"On the banks of the Miami & Erie Canal"*

## Village of Spencerville Wastewater Division

Unauthorized Sewer  
Connection  
Awareness Program