



INFLOW AND INFILTRATION

How to help prevent sewage overflows on your property



Unitywater

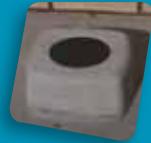
www.unitywater.com

What you can do.

DO:

- ✓ Contract a licensed plumber to fix any defective connections or disconnect illegal stormwater connections on your property.
- ✓ Ensure your property's Overflow Relief Gully (ORG) is raised 100mm above ground level when situated on grass surfaces or 50mm above paved surfaces, directing water and sewage away from your house.

An ORG is a fitting located outside your home that releases sewage in the case of a sewer blockage. If a sewer blockage occurs, the ORG fitting should pop off to release the excess pressure and direct sewage so it does not enter your home. ORGs should only be raised by a licensed plumber/drainer.



If the ORG is raised too high it may be above the level of the floor wastes in the house and in the event of a blockage, sewage in the sanitary drains may back up and overflow out of the floor wastes inside the house. If the ORG cannot be raised an inflow prevention device may need to be fitted to the ORG.

- ✓ Slope the area surrounding your ORG downwards, directing sewage flow from the ORG away from your house and to prevent stormwater from entering your ORG.
- ✓ Ensure your property's stormwater downpipes drain roof water a minimum of one metre away from your house.
- ✓ Ensure any broken water pipes on your property are repaired immediately.
- ✓ Ensure your home's internal drainage is in good condition.

DON'T:

- ✗ Cover or obstruct sewer maintenance holes or ORGs.
- ✗ Plant trees over or around sewer lines.
- ✗ Connect stormwater downpipes to your property's ORG or house drainage sewer pipes.

For more information

Our website has a wealth of information. Visit www.unitywater.com Alternatively, you can email us via our online enquiry form or call **1300 0 UNITY (1300 086 489)**.



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0286-08 JUN12



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Inflow and infiltration explained

While our sewers are designed to transport sewage, what most people don't realise is they are not designed to carry stormwater. If stormwater enters the sewer in extreme wet weather events, it is likely the network will be overloaded, increasing the likelihood of a sewage spill. Subsequently, it is important that all community members make an effort to prevent stormwater from entering the sewer where possible.

Inflow and infiltration are terms used to describe how stormwater enters the sewerage network, in addition to the sewage discharged from bathrooms, sinks and toilets.

Inflow refers to stormwater entering the sewerage network via defective or illegal plumbing.

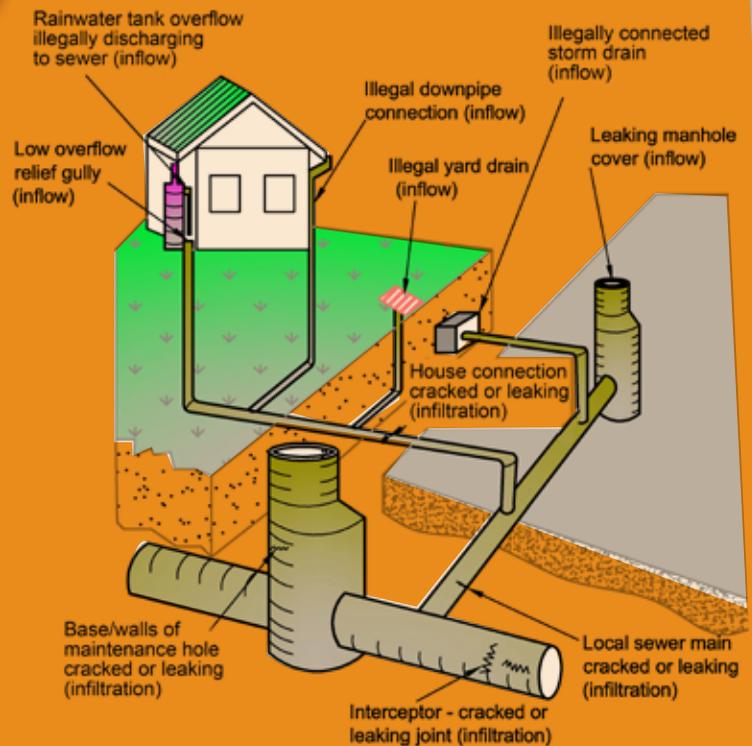
Infiltration refers to stormwater entering underground infrastructure via cracks and faulty joints.

The effects of inflow and infiltration

Unitywater is committed to reducing the amount of stormwater entering the sewerage network in order to:

- prevent sewage overflows to creeks, rivers, parks and private property;
- lower sewage pumping and treatment costs;
- defer the need for expensive upgrades to sewerage infrastructure; and
- enhance the quality of our waterways.

Sources of inflow and infiltration on private properties



What we are doing to help

Unitywater is rolling out an investigation program targeting priority areas where sewage overflows occur most often.

We will notify property owners of any defects identified on their property and advise where repairs are required.

Our crews will also work to identify and rectify any leaks and cracks in Unitywater's sewers.