FAQs

♦ Isn't all water the same?

The short answer is no. Storm Water, Ground Water, and Sewer Water are very different and therefore is handled differently. Storm Water and Ground Water can be sent directly to the

environment. Sewer

Water , or Sewage, must

be treated to protect the

environment.

age adequately?



• Why is sending Storm Water and Ground Water to the Sewer System a bad thing? The Sewer System was created to transport and treat wastewater. When Storm Water and Ground Water are added to the system it can cause overflows in the collection system and decreases the ability to treat the sew-

• What can I do to help?
If you have a sump pump or roof drains
that you think might be connected to the
sewer, call us to take a look so we can
work together to find solutions and to
protect our environment.



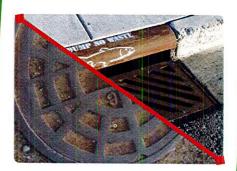
Town of Orangetown Department of Environmental Management and Engineering

For More Information please contact our
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At
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845-359-6502 Ext. 4214

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Separating Water Resources





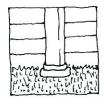
Tel: 845-359-6502

Are Your Downspouts and Sump Pumps Legal?



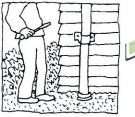
Not if you have a downspout or sump pump that sends water into the municipal sewer system!
You might ask how you can know where it is going.
You can start by checking your downspouts. If your downspouts

disappear into the ground, they may be connected to the sanitary sewer system. The water from your downspout should discharge into your yard, a storm



drain, or other appropriate drainage structure. You can check your basement to see where the drainage leads. If it goes to the sewer pipe, follow these four simple steps...

4 Steps to Fix Downspout

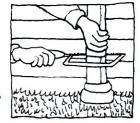


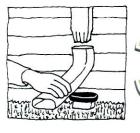


First, secure the downspout to the wall with a clamp screwed or nailed snugly to the siding.

Cut the standpipe at about 9" to 10" from the ground, remove the cut piece and crimp the top piece.





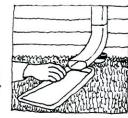


into pip star

Fit the elbow pipe into the crimped pipe and cap the standpipe with a rubber cap.

Place a splashblock under the elbow pipe to direct the flow of rain water away from the foundation.





Fix Your Sump Pump

Making sure that your sump pump is properly installed is one of the best ways to discharge your water legally and to help to protect the environment. When downspouts and sump pumps are connected to the Town Sewer System, their flow is taking up space needed to carry sewage to our treatment plant. These incorrect and illegal connections

can cause sewage to back up into your basement or overflow into our



rivers and streams.

If you sump pump is connected to any other pipe in your home, it is most likely connected illegally to the sewer system. The pipe from your sump pump should discharge onto your property or directly to the storm water system. A professional plumber may be needed to fix your connection.

Our Public Health Engineer will be making visits to businesses and residences to perform inspections of the storm water and sewer connections to comply with a NYS DEC Order on Consent to reduce Inflow and Infiltration and pursuant to the Town Code § 30-25. "Inflow sources prohibited."