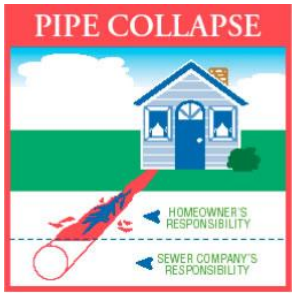
CNI WASTEWATER DEPARTMENT
800 SUCROSE DRIVE
NEW IBERIA, LA 70560-9629
PHONE: (337) 369-2367
FAX: (337) 369-2366

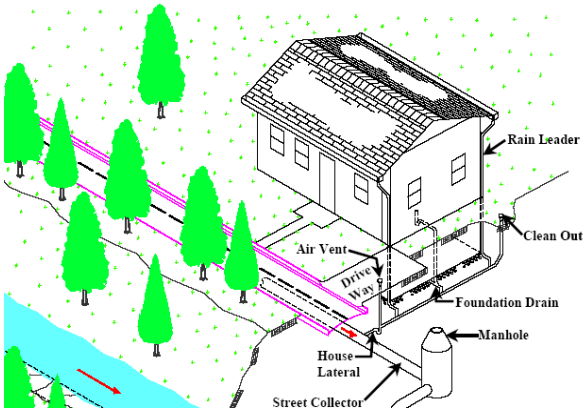
Infiltration and Inflow

FACTS FACTS FACTS FACTS FACTS FACTS FACTS

Infiltration consists of water that enters sewers and building sewer connections from the soil through foundation drains, defective joints, broken or cracked pipe, faulty connections, etc.



Inflow consists of water that is discharged into existing sewer lines from such sources as roof leaders, cellar and yard area drains, commercial and industrial discharges, drains from springs and swampy areas, etc.



Infiltration & Inflow (I/I) is the major deterrent to the successful performance of a wastewater conveyance or treatment system.

Excessive I/I in a sanitary sewer system can hydraulically overload sewer lines and wastewater treatment plants, resulting in surcharging, backups into homes, sewer bypasses and reduced treatment efficiency. It also adversely effects the environment and the quality of the water resources.

Some detrimental effects of I/I are:

- utilization of sewer facility capacity that could be reserved for present sanitary wastewater flows and future urban growth;
- need for construction of relief sewer facilities before originally scheduled dates;
- surcharging and backflooding of sewers into streets and private properties;
- bypassing of raw wastewater or diversion into storm drains or nearby watercourses;
- surcharging of pump stations resulting in excessive wear on equipment, high power costs, bypassing of flows to adjacent waterways, diversion of flow away from secondary or tertiary treatment stages,
- or bypassing of volumes of untreated wastewater into receiving waters.