

# Need more information



For more information about rain-derived infiltration and inflow and how simple plumbing improvements will protect your property from sanitary sewer overflows, please visit us on the web at

**[www.bcua.org](http://www.bcua.org)**

or if you still have questions, call the  
**BCUA RDI&I HOTLINE**  
at  
**1-201-807-5825.**

BERGEN COUNTY UTILITIES AUTHORITY  
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL  
SERVICE AREA

Bergenfield Harrington Park Park Ridge  
Bogota Hasbrouck Heights Ridgely  
Carlstadt Haworth Ridgely Park  
Cliffside Park Hillsdale River Edge  
Closter Leonia River Vale  
Cresskill Little Ferry Rochelle Park  
Demarest Maywood Rutherford  
Dumont Montvale South Hackensack  
East Rutherford Moonachie Teaneck  
Edgewater New Milford Tenafly  
Emerson Northvale Teterboro  
Englewood Norwood Washington  
Englewood Cliffs Old Tappan Westwood  
Fairview Oradell Woodcliff Lake  
Fort Lee Palisades Park Wood-Ridge

## TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE BCUA RAIN BARREL INCENTIVE PROGRAM

### TWO SIZES TO FIT YOUR NEEDS



Why rain barrels?

#### SAVE MONEY ON YOUR WATER BILL

Rain barrels collect and store water from your roof for later use to water your lawn, garden, or indoor plants; wash your car or pet; and for other everyday outdoor water uses.

#### KEEP SEWAGE OUT OF YOUR BASEMENT

Rain barrels reduce stormwater inflow into our sanitary sewer system and keep wastewater out of our homes.

#### SAVE TAXES & HELP KEEP UTILITY COSTS LOW

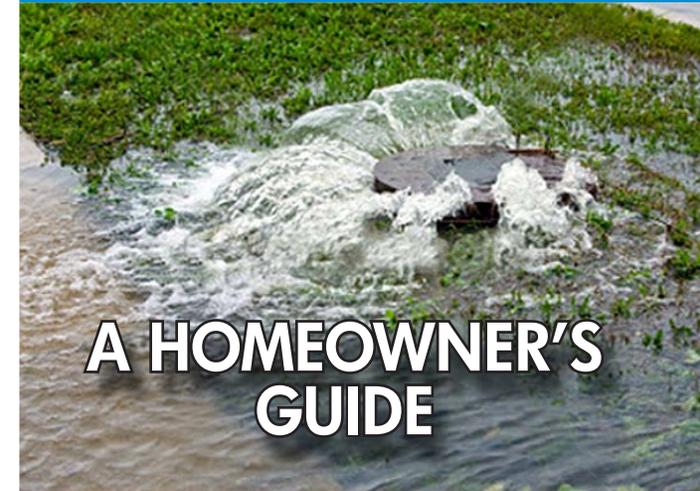
Reduce stress on the public sewage collection and treatment systems, eliminating the need to add to or enlarge these systems.

#### CREATE A HEALTHIER ENVIRONMENT

Rain barrels are the first step to healthy streams, lakes, and rivers; and rainwater is better for your plants because it lacks chlorine and fluoride.



basement sewage backups  
street sewer overflows  
untreated sewage in our rivers  
rising water and sewer rates



## A HOMEOWNER'S GUIDE

How YOU CAN HELP PROTECT OUR  
NEIGHBORHOODS AND KEEP OUR WATERWAYS  
CLEAN.

## RAIN-DERIVED INFILTRATION AND INFLOW REDUCTION & SANITARY SEWER OVERFLOW ELIMINATION PROGRAM



BERGEN COUNTY UTILITIES AUTHORITY  
LITTLE FERRY, NEW JERSEY

## OUR GOAL:

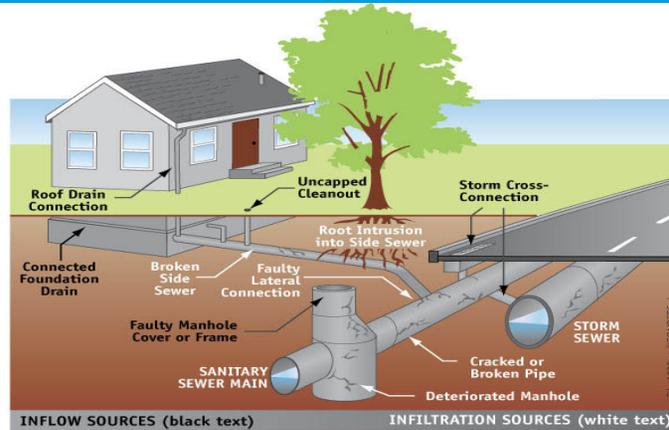
KEEP GROUND WATER AND STORM WATER OUT OF THE MUNICIPAL SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM AND ELIMINATE SANITARY SEWER OVERFLOWS FROM STREET MANHOLES AND INTO BASEMENTS.

Many homes have improper or damaged drainage connections that allow rainwater into the sanitary sewer system instead of directing it to the storm sewer system.

Such connections can include roof drains and downspouts, sump pumps, foundation drains, and area drain in basements, lawns, and driveways. In addition, many homeowners' private lateral sanitary sewer service connections may be damaged, allowing groundwater to leak into the sanitary sewer system.

Rainwater in the municipal sanitary sewer system adds unnecessarily to the cost we all pay for sewage collection and treatment, and in heavy rain can cause untreated sewage to back up in sewer pipes and flood basements. It can also enter waterways and affect the public water supply.

This brochure explains your responsibilities as a homeowner and how the Bergen County Utilities Authority can help you make sure your property is properly drained.



This diagram shows how improper and damaged connections allow rainwater to bypass the storm system and overwhelm the sanitary sewer treatment system.

### WHAT IS RDI&I?

RDI&I means "Rain-derived infiltration and inflow." INFILTRATION is the leakage of ground and storm water into the sanitary sewer system through defects in pipes and manholes during and after rainfall. INFLOW is the entrance of stormwater into the sanitary sewer system from improper household connections and other sources.

### WHAT IS AN SSO?

A SANITARY SEWER OVERFLOW (SSO) is an overflow of sewage from the municipal sanitary sewer system into basements, property, onto lawns, roads, and into waterways. SSOs occur when too much rain water enters the sanitary sewer system and overwhelms that system's capacity.

Homeowners can help reduce excessive water from entering the sanitary sewer system.

▶▶ **SUMP PUMPS:** If you have a sump pump in your basement that is connected to the sanitary sewer system, it should be redirected to the storm sewer system, the ground on your property, or to a dry well.

▶▶ **ROOF DRAINS:** If your roof drains are connected to the sanitary sewer system, the drains should be redirected on the ground or to a dry well. **One simple and practical solution for the homeowner is to utilize rain barrels to collect roof drain stormwater for use on lawns and gardens. The BCUA is offering two types for sale at a significant discount.**

▶▶ **AREA DRAINS:** Area drains located in basements, driveways, or lawns that drain to the sanitary sewer system should be redirected to the storm sewer system or a dry well.

▶▶ **FOUNDATION DRAINS:** Foundation drains that are connected to the sanitary sewer system should be redirected to the storm sewer system or a dry well.

▶▶ **SERVICE CONNECTIONS:** Broken or damaged private building service connections (PBSCs) - also called house laterals - including missing or broken cleanout caps, also contribute to rain-derived groundwater and stormwater entering the sanitary sewer system. These types of defects should be repaired.