



CLEAN WATER
IS EVERYBODY'S BUSINESS

Ruthanne Fuller, Mayor
Jim McGonagle, DPW Commissioner



Newton's Commitment to Clean Water

As part of the City's ongoing efforts to improve our waterways and ensure smart sustainable reinvestment in our sewer and stormwater drainage infrastructure, we are conducting sewer and drainage system investigation projects in your neighborhood this year.

These investigations are a part of Mayor Fuller's pledge to build a greater, better and more beautiful Newton for our children and grandchildren. Since sewer and stormwater drainage infrastructure are underground, they are often not considered an important element of a beautiful city. Yet without attention and repair, our sewer and drainage services could set us back on our goals to clean-up Newton's waters and the Charles River.

This letter is intended to inform you of our investigation efforts and remind you of our continued efforts to repair, replace, and improve our sewer and drain utilities.

The City of Newton is investing your sewer and stormwater user fees in programs to ensure that this infrastructure continues to function as it was designed, reducing environmental pollution, protecting infrastructure from premature failure and providing essential utility service to your homes and businesses.

Ted Jerdee, Director of Utilities
Newton Department of Public Works (DPW)



Stormwater drainage infrastructure protects roads and developed properties from failure and flooding.



Sewer pipes and sewer laterals carry wastewater to treatment facilities.



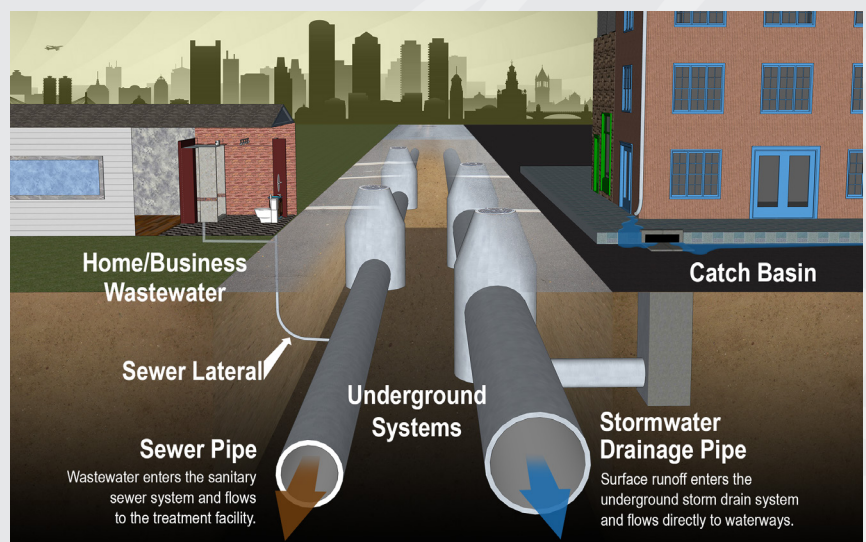
Sewer and stormwater drainage infrastructure require periodic rehabilitation, repair, and maintenance to continue to function effectively.

Newton Sewer System Facts

- » Over 9,000 Sewer Manholes
- » 295 Miles of Sewer Pipe
- » 10 Sewer Pump Stations

Newton Stormwater Drainage System Facts

- » Over 5,000 Stormwater Manholes
- » 314 Miles of Stormwater Pipes
- » Over 12,000 Stormwater Catch Basins
- » Over 300 Stormwater Discharge Points





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What You Can Expect in Your Neighborhood...

- » Private contractors hired by the City will be in your area accessing city stormwater drain manholes.
- » Contractors will also be accessing stormwater drainage outlets.
- » Contractors will be sampling drainage water from these stormwater drainage structures.
- » If you have a manhole or outfall on your property, contractors may need pedestrian access to it.
- » No equipment will be placed on properties without the owner's authorization.
- » Work is anticipated to continue through the fall.
- » In the rare circumstance that we need access to your home, you will be contacted.
- » You may notice equipment accessing manholes in order to video the interior of city pipes.

What You Can Do to Prevent Stormwater Runoff Pollution...

- » Use fertilizers sparingly and sweep up driveways, sidewalks and gutters.
- » Never dump **ANYTHING** down storms drains or into streams.
- » Use non-toxic pesticides whenever possible.
- » Direct downspouts into gardens and away from paved surfaces.
- » Check your car for leaks and recycle your motor oil.
- » Pick up and properly dispose of pet waste.



What You Can Do to Help Protect Our Sewers...

NEVER POUR GREASE DOWN ANY DRAIN!

Prevention can help keep the Fats, Oils, and Grease (FOG) out of your plumbing!



CAN IT!

Pour cooled grease into a covered disposal container, an old glass jar or throw away can.



SCRAPE IT!

Before washing dishes, scrape leftover food scraps and excess grease from cookware into the trash.



TRASH IT!

Put all fats, oils, and grease in the trash.

The DPW works every day to preserve and improve the water quality in our streams, ponds, and the Charles River.

Over the past 12 months, the DPW has:

- » Cleaned 6,500 stormwater drainage catch basins.
- » Properly disposed of debris removed from catch basins.
- » Cleaned over 7,000 linear feet of stormwater drainage pipes.
- » Street sweepers cleaned every single street four times per year.
- » Disposed of 15 tons of material collected by street sweepers.



For more information, contact Maria Rose at 617.796.1640