

## Private Sewer Line Assessment Program

The City of Bryan Private Sewer Line Failure Repair and Replacement Program is a simple and convenient way for Bryan home owners to finance repair costs for private sewer lines. Assessment financing is provided with no down payment, closing costs or fees: however, participation is limited to single family, duplex, triplex and fourplex dwellings. All loans will be financed at an interest rate of 3%.

Customers eligible for the assessment program must:

- Be a City of Bryan resident and property owner.
- Own the residence where the repair or replacement is made.
- Maintain an appropriate credit history.



## What you can do to reduce I&I

- Inspect the rain gutters on your house and make sure the downspout is not connected to the sanitary sewer. Rainwater should be directed to your lawn and/or the storm sewer.
- Inspect your sewer cleanout to make sure the cap is tightly closed and that the cleanout pipe has not been damaged (such as by a lawn mower). Replace missing caps so that rainwater can not get into the sewer system.
- Avoid planting trees and shrubs over or near sewer lines. Roots can enter and damage sewer piping.
- Contact a plumber to perform a periodic inspection of your home's sewer piping for cracks, separated joints, or sags.



We can be reached at  
(979) 209-5900  
[pwcc@bryantx.gov](mailto:pwcc@bryantx.gov)  
[www.bryantx.org](http://www.bryantx.org)

# Inflow and Infiltration



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## What is Inflow and Infiltration?

Inflow and Infiltration (I&I) are terms used to describe the ways that groundwater and stormwater enter the sanitary sewer system. All of this water is called “clear water” to distinguish it from sanitary sewage.

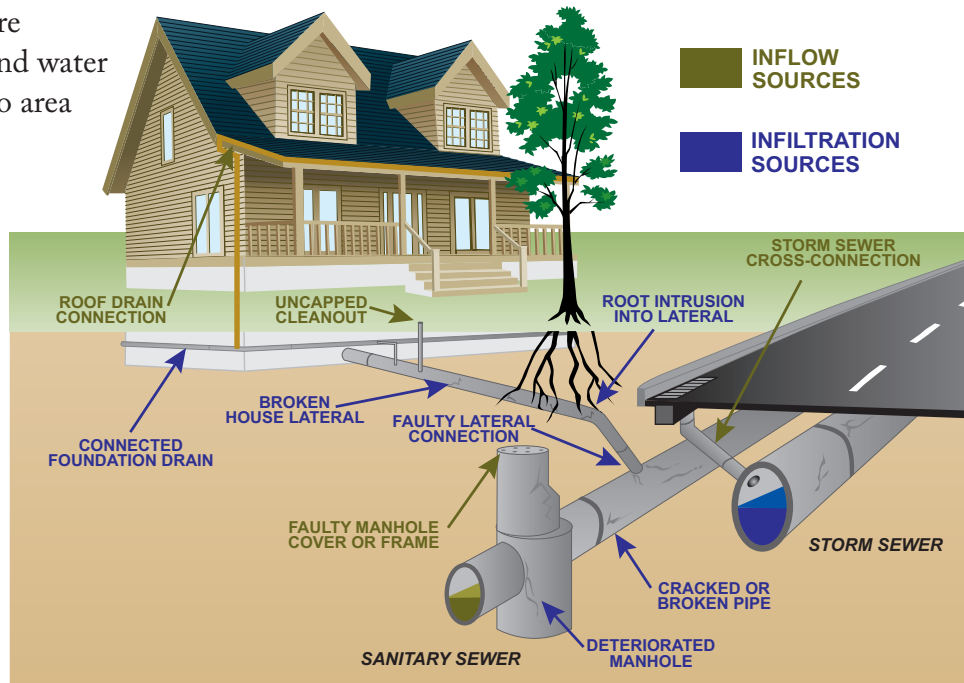
*Inflow* refers to clear water from rain that improperly drains into the sanitary sewer system.

*Infiltration* refers to ground water that leaks into the sanitary sewer system through cracked or faulty sewer pipes.

## Why is I&I a Problem?

Sanitary sewers are designed to carry sewage from homes and businesses directly to a treatment facility where it can be treated; whereas, storm sewers are designed to drain rain and water from streets and curbs to area creeks and rivers.

During rainstorms, clear water enters the sanitary sewer through inflow and infiltration sources and consumes a large portion of the sewer system. Overloaded sewer pipes result in service interruptions, flooded households, and sewage spills.



## What is the City doing to reduce I&I?

The City is continually evaluating the integrity of the sanitary sewer system to help identify sources of inflow and infiltration. The findings of these studies serve as the foundation to assist city staff in developing a corrective plan for reducing and controlling I&I.

Cracked or damaged sewer piping from residential homes show to be a significant source of infiltration to the sanitary sewer system; however, defects in residential sewer piping frequently go undetected or unnoticed because the piping is buried underground.

The City has utilized smoke testing of the sanitary sewer system to help identify sources of inflow and infiltration by identifying

defects in the main sewer line or private sewer piping. Smoke testing is a simple means of locating openings in the sewer system that allow clear water to enter the sanitary sewer. Residents with defective sewer piping will be notified of the defect and will be provided a timeframe to correct the deficiency.



Smoke testing of the sanitary sewer system

## Sewer Grant Program

The sewer grant program provides assistance through the Community Development Department. This program provides assistance to low to moderate income residents, as defined by HUD. Residents interested in the program should contact Community Development at 209-5183. The grant can be utilized to replace the sewer service on private property. Internal plumbing is not eligible.