



## Sump Pumps - Protecting our Sanitary Sewer System

### Protecting our Sanitary Sewer System

In the Village of Almont, we have two separate systems, one for sanitary sewer and one for storm sewers.

Sanitary sewer pipes collect waste water from toilets, sinks, bathtubs, showers, washing machines, etc. from inside your home or business. These “sewer pipes” transport the wastewater to the Village’s wastewater treatment plant where it is treated before it can be discharged to the Clinton River.

Catch basins or storm sewers collect the Village’s clear water from streets, yards, parking lots, sump pumps and discharges it directly into our nearby ditches and the Clinton River. No treatment needed!

A great reason to keep clear water out of our sanitary sewer system is cost. The clear water that reaches our wastewater treatment plant is treated unnecessarily. When clear water discharges directly into our sanitary sewer system, it increases the cost of treatment due to greater volumes of sewage to process at our wastewater treatment plant. The cost of treatment is then passed onto you, the customer!

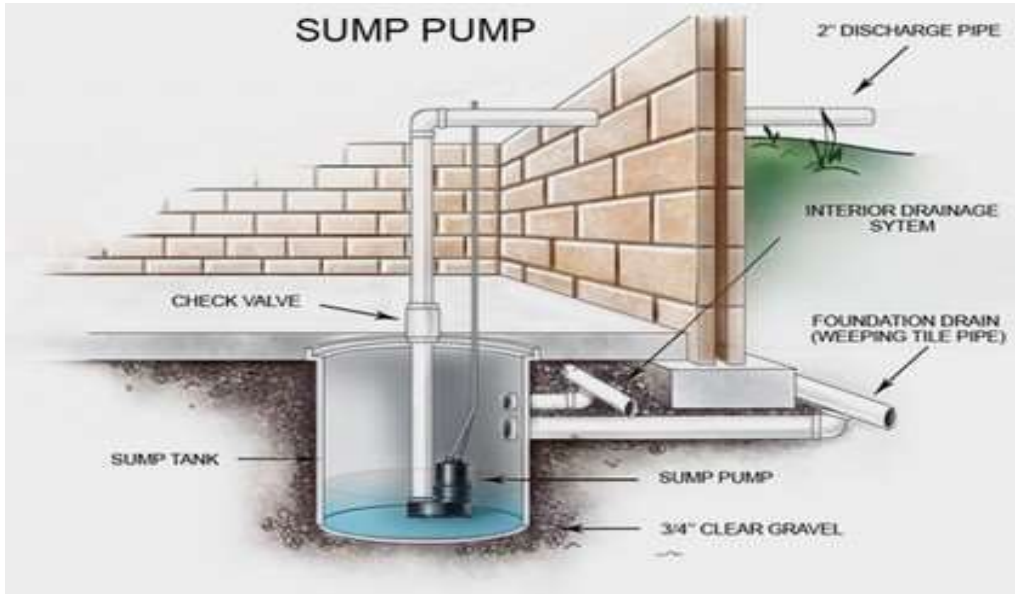
### Examples of clear water connections

1. **Downspouts** - Downspouts carry water from the top of the house or building to the ground and protect your roof from damage and directs water away from your homes weeping tile. An average house roof sheds about 650 to 1000 gallons of water for every inch of rainfall. Downspouts should spill the water out on the ground at least 3 feet away from the building
2. **Sump Pumps** - Sump pumps protect your basement from groundwater especially during storms. A sump pump is a submersible pump that sits inside of the sump pump pit. There are three main components that comprise a sump pump drain system - the sump pump, the sump pit, and the sump discharge pipe. As water levels rise the sump pump pit will be the first to fill with water because it connects to the weeping tile system that usually runs the perimeter of the home. As the groundwater level rises the sump pit will fill with water activating the sump pump to begin to pump the water outside of your property through the discharge pipe - away from your basement’s foundation. Sump pumps should discharge out of your house and into your ditch or to a storm sewer. A sump pump can contribute approximately 5,000 gallons of water a day per home even more in rainfall. It is against the Village Ordinance to have downspouts and/or sump pumps discharge into the sanitary sewer or onto your neighbor’s property.

**Village of Almont – Department of Public Works**

Phone: 810-798-8528 Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 7:00 - 5:00

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3.

You can do a quick inspection of your sump pump piping to ensure that the water is going outside. The sump pump should discharge to either the ditch, storm sewer (if a dedicated storm lateral is available) or better, to the lawn, at least 20 feet away from the home, for infiltration. Never direct water onto a street, alley, right of way, easement, or neighboring property. If the sump pump is connected to the drain or sink in your basement, it is improperly connected to the sanitary sewer and must be disconnected and rerouted. Proper sump pump discharge connections are to the outside of the house only!

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