

Clermont County Water Resources
Department

**Foundation Drain
Disconnection Program**

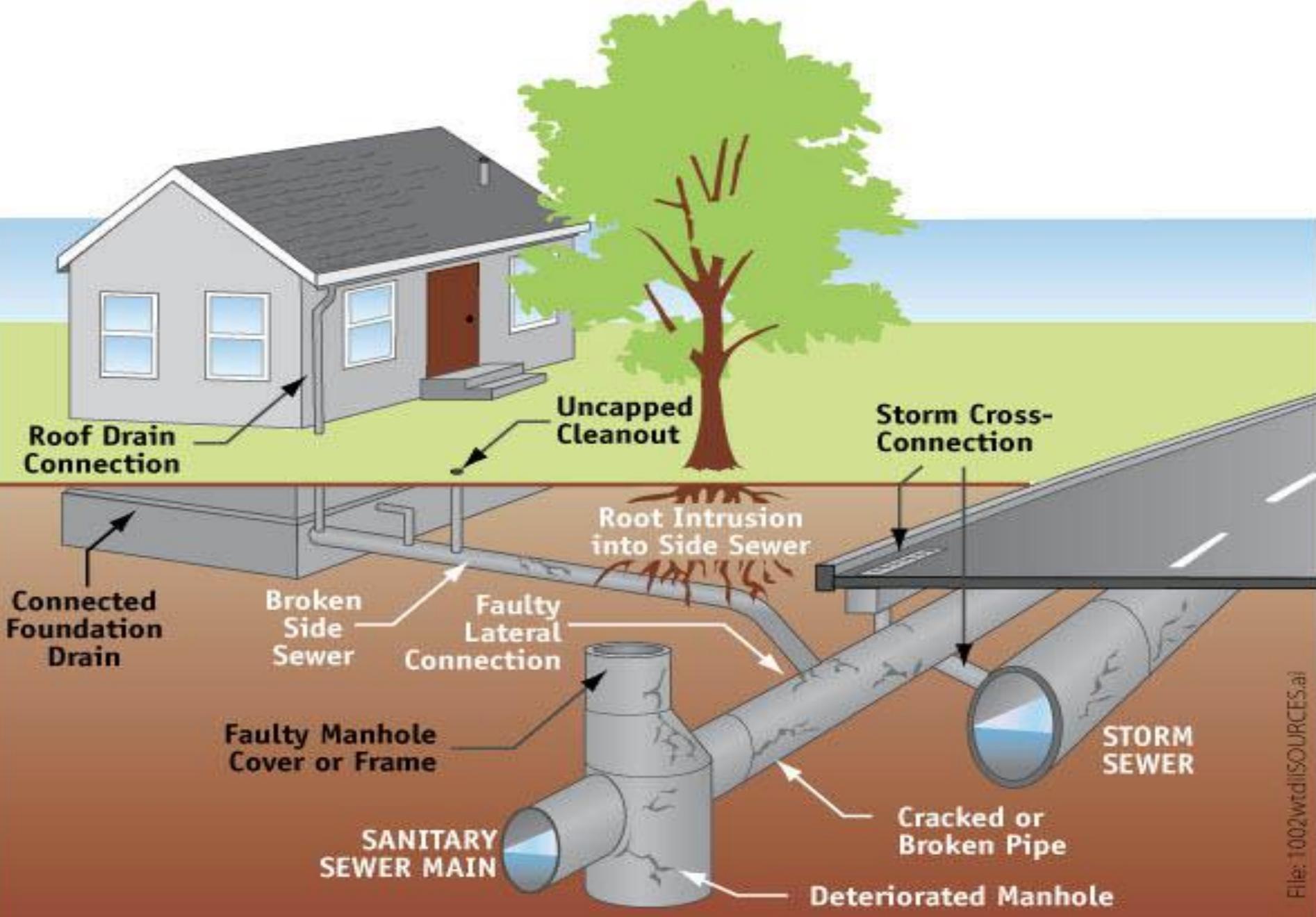
Beechmont Park Project

Foundation Drain Project

- Why pre -1972 homes are chosen in your neighborhood?
 - Results of pilot study in your area showed the majority of homes built prior to 1972 within your neighborhood had foundation drains connected directly to the building sewer.
 - As a result, Storm water Inflow / Infiltration (I&I) in sanitary sewers takes up capacity in the sewer pipes and ends up at the wastewater treatment plants where it must be treated like sewage, and basically reducing capacity in sewer pipes. Moreover, these flows result in higher capital expenditures and potential rate increases on customers like yourself.

Foundation Drain Problems

- Chronic problems with “inflow and infiltration”:
 - Inflow is storm water that rapidly flows into sewers via prohibited connections such as roof drain downspouts, foundation drains, sump pumps, and storm drain cross-connections, as well as through holes in manhole covers and larger defects in the sanitary sewer system.
 - Infiltration is groundwater that seeps more slowly into sewer pipes through holes, cracks, joint failures, and faulty connections.
- Sanitary sewers not designed to carry storm water.
- Problems – excess storm water flow overwhelms the sanitary sewer system:
 - Results in sanitary sewer overflows and basement flooding.
 - I&I, if not prevented, can require major capital improvements to correct and result in higher treatment costs (and potentially higher rates to our customers).

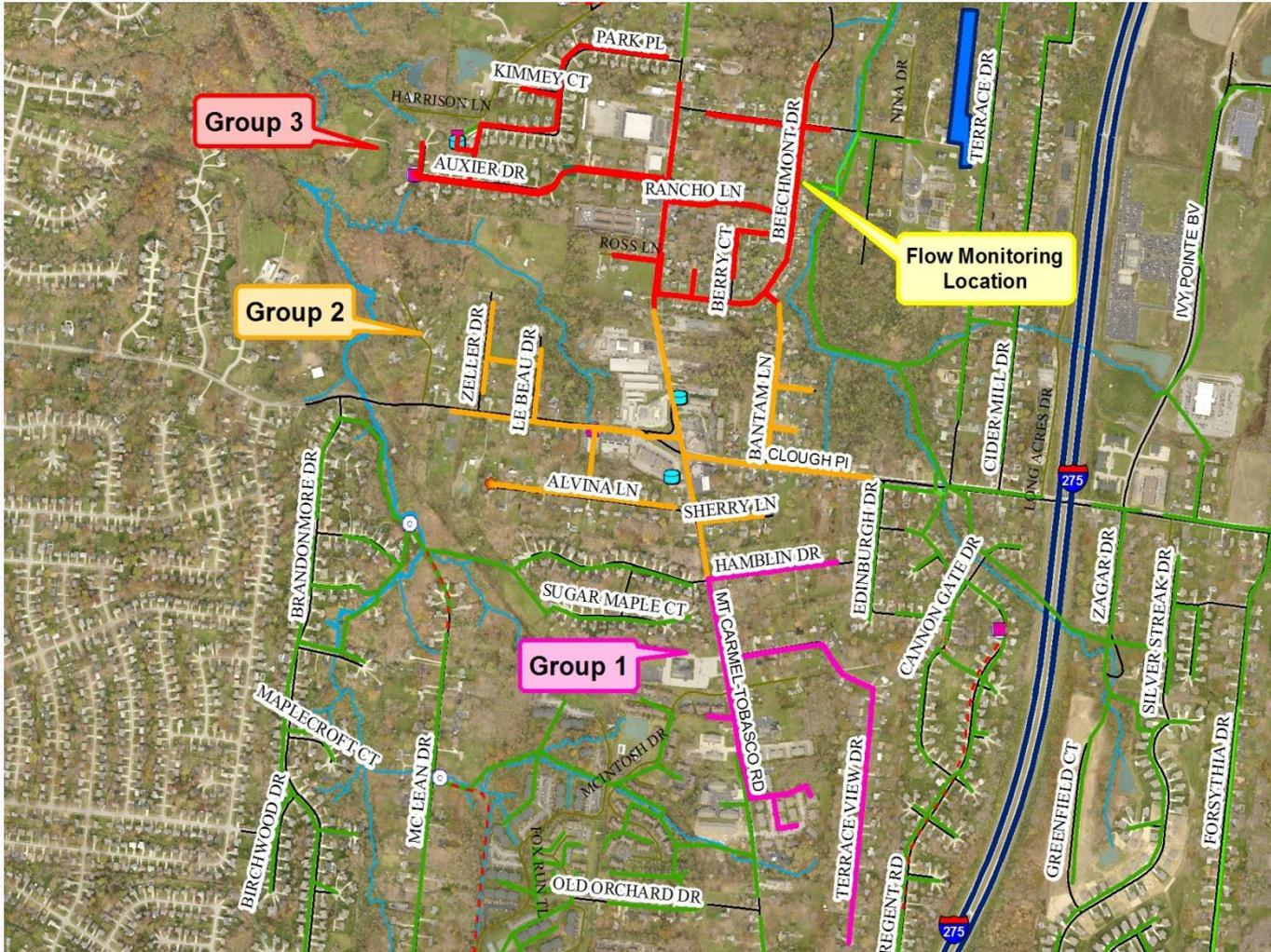


INFLOW SOURCES (black text)

INFILTRATION SOURCES (white text)

Vicinity of Project

- Project Area: Southwestern section of the Hall Run sewershed at intersection of Mt Carmel Tobasco Rd and Clough Pike, just West of I-275.



Group 1 – Initial Notifications to be mailed on or about July 15, 2015

Group 2 – Initial Notifications to be mailed on or about August 15, 2015

Group 3 – Due to the overwhelming response from residents in Groups 1 and 2, and also the upcoming inclement weather, Initial Notifications to be mailed on or about June 1, 2016

Foundation Drain Disconnection Program – Beechmont Park

- 124 homes were identified for foundation drain testing.
- It is required that the property owner should remove the connection (if there is any found). Recognizing that such improvements can be a substantial cost to property owners, the Water Resources Department may provide reimbursement for the separation of foundation drains.
- September 1, 2010 – County Commissioners approve change in sewer regulations: Water Resources Department can contribute up to \$3,500 for foundation drain separation in pre-1972 homes.

Project Components – Beechmont Park

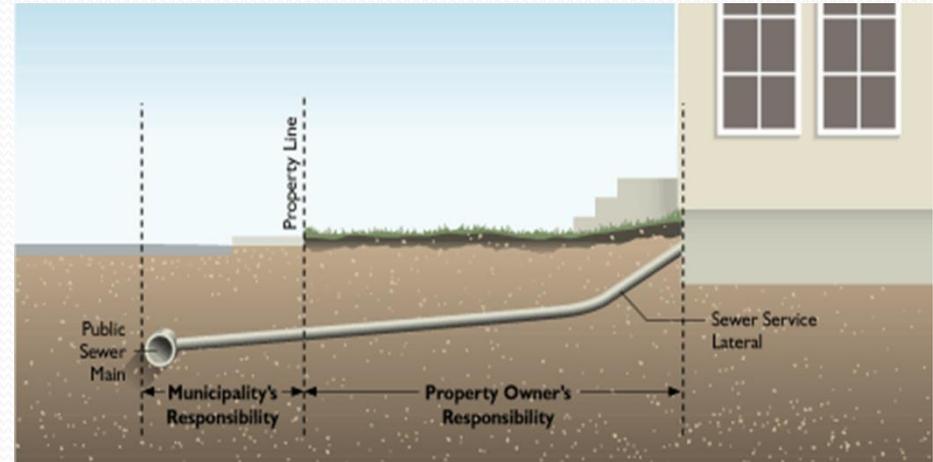
- Dye Testing/Televising and Basement Inspection

- This will be conducted in an effort to determine if your home's foundation drain is connected to the sanitary sewer system.
- Camera launched up building sewer towards foundation.
- Water with green dye injected at base of foundation.
- Green dye evident when foundation drain is connected to building sewer.
- We video and document each case.



How does the Foundation Drain Disconnection Program work?

- Water Resources Department – responsible for sewer mains/manholes and lateral from main sewer to edge of right-of-way.
- Property Owner – responsible for building sewer from edge of right-of-way to house.
- Water Resources Department (WRD) to determine that connection exists by dye testing.
- Section 3.6 of the WRD Rules & Regulations requires property owners to cooperate with testing performed to identify sources of I/I.



How does the Foundation Drain Disconnection Program work?

- Property owner is notified of required disconnection and reimbursement policy.
 - Property owner sends corrective action plan to WRD for review/approval.
 - Identify work to be done, who does the work, estimated cost.
 - Property owner or licensed contractor can do work.
 - Clermont County General Health District, Plumbing Division, inspects work.
 - When completed and approved, WRD reimburses property owner for pre-approved amount, up to \$3,500.
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- **General Homeowner Corrective Action Needed:**
 - Excavate / expose physical connection.
 - Disconnect foundation drain / seal opening in building sewer.
 - Install sump pump / connect foundation drain to sump pump.
 - Discharge sump pump to ground, creek, storm sewer, etc.

How does the Foundation Drain Disconnection Program work?

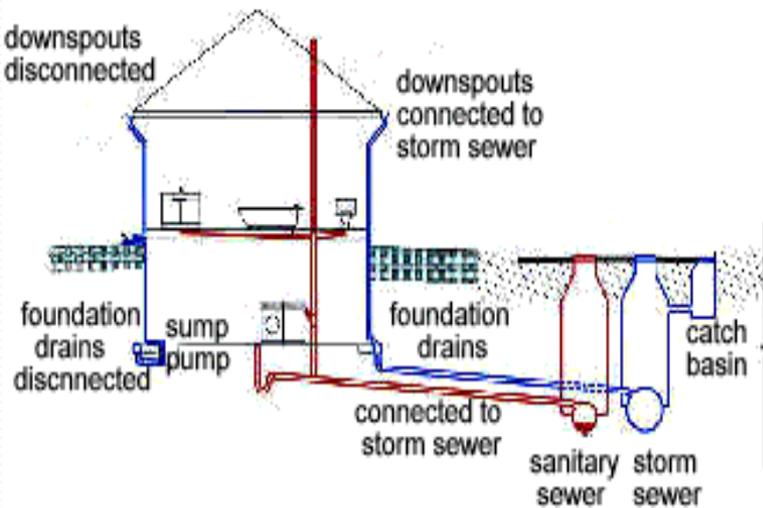
- Allowable Expenses:

- Excavation work.
- Disconnection of foundation drain.
- Installation of an interior or exterior sump pump.
- Yard restoration, seed/straw.
- Repair of structures altered by approved activities.
- Any permit, application and inspection fees.

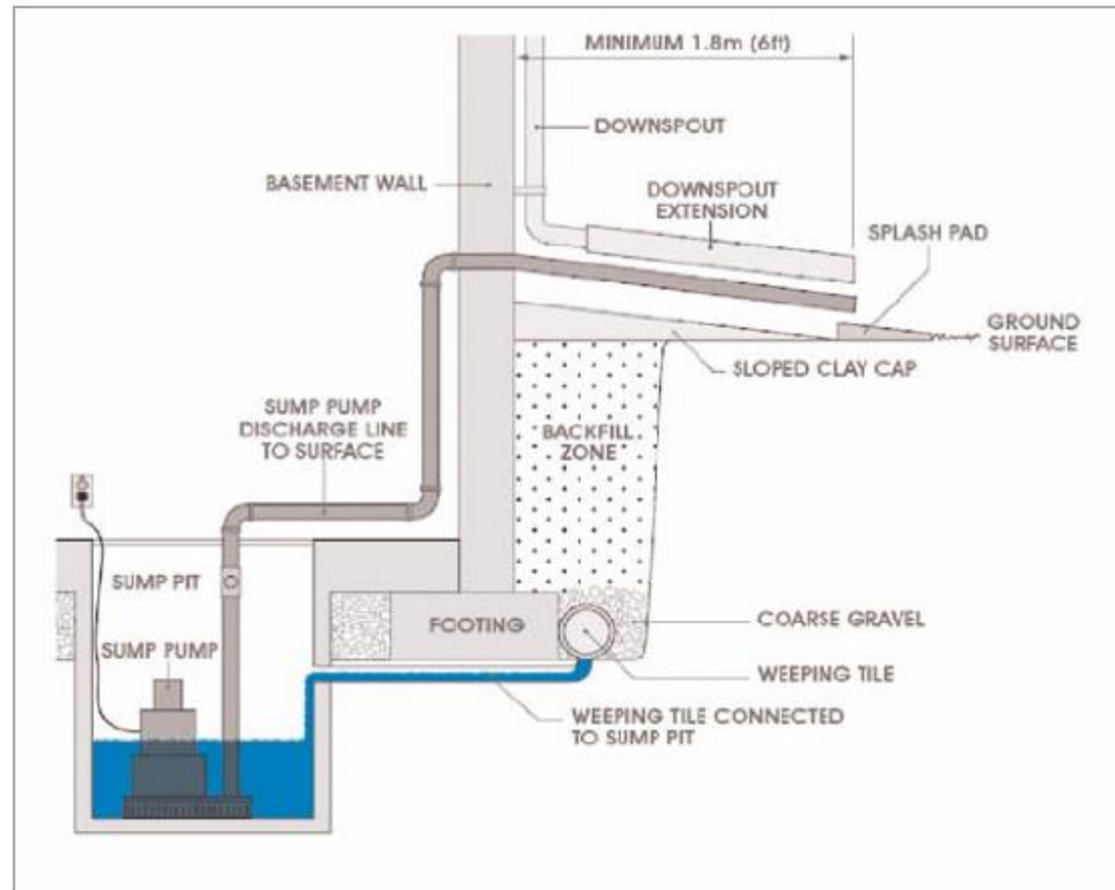
- Expenses not Allowed:

- Electrical Improvements.
- Property drainage improvements.
- Improvements to structures or property not affected by approved activities.
- Improvements to structures or property above the condition at start of the project.
- Disconnection of roof downspouts or sump pumps.
- Disconnection of foundation drains installed on or after January 1, 1972.
- Long term maintenance costs.

Typical Foundation Drain Disconnection Diagrams



Sump-pump installation



Time Frame

- Project to be completed within 2 years; begin scheduling dye tests immediately.
- Scheduling on volunteer basis at first.
- Property Owners given 18 months to correct from date of notice that connection is verified (If not complete within 18 months, may not be eligible for reimbursement).
- After 2 years, disconnections will be required; reimbursement funds may not be available.

- **Enforcement of Testing and Disconnection:**

Penalty for Failure to Permit Testing:

- WRD Rules & Regulations 3.6.1.3 – discontinue water service.

Penalty for Failure to Correct Deficiencies:

- WRD Rules & Regulations 3.6.1.5 – discontinue water service.
- Improper discharge into the collection system can constitute a misdemeanor with every day of improper discharge a separate violation.
- WRD Rules & Regulations 3.6.7.5 – In order to qualify for reimbursement, foundation drain disconnection must be completed within 18 months of written notification.

To Schedule Dye Tests

- Contact: Fred Moukahal, Program Manager, I/I Division
- Phone: (513) 732-7880
- Email: fmoukahal@clermontcountyohio.gov