Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection

Connecticut Department of
ENERGY &
ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION

Norwalk Permit
Public Information Meeting

January 14, 2021

Ann Straut, Sanitary Engineer 3

Common Terms

Common Terms

- **NPDES** – National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System.
- **NPDES Permit** – The NPDES permit program was created in 1972 by the Clean Water Act. A NPDES permit addresses water pollution by regulating point sources that discharge pollutants to waters of the US.
- **Point Source** – Is defined very broadly in the Clean Water Act and means discernible, confined and discrete conveyance (pipes, ditches, tunnels, conduits, etc), vessels or floating craft from which pollutants may be discharged, and animal feed operations.

Common Terms

- **Signature Date** – The date a permit is signed.
- **Effective Date** – The date a permit goes into effect. It is the first day of the month after the permit is signed. (signed 1/14/2021 – effective 2/1/2021)
- **Continued** – A permit is continued if an application is received before the expiration of the permit along with the appropriate fee and a signed *Completed Notice of Certification* form and a copy of the published notice

Common Terms

- **Pollutant** – has a very broad definition and includes any type of industrial, municipal and agricultural waste discharged into water.
- **Effluent or Discharge** – the treated wastewater that leaves a WWTF usually through a pipe.
- **Limits** – permits contain limits on what a plant can discharge to ensure that it does not hurt water quality or people's health. Every parameter (i.e. aluminum, total suspended solids, etc) will contain a monitoring frequency and may contain a limit.

Common Terms

- **Wastewater** (sewage) – comes from toilet, sink, dishwater, laundry, industrial and commercial byproduct, etc.
- **Wastewater Treatment Plant / Water Pollution Control Facility** – a facility to remove contaminants from wastewater
- **Stormwater** – comes from rain and/or snowmelt
- **Combined Sewer** – pipe designed to convey both wastewater and stormwater

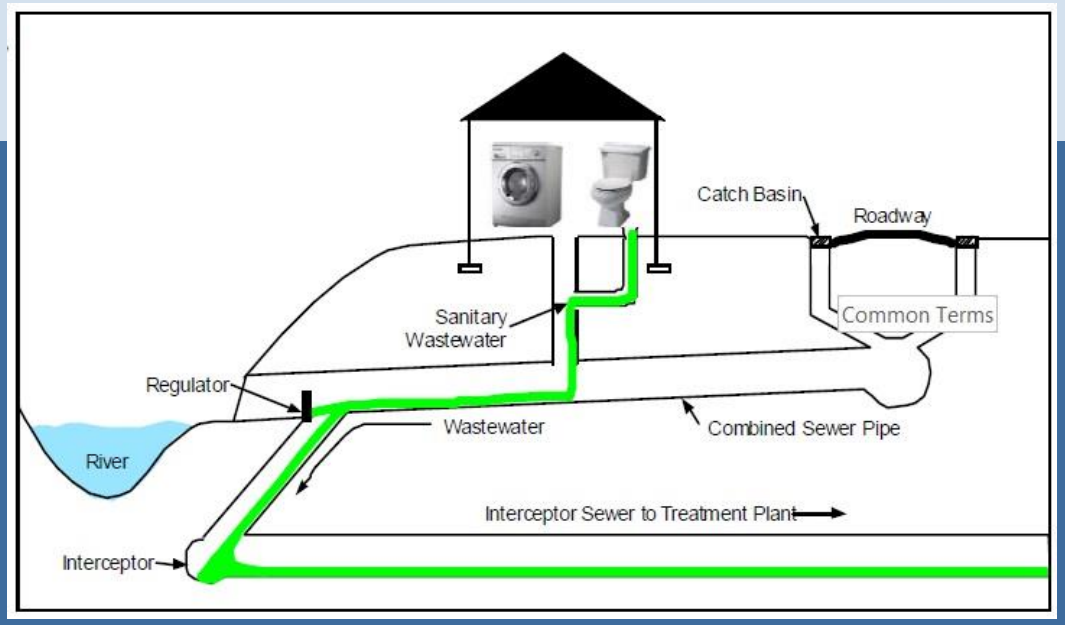
Combined Sewers

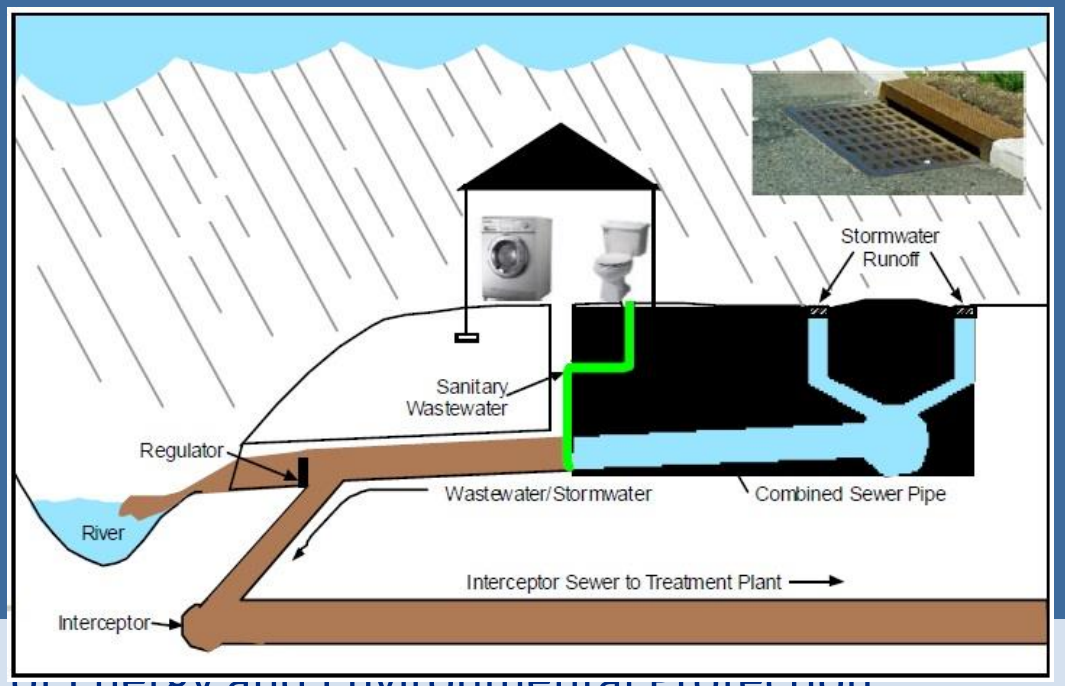
Dry Day:

No overflows

Wet Day:

During rain events the combined sewer cannot convey all the flow and results in an overflow (CSO)

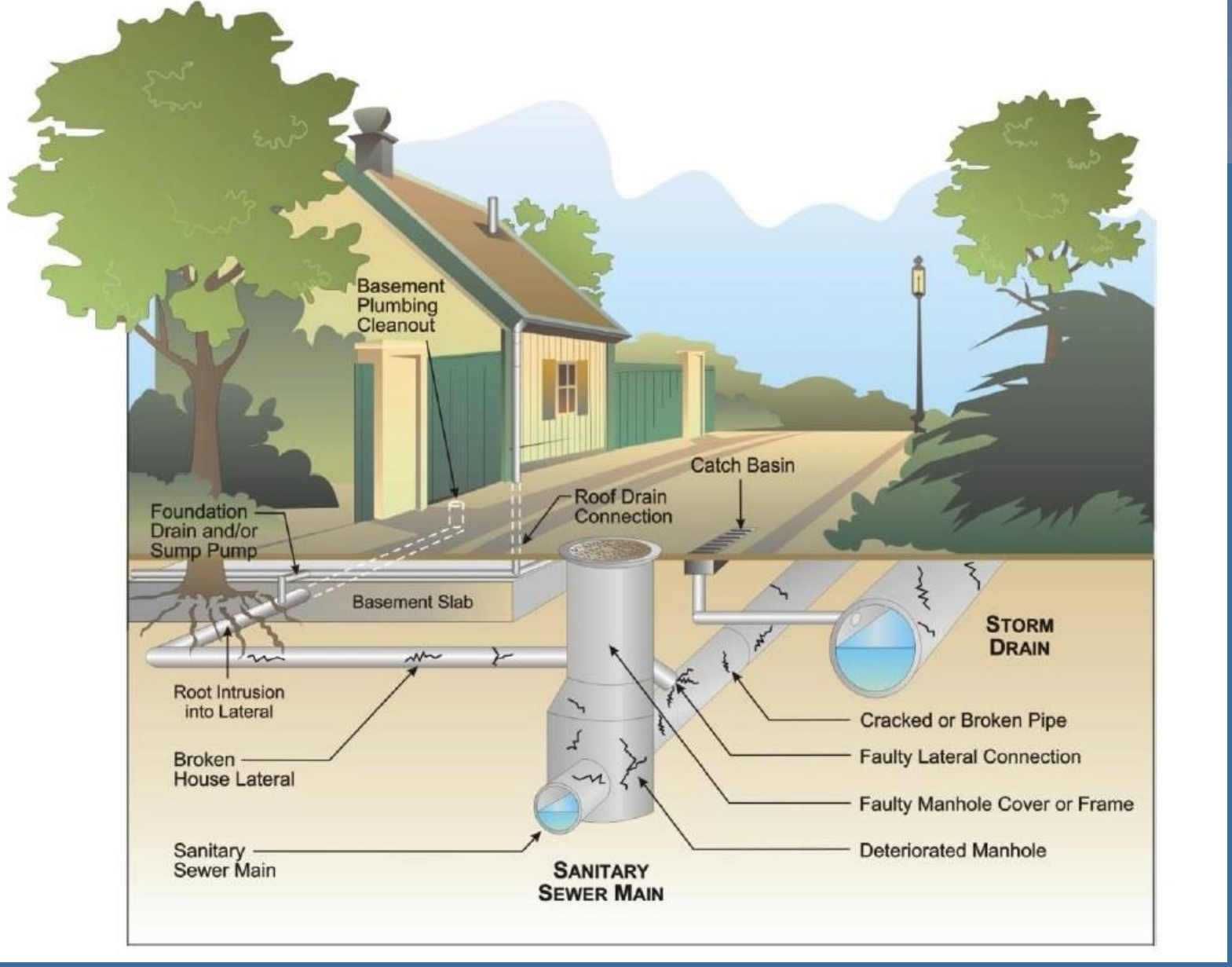




Common Terms

- **Sanitary Sewer** – pipe designed to convey only wastewater – also called separated sewer
- **Storm Drain** – pipe designed to convey only stormwater
- **Inflow** – non-wastewater (typically stormwater) that enters the sanitary sewer directly, such as catch basins, brooks, roof leaders, sump pumps, foundation drains, etc.
- **Infiltration** – non-wastewater (typically groundwater) that seeps into the sanitary sewer from cracked pipes, manhole leaks, lateral leaks, etc.
- **"I/I"** – common acronym meaning infiltration and inflow

I/I


Basement Plumbing Cleanout
Catch Basin
Roof Drain Connection
Foundation Drain and/or Sump Pump
Basement Slab
STORM DRAIN
Root Intrusion into Lateral
Broken House Lateral
Cracked or Broken Pipe
Faulty Lateral Connection
Faulty Manhole Cover or Frame
Deteriorated Manhole
Sanitary Sewer Main
SANITARY SEWER MAIN

The Permit Process

The Permit Process

Norwalk's Permit Expiration Date: 3/23/2019

- A courtesy reminder is sent to the permittee at least 270 days prior to the permit expiration date
- The permit application is due at least 180 days prior to the expiration of the permit
- The permit application and payment comes in through the Central Permit Processing Unit and they enter it into our database and accept the payment.
- If the permittee pays the fee, submits the application along with a *Completed Notice of Certification* form and a copy of the published notice, the permit is "CONTINUED"

The Permit Process

- A sufficiency letter is sent or more information is requested at this time to ensure the application is sufficient.
- The processing fee is charged at this time.
- A technical review is completed at this time – water quality is reviewed, and the draft permit competed.
  - The water quality review is based on the last 5 years of data and is input into spreadsheets with built-in calculations based on the Water Quality Standards and supplied to us by the water quality unit.
  - The draft permit is written based on a template approved by management and our counsel.

The Permit Process

- The permit goes through a quality control review and is then shared with the town.
- Once the quality review check and town reviews are complete, the permit is public noticed in a local newspaper and is shared on our website:
  https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/About/Public-Notices
  Click on Proposed Actions or Decisions
- There is a 30 day comment period (requests for public hearing may occur during this time)
- Once the 30 days pass, the comments are reviewed (if any are received) and incorporated if appropriate.
- The permit is then finalized and sent up for signature.

Processing Time Goal is 180 Days

Event	Number of Days
Sufficiency Review	30
Technical Review	90
Tentative Determination	15
Comment Period	30
Comment Review	15
Public Hearing	0
Final Decision	15
TOTAL	**180**

Draft Permit Comments

Comments on the Draft Permit

RE: Wet Weather Treatment Outfall 002-1

The outfall is currently in non-compliance as the treatment train no longer includes primary treatment or the equivalent of primary treatment.

This will be addressed in a coming order. The city will be required to complete a facility plan update to determine the best way to bring this treatment train back into compliance.

Comments on the Draft Permit

RE: Ann Street Siphon

The Ann Street Siphon is not permitted as a (Combined Sewer Overflow) CSO outfall in the Norwalk permit. This means that bypasses from this outfall are currently not allowed.

This will be addressed in a coming order. The city will be required to complete a collection system master plan (CSO LTCP) to address permanent closure of the CSO.

Comments on the Draft Permit

RE: I/I Flow, Catch Basins and Manhole Inspections

An I/I plan was approved by DEEP in 2018.

This will be addressed in a coming order. The city will be required to complete a collection system master plan (CSO LTCP) which includes addressing I/I.

Comments on the Draft Permit

RE: Nitrogen and other Norwalk Embayment Concerns

Questions regarding Nitrogen in the Norwalk harbor Embayment will be addressed after the completion of the study and modeling efforts occurring under the Water Quality Unit of DEEP.

CBOD testing requirements were added to the permit to aid this effort.

Comments From the Public Hearing

Send to: ann.straut@ct.gov

Responses will be available on the DEEP website at:

https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Municipal-Wastewater/Environmental-Impact-Evaluations-for-Water-Projects