

Effective July 1, 2010

To aid in understanding sewer cost, the City established a Groundwater Inflow Adjustment. Previously, this was incorporated as part of the Sewer. This adjustment represents the cost of treating invasive groundwater.

The groundwater inflow charge is directly linked to the problems associated with inflow/infiltration.

The City collects and redistributes the Groundwater Inflow Adjustment revenue to the Kent County Wastewater Treatment Plant to pay for processing.

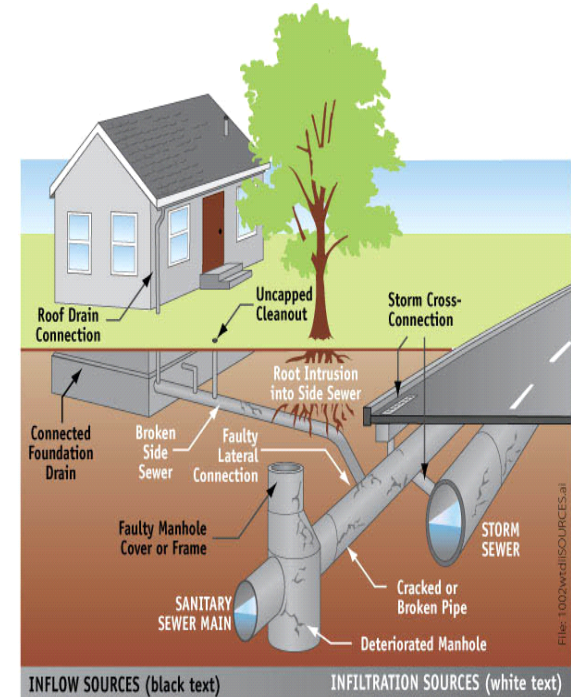
The Water/Wastewater Department funds projects needed to reduce inflow/infiltration by replacing and repairing water and sewer pipes.

## Drainage systems/pipes



The City area storm drainage system consists of drains and underground pipes located in neighborhood streets, roads, and parking lots. Sewer pipelines carry household water to the Wastewater Treatment Plant, while water outside the home flow into a storm drain directly to a lake or river.

## Groundwater Inflow/Infiltration (GWI)



Courtesy of King County



### City of Dover Utilities

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Picture below is a graphical view of the sources of inflow

# Understanding Groundwater Inflow Adjustment

## Q: What is Groundwater?

A: Groundwater (infiltration) is influenced by surface water, and occurs when excess water seeps into sewer pipes through holes, cracks, joint failures, and faulty connections.

## Q: What is Stormwater?

A: Stormwater (inflow) is surface water that doesn't soak into the ground. Stormwater enters the wastewater system from yards, roofs, footing drains, and through holes in manhole covers.

Events such as major storms, heavy rainfall or snowfall, and snow melt contribute to excessive sewer flows.

## Q: Why is extra water in the sewer systems a problem?

A: Runoff sends untreated water, including sewage into our reservoir.

It takes up capacity in the sewer pipes and ends up at the Wastewater Treatment plants where it must be treated like sewage, resulting in higher treatment costs.

## Q: Why pay for Groundwater Inflow Adjustment?

A: Customers who use City water services share in the treatment costs resulting from extra water in the sewer system, and for repair and replacement of sewer pipes.

