



South Shore Inflow and Infiltration Study

Helping the City Make Wise Sewer Investments

January 2019

Introduction

The City is studying how rain and groundwater get into our sewer system – called inflow and infiltration, or I&I. There are many different sources of I&I. As sewers age, they leak more, allowing rain and groundwater to enter the sewers and mix with the wastewater. There are also places where drains from roofs or parking lots allow rainwater directly into the sewers.

The problem with I&I is that when clean rain or groundwater get into the sewer system, it takes up capacity that could be used for dirty sewer water. We don't want to pay to build bigger pipes when a much cheaper alternative is to keep clean water out of the sewer system.

Want to learn more?

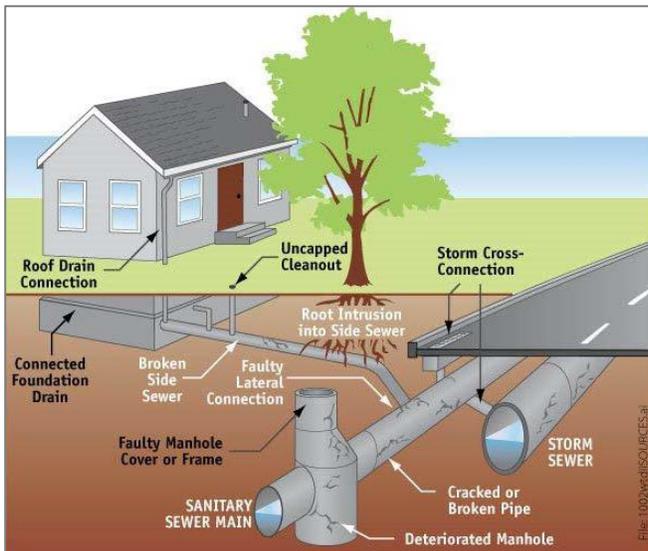
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Making Wise Investments in Our Sewer System

The City of Lake Oswego wants to find cost-effective ways to reduce I&I. We are using the South Shore basin in the McVey-South Shore and Palisades neighborhoods as a pilot area.

The first step in the pilot study is to test the public sewer system to find the sources of I&I – that testing has begun and will continue through the spring. If you are in the South Shore area, you may notice workers installing equipment to measure sewer flows, taking videos of the inside of the pipes (called CCTV) or using smoke to find places where water can enter the sewers. All testing methods are completely safe to residents and pets and are routinely used in communities across America.

The I&I study will find the most cost-effective ways to reduce I&I in the City's system. Reducing I&I is a wise investment in our sewer system – it costs less than paying for new, larger sewer pipes and makes our sewer system last as long as possible before major investments are needed.



***There are many ways
clean rain and
groundwater can get
into our sewer system.***