



## Upper Southampton Municipal Authority

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To All Upper Southampton Residents,

As you may be aware, most properties are served by public sanitary sewer provided and operated by the Upper Southampton Municipal Authority (USMA). During the recent periods of wet weather, the sanitary sewer system was operating at an overloaded capacity. This means that the quantity of water and other liquids being introduced into the system were more than the system was designed to accommodate.

A portion of this excess flow is being caused by what is commonly known as "inflow". Inflow occurs when storm water that should be discharged to lawns or storm water management systems is instead directly routed and discharged into the sanitary sewer system. All liquids in the sanitary sewer system require treatment that results in an unnecessary expense to you and our customers. In contrast, water in storm water sewer systems does not require treatment with no associated expense.

A major source of inflow is the use of **sump pumps** that discharge water (including storm water, surface water, spring water, ground water, roof runoff, sub-surface drainage, building foundation drainage, roof leaders and others sources of water that may have been causing problems) through a connection to building plumbing systems. This water is then discharged into the sanitary sewer system. This practice is a violation of Upper Southampton Township Ordinance #234.

USMA requests your help in protecting your sanitary sewer system, the environment and your present reasonable sewer treatment costs. If you have a sump pump, please inspect your property and make sure your sump pump is not connected to public sewer. If it is, please take the necessary steps to have it disconnected and rerouted to your lawn or another acceptable area.

The Upper Southampton Municipal Authority will soon begin a property inspection program. Should an illegal connection be found at that time, you will be subject to penalties if not promptly removed in accordance with Upper Southampton Township Ordinance #234.

If you are unsure if you have any of these connections, please feel free to contact USMA at 215-364-1390 to schedule an appointment so that we may assist you.

*Visit us on the web at [www.usauthorities.org](http://www.usauthorities.org)*