

SUMP PUMPS

A GUIDE TO KNOW ABOUT THE FLOW

YOU MAY NOT KNOW

Your sump pump may be *infiltrating* the sanitary system. This can cause storm water to overwhelm sanitary sewer treatment systems. *Infiltration* costs tax payers dollars and uses precious energy to clean already clean water.

Making sure your sump pump and storm drainage is properly out-letting can help! This can reduce *infiltration*, save tax payer dollars, and prevent the overload of sanitary sewer infrastructure.

PREVENTING INFILTRATION

Investigation between 2017 to 2020 found about 48% of sanitary water in Bayfield is from *Infiltration and Inflow (InI)* from groundwater and stormwater. The Municipality has taken steps to address and reduce the InI. It is also found that the main cause of *infiltration* is illegal connections to the sanitary system from sump pumps and private storm drainage. You can help prevent illegal *infiltration* by following the “Do’s and Don’ts”.

DO

- ✓ Make sure sump pump is emptying outside and away from your foundation.
- ✓ Make sure your sump pump is not illegally connected to the sewer system.
- ✓ Make sure downspouts drain away from your house.
- ✓ Have a back-up battery for your sump pump in case of power outage.

DON'T

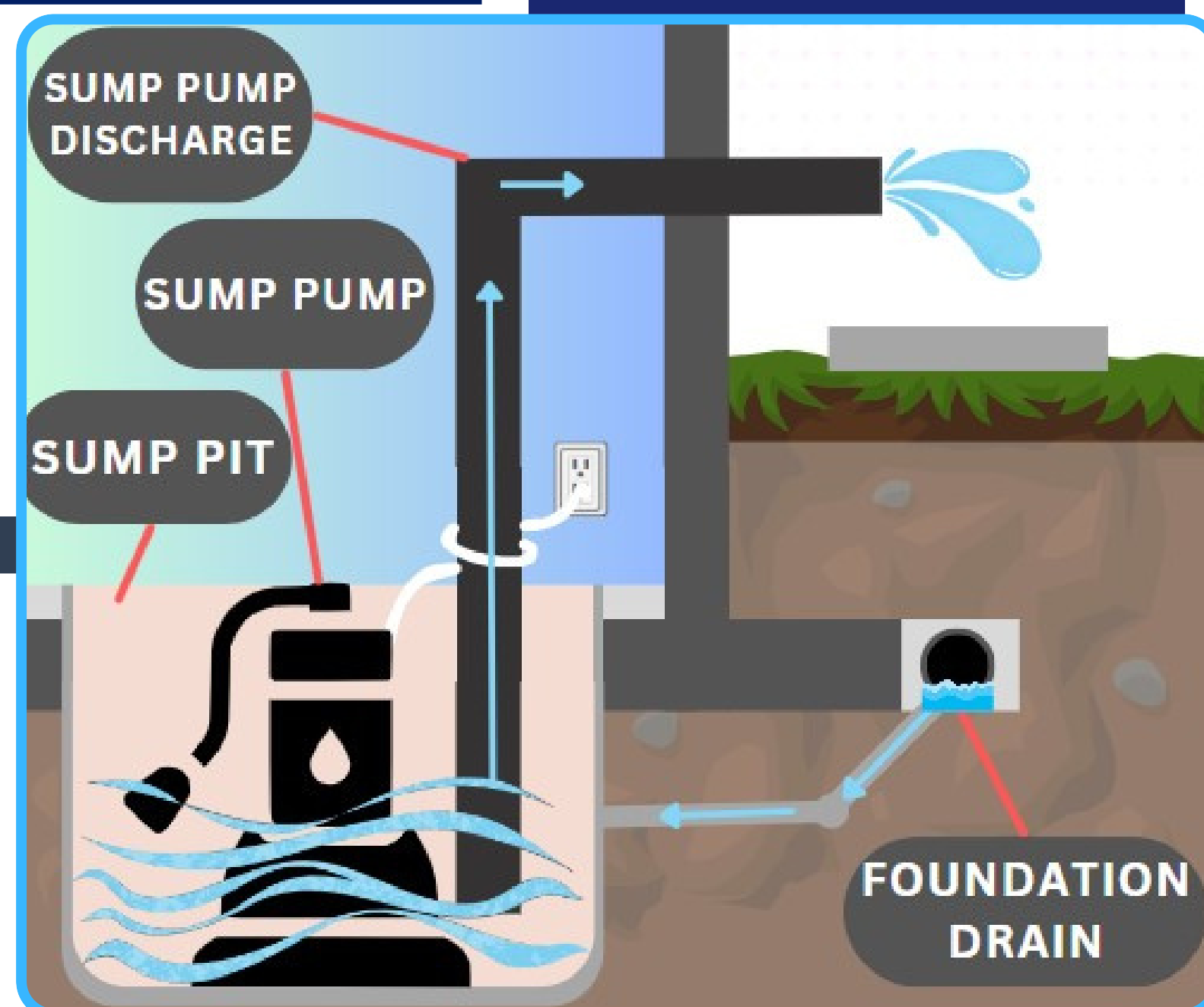
- ✗ Don't have your sump pump drain into floor drains or laundry tubs, these are connected to the sewer.
- ✗ Don't outlet your sump pump or downspouts onto neighbouring properties, or foundation drains.
- ✗ Don't outlet your sump pump into a municipal ditch. Instead, re-direct to lawns or gardens to naturally absorb.

Sump pumps cannot be connected into the sanitary sewer. Illegal connections are a violation of Bluewater By-law 09-2020 and can result in a fine.

MUNICIPAL WATER SYSTEMS & YOUR HOME

The sanitary sewer infrastructure may be inundated by improper infiltration of storm water by surrounding development. When the sanitary sewer is overwhelmed by infiltration from illegal connections it can cause:

- 💧 basement flooding
- 💧 burden to the sanitary system after weather events
- 💧 added cost to tax payers to treat storm water



If you suspect your sump pump is illegally connected, contact your plumber to disconnect it properly.