

So what's the problem?

Most of the time our sanitary sewer system works very efficiently. But, during heavy rainfalls and substantial snowmelts, we encounter a big problem: excess water overloads our waste treatment facility, causing sewage to overflow into the Mohawk River.

As much as 50% of the water that contributes to overflows comes from private properties during wet weather events. Water enters our sewers in a number of ways, including improper system connections, such as:

- Roof leaders
- Driveway and foundation drains
- Sump pumps

In addition, cracks and aging sewer pipes, such as the lateral line running from your home to the main line under the street, can let in unwanted water. This is called **inflow and infiltration (I/I)**.

Contamination of the Mohawk River, damages the natural ecosystem and limits the ability of our future generations to enjoy the resource that helped develop the Mohawk Valley.

Together, we can **Reroute, Reclaim and Recharge™** to help reduce the amount of sanitary sewer overflows into the Mohawk River.



For more detailed instructions and special considerations on any or all of these solutions, or for further information in general, please visit: www.rippleeffectocsd.org

Reroute Reclaim Recharge™

Reroute – By redirecting stormwater runoff, we can help prevent overflows from local sewage drains and pipes that currently contribute to contaminating the Mohawk River.

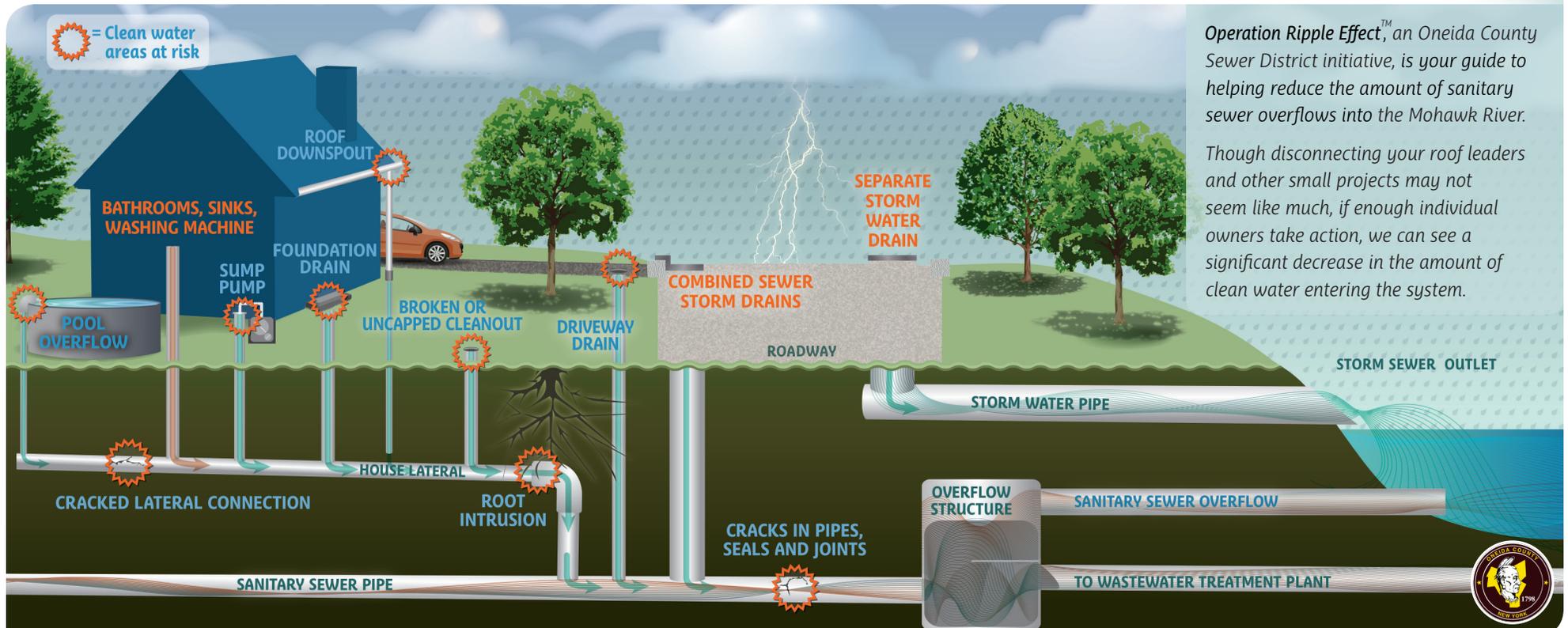
Reclaim – If we can collect stormwater or drain it into our gardens or lawns, it will help keep excess runoff to a minimum, while benefitting community properties.

Recharge – Returning water to the ground will help restore our local aquifers. This aids in sustaining and benefitting the area's ecosystem.

What can I do?

Operation Ripple Effect™, an Oneida County Sewer District initiative, is your guide to helping reduce the amount of sanitary sewer overflows into the Mohawk River.

Though disconnecting your roof leaders and other small projects may not seem like much, if enough individual owners take action, we can see a significant decrease in the amount of clean water entering the system.



Potential Sources of Clean Water Getting into the Sanitary Sewer System





Reroute
Disconnect roof leaders.

Disconnect your roof leader from the sanitary sewer system to help reduce overflows.



Reclaim
Install a rain barrel.

Capture the water that used to drain into the sewer system from your roof leader by using a rain barrel. Use that water for your lawn, garden, to wash your car, and more.



Recharge
Support your rain garden.

Conserve water and reduce runoff by letting that extra water maintain a beautiful rain garden. Best of all, you won't have to remember to water it!

Please visit: www.rippleeffectocsd.org
for more details and resources.

Reroute Reclaim Recharge™


OPERATION
Ripple Effect™
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A Private Property I/I Initiative of the Oneida County Sewer District.



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ONEIDA COUNTY INTRODUCES



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Help reduce sewer overflows into the Mohawk River.