



OPERATION Ripple Effect™

SIMPLE STEPS: BIG BENEFITS FOR THE MOHAWK RIVER

PROJECT BULLETIN

Normally, our sanitary sewer system has enough capacity to operate properly. But, when we get heavy rains or sudden snow melts, stormwater overwhelms the system and causes overflows into the Mohawk River. That stormwater runoff enters the sanitary sewer system from multiple sources: deteriorated and damaged public sanitary sewers; and private property connections, such as roof leaders and sump pumps.

Operation Ripple Effect is a program of the Oneida County Sewer District that asks residents, businesses, and municipalities to do their part to reduce overflows. Together, we can help keep the Mohawk River clean.

EARTH DAY CELEBRATIONS

Operation Ripple Effect celebrated Earth Day at a number of regional events!



MetLife's Employee Earth Day Event on April 22: More than 1,200 employees learned about how they can take simple steps to make a big impact on the Mohawk River.

Oneida-Herkimer Solid Waste Authority's Annual Earth Day Events on April 23: OCSD partnered with The Authority for an educational event at the Oneida-Herkimer Recycling Center at 80 Leland Avenue Ext., Utica.

Munson-Williams-Proctor Arts Institute on April 29: The MWP Friday Night Party featured Operation Ripple Effect education materials.

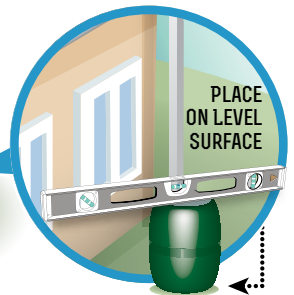
MAKING A DIFFERENCE: DISCONNECT YOUR DOWNSPOUT

Calculations show that a roof of 1,000 square feet in size can produce more than 600 gallons of storm runoff for every 1-inch of rain. Disconnect your roof leader or downspout to keep this water out of the sewer system!

Capture the water that used to drain into the sewer system from your roof by using a rain barrel, then repurpose it in your gardens or other outdoor jobs.

1

Position your barrel directly under or near a downspout. Make sure it is level.



2

Using a hacksaw, cut your downspout.



You are now ready to benefit from your rain barrel. Whenever it rains, any water from your rooftop will collect into the barrel.

3

If needed, add a converter to direct the downspout to the screened opening on top of the barrel.



For more information about how individual actions can add up to widespread improvements to the sanitary sewer system, visit RippleEffectOCSD.org.



Contact cmanion@paigegroup.com to schedule a briefing. For more news and reports, visit www.sewerrehabocsd.org.

An Initiative of the Oneida County Sewer District

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Department of Water Pollution and Water Quality Control