

City of Toledo
Basement Flooding Grant Program
When Your Downspouts may need to be changed
Sanitary Sewer Inflow Problems

If you are proposing to have a sewer check valve installed through the Basement Flooding Grant Program, you are required to address all inflow sources prior to approval of that Grant Program. If you live in the oldest areas of the City served by combined sewers, you may only be required to disconnect the inflow sources upstream of a proposed check valve.

If any of your downspouts enter a pipe and go into the ground, they may be connected to your sanitary sewer drain. Although downspouts are the most common culprit, you should also suspect a drain in your driveway, patio, or yard that may cause the same problem of adding rainwater to the wrong sewer. All these possible sources are together called “sanitary sewer inflow.”

Your suspected inflow source does not need to be changed* if it drains to:

- An underground pit designed to let the water soak in.
- A pipe outlet to another place in the yard.
- A pipe outlet at the street curb.
- A storm sewer.

*** Important note:** Even when the downspout is not connected to the sanitary sewer, it is still a potential source of basement water problems. This document is limited to cases where problems are due to sanitary sewer inflow.

If further investigation determines that it is connected to the sanitary sewer, then the inflow is directly contributing to the problem of overloaded sewers during rain storms. As you know, overloaded sanitary sewers can flood your basement and/or the basements of neighbors. There is a City grant available to cover the costs to correct this problem.

About the “Private Inflow Grant Program”:

Receipts for materials are reimbursable if you are doing the work yourself. Work by a contractor requires obtaining at least two quotes and the lowest quote used. In the case of downspout corrections, the companies must be licensed home remodeling companies. In some areas of the city, downspouts have already been tested and the property may be pre-approved. Otherwise, proof of connection is the homeowner’s responsibility and an *Application for Grant Pre-Approval for Contracted Work* must be submitted. After the work is pre-approved or paid receipts are submitted, payment takes about one month following the request for payment. For pre-approved grants, the City can pay the contractor directly if the contractor and property owner agree to such payment terms

If you have any questions contact 419-245-1338.

Revision 4/3/09

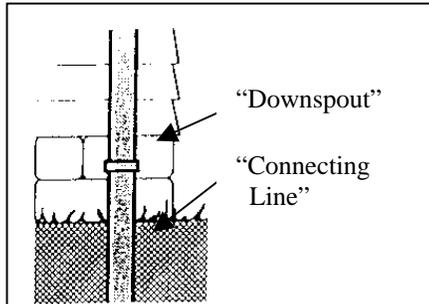
Instructions for correcting downspouts and getting reimbursed.

- Use this page if someone other than a licensed contractor will do the work. This could be you, a friend, relative, etc.
- Material costs are covered but not any labor costs. If you want to have a contractor do the work and the City to pay the contractor, the pre-approval form must be used.
- Save your receipts. Use the *Request for Payment* form on the back of this sheet. When the work is complete and done correctly, the City will mail a check to you in about one month.
- **If you have questions, call the City of Toledo at 245-1338.**

Most Downspouts are easy to disconnect: 4 Steps

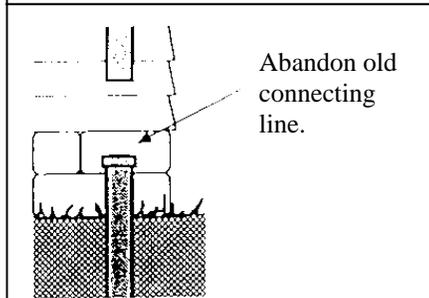
1

Cut off the downspouts above the old connecting line.



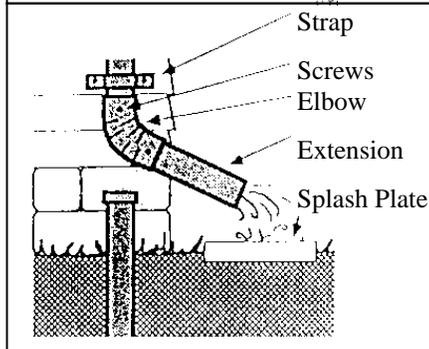
2

Insert a plug in the old connecting line, several inches down from the top. The plug needs to hold up several inches of wet concrete as it dries. We recommend a ball of crumpled newspaper. Newspaper will decompose if it falls into the sewer through the old connecting pipe.



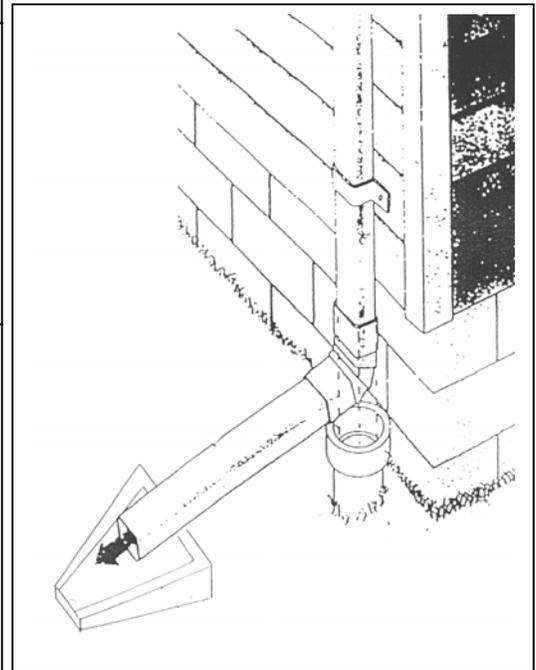
3

Cap the top of the pipe with concrete. The smallest bag of quick-setting concrete should be plenty. Follow directions that come with the concrete.



4

Install an extension to carry the water away from the house. A "splash plate" where the water spills from the downspout prevents erosion and moves water further from the foundation.



In order to get rainwater to the place you want it and keeping drainpipes out of the way, here are some other ideas:

- Running downspouts into an underground pipe which goes to another place in the yard such as a garden, French drain, storm sewer, natural drainage way, bubble-up system, etc.
- Changing the gutters to run to a different corner of the roof and installing the downspout in a better location.
- Routing storm water to an environmentally friendly "Raingarden." (www.raingardeninitiative.org)
- Collect some rainwater in a "Rain Barrel" for watering plants later.
- Other solutions may be possible and may be eligible for the grant if cost effective.

CITY OF TOLEDO, OHIO
PRIVATE INFLOW REMOVAL PROGRAM
APPLICATION FOR GRANT PRE-APPROVAL FOR CONTRACTED WORK

DATE _____
NAME _____
ADDRESS _____ ZIP _____
PHONE _____ E-MAIL _____

This program is for disconnecting sources of rainwater that enter the sanitary or combined sewers. Please describe the connections you wish to remove (usually it is one or more downspouts entering a pipe in the ground. Sometimes it is a driveway or patio drain. Call 245-1338 if you are unsure.):

You may perform the work yourself or use a contractor. If performing the work yourself, use the application for payment/ inspection form instead. Note that labor is not payable if you do the work yourself.

For work by a contractor, please attach at least two quotes and complete this application.

Which contractor do you wish to use? _____

Did this contractor provide the lowest quote? _____

Proposed work to remove connections: _____

Are you satisfied with the contractor's proposal? _____

GRANT REQUEST (100% OF TOTAL COST; MAXIMUM \$1500): \$ _____

This program is a funding program only. The selection of vendors, equipment and improvements are solely at the discretion of the property owner and the City expressly disclaims any liability for those chosen by the property owner. Receipt of any funds from this program is expressly conditioned upon the property owner holding the City harmless for work performed by outside vendors, the selection of equipment and improvements and the success or failure of said equipment and improvements.

I hereby agree to the foregoing statement and certify that the statements on this form are true to the best of my knowledge.

Signature _____

Date _____

Mail or Fax (419-936-2850) your completed form to:
City of Toledo Engineering Services
Private Inflow Removal Program
600 Jefferson, Suite 300
Toledo, OH 43604

Questions
Andy Stepnick (419)245-1338
Email: andy.stepnick@toledo.oh.gov

----- **FOR DEPT. OF PUBLIC UTILITIES USE** -----

DATE OF INSPECTION _____

INSPECTOR _____

(Y/N) CANDIDATE FOR PRIVATE INFLOW PROGRAM

(Y/N) AT LEAST TWO QUOTES

(Y/N) SUBMITTED WORK ELIGIBLE

(Y/N) **APPLICATION APPROVED** – COMMENTS: _____

Signature _____ Date _____