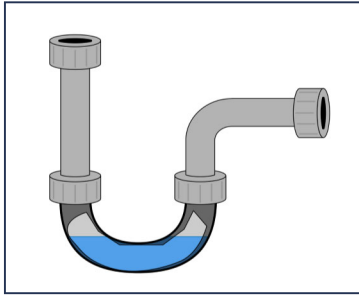


How You Can Manage Stormwater and Help Prevent Overflows

Be conscious of water use during and shortly after rain storms.

Large rain events already put a huge strain on the sewers, but using even more water in the home such as showering, running the dishwasher or doing laundry can contribute to the overflow problem. Instead, plan your large water usages around these rain events.



Watch what goes down your drains.

Items such as flushable wipes, feminine products, cotton balls, Q-tips, paper towels, tissues, and even clothing are often found to be clogging sewage pipes and contributing to overflow. Be sure that these items aren't going down your drain or toilet and worsening the problem.

Disconnect your downspout from the sewer system.

Many downspouts in the community carry rainwater to the sanitary sewer instead of the stormwater sewer. To ensure that your home isn't pouring extra water into the system, consider disconnecting your downspout and letting the water pour onto your lawn. This will help the water to filter slowly through the soil instead of filling the sewer and causing overflow.

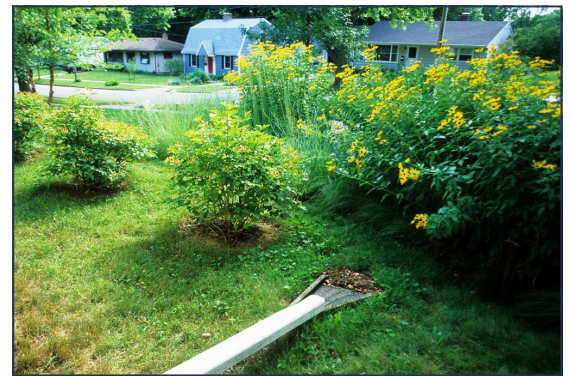


Capture rainwater using rain barrels.

If you'd rather not let water run straight into your lawn, consider capturing the rainwater using a rain barrel. This can be connected directly to your downspout, and the water can be used for watering lawns, gardens, washing your car, etc.

Plant a rain garden.

Rain gardens offer a beautiful, natural, and eco-friendly alternative to letting the water flow into the sewer or even onto your lawn. Plant some native flowers and plants in a low-lying area of your lawn to encourage the water to stay there and absorb slowly and naturally into the ground.



For more information on the city of Ashland's stormwater and sustainability initiatives visit:

www.coawi.org

Find yourself next to the water.

ASHLAND

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**Mary Griggs Burke Center
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