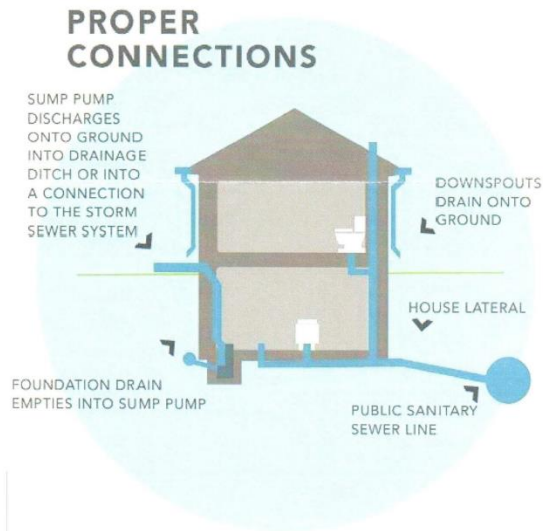


## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING SUMP PUMPS**

### **Do you have a sump pump in your basement or home?**

If so, you could be fined for an improper connection. Per the Town's sewer use regulations, "no person shall discharge or cause to be discharged any unpolluted waters such as storm water, groundwater, roof runoff, subsurface drainage, or cooling water to any sanitary sewer".



### **What is the penalty for discharging your sump pump into the sewer system?**

Residents can be fined for illegally connecting a sump pump to the sanitary sewer system. A sump pump is **most likely illegal** if it is connected to a drain or sink in your basement, and a licensed plumber or home inspector can confirm an improper connection. If you suspect you may have an illegal connection and need advice as to how to properly discharge water from your sump pump, the Town of New Canaan will waive any penalties provided the issue is remedied within 90 days of discovery. Call the Town Sewer Department at 203-594-3700 to schedule a free inspection.

### **Why are sump pumps connected to the sewer system a problem?**

An eight inch sewer pipe can accommodate up to 200 homes, but even just five sump pumps can quickly overload this same line. As few as 100 sump pumps can quickly overwhelm the sewer treatment plant with millions of gallons of excess clean water. Illegal sump pumps can quickly drive up the cost of operating the wastewater treatment plant and may cause backups in our streets, our buildings, **and your basement.**

### **What is the solution?**

To help prevent basement flooding, the solution is often as simple and inexpensive as connecting a sump pump discharge hose to discharge away from your home, or extending a downspout away from the foundation.

### **Be a good neighbor.**

A properly functioning sanitary sewer system is essential to every New Canaan resident. Each household or business that properly redirected storm water or roof runoff away from the sewer system helps to prevent sewage backups into basement, streets, and waterways. And that makes for a better New Canaan.