

Sanitary System Roof Drain Disconnection



The City of Kelowna Source Control Program
250-469-8866



Attach a downspout extension and splash pad if needed - this will redirect the rainwater away from the foundation and into an area with good drainage. The runoff should not be directed where it will cause erosion, nor run over neighbouring properties or across sidewalks where it can form ice in the winter.

Alternatively, **rain barrels** can be used to collect rainwater from your roof, decreasing the amount of storm water runoff that leaves your property. The stored rainwater can then be used to water your plants and garden during the dry summer months. Using a rain barrel is a great environmentally-friendly option that can help lower your household water bill.



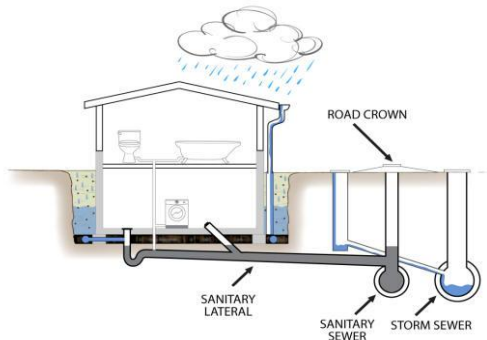
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Is my drain connection hooked up properly?

Most people don't think about their roof drainage until there is a problem - do you know if yours is draining properly?

A properly drained **roof drain** - also known as a downspout or roof leader - carries excess storm water away from your roof and gutters and channels it into your yard. If you're not seeing the tell-tale downspout extension leading from your house into the yard, chances are you have an **illegal connection to the sanitary system which needs to be disconnected immediately.**

The sanitary system is designed to carry wastewater, not storm water. Yes, there is a difference.



IMPROPER ROOF DRAIN CONNECTION

Why is roof drain disconnection important to you?

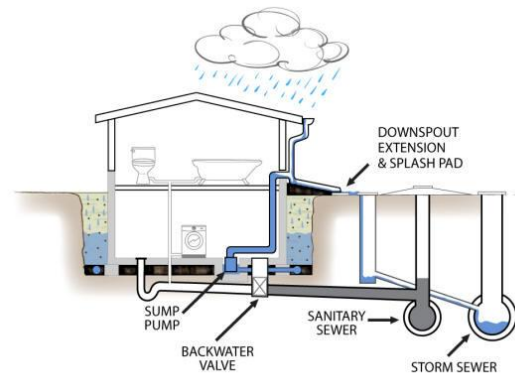
If you are improperly connected to the sanitary system, the high flow of relatively clean storm water coming off your roof can cause the sanitary sewer system to overflow. A possible sanitary sewer overflow can cause sewer backups and basement flooding. That's just messy.



The excess flow can also overload the wastewater treatment plant. Increased operating costs to deal with excess flow are then passed along to customers as rate increases. Nobody likes rate increases.

If those weren't reasons enough, under Bylaw #6618-90 if you're improperly connected you're breaking the law.

Are you in compliance with proper roof drain connections or do you have some work to do?



PROPER ROOF DRAIN CONNECTION

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Disconnection is usually a simple and relatively inexpensive do-it-yourself process:

Tools needed: hacksaw, drill, needle-nose pliers, tape measure, screwdriver, sheet metal screws, downspout elbow and extension, cap for standpipe, splash pad.



Measure the downspout 23 cm (9 in.) from where the downspout enters the sewer connection.



Cut the downspout with the hacksaw.



Cap the riser.



Insert the downspout into the elbow.