



Town of Burlington

2009 Illicit/Sump Pump
Sewer Connection Redirection
Amnesty Program

April 2009

HISTORY

- Sewer moratorium implemented by Mass DEP in 1986
- Amnesty program started in the late 80's after the moratorium was implemented
- 174 sump pumps redirected from start of efforts to 2002
- Between 2002 to current, an additional 63 illegal sump pumps were identified; 40 redirected, 23 on amnesty list
- Current investigations by SEA Consultants leads them to believe there is still a considerable amount of inflow sources.

WHAT ARE ILLICIT SEWER CONNECTIONS?

- Illicit sewer connections to a sewer system is a sewer connection that discharges storm water which significantly reduces sewer capacity.

Sanitary Sewer and Storm Sewer Are NOT the same!!!

- Typical illicit connections include:
 - SUMP PUMPS
 - ROOF LEADERS
 - FRENCH DRAINS/
FOUNDATION DRAINS
 - DRYWELLS



WHERE ARE ILLICIT SEWER CONNECTIONS?

- Illicit sewer connections generally occur in low laying areas with high water tables that do not have access to storm sewers.
- These connections are illegal, violate state and federal laws, and **FINES** can be assessed for these connections.



PROBLEMS DUE TO INFLOW

- Overload to pump stations and sewer pipes
- Pump station bypass
- Sewerage backup in homes and properties
- Additional fees for the transport/treatment of “clean” storm water
- Violates State and Federal Law (**FINES**)



EXAMPLES

Typical 1/2 H.P. *Ridgid* sump pump available at Home Depot pumps at a rate of approximately **3,200 GPH @ 10' TDH.**

1 Sump Pump

3,200 GPH \approx 77,000 GPD \approx .077 MGD

4-Hour Storm Pumping \approx 13,000 gal of extraneous flow

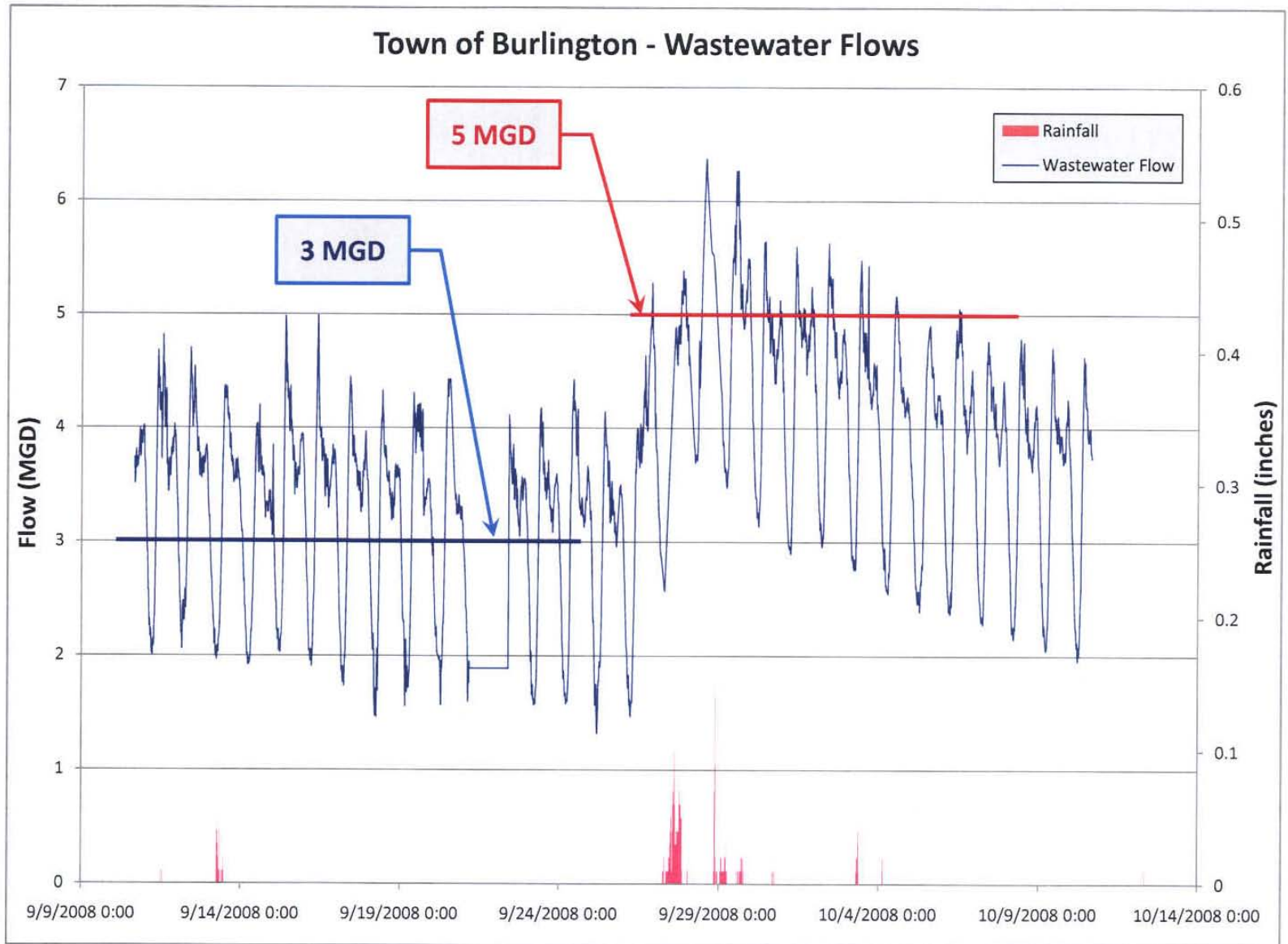
→ 4-Hour Storm equates to pumping at a rate of 10 min/hr

10 Sump Pumps

76,800x10 = 768,000 GPD = .768 MGD

4-Hour Storm Pumping \approx 130,000 gal of extraneous flow

EXAMPLES



AMNESTY PROGRAM

- Allow open enrollment to anyone with an illicit sewer connection until the Amnesty Program ends.
- Applicant will be placed on a list of illicit connections and will be given amnesty following confirmed inspection.
- Developers, upon seeking sewer connection permits requiring sewer allocation, will be given the option to seek allocation by redirecting illicit connections from the list.
- If you believe you may have an illicit connection, contact the Engineering Division for assistance.

AMNESTY PROGRAM (CONT.)

- The Town is currently upgrading/replacing all water meters in Town through the Automatic Meter Reading (AMR) Project. At the time of replacement, suspecting residents may choose to have their sump pumps inspected to confirm legality.
- **At the end of the AMR Project (≈Fall 2010), the Amnesty Program will end and HOMEOWNERS WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH DISCONNECTING ILLICIT CONNECTIONS.**
- Furthermore, in order to obtain a final water meter reading to sell your house, the Town shall make sump pump inspections to document any illegal connections.
- **A FINAL WATER METER READING WILL NOT BE MADE UNTIL ALL ILICIT CONNECTIONS ARE DISCONNECTED.**

QUESTIONS

