

City of Cedar Hills

Sanitary Sewer Overflow Action Plan

Whenever sanitary sewage leave the confines of the piping system, immediate action is necessary to prevent environmental, public health or financial damage from occurring. In addition, quick action is normally needed to mitigate damage which may have already occurred. For the purpose of this section, the following are part of the emergency action plan.

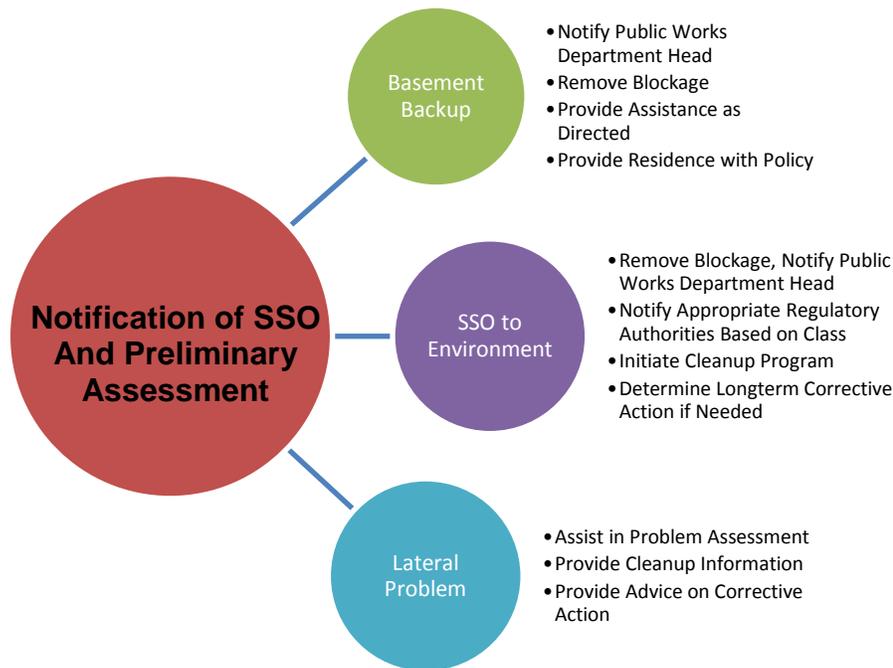
1. Basement backups
2. Sanitary sewer overflows
3. Sanitary sewer breaks which remain in the trench
4. Sewer lateral backups

All of the above conditions are likely to cause some damage. Each should be treated as an emergency, and corrective actions taken in accordance with the City of Cedar Hills directions. Items 1 & 2 above should be reported immediately based on whether they constitute a Class 1 or Class 2 SSO. As stated in the definition section of the SSMP Introduction, a Class 1 SSO is an overflow which affects more than five private structures; affects a public, commercial or industrial structure; results in a significant public health risk; has a spill volume more than 5,000 gallons; or has reached Waters of the State. All other overflows are Class 2 SSO's. All Class 1 SSO's should be reported immediately. Class 2 SSO's should be documented and reported in the annual SSMP report and included in the Municipal Wastewater Planning Program submitted to the State. Item 3 may be reported to the local health department if, in the opinion of the responsible staff member there is potential for a public health issue. An example of where a public health issue may be present is when an excavator breaks both a sewer and a water line in the same trench. In such cases, the local health department representatives should be contacted and the situation explained. If the health representative requests further action on the part, Cedar Hills staff should try and comply. If, in the opinion of the responsible staff member, the health department request is unreasonable, The City Manager and Public Works Director should be immediately notified. Care should always be taken to error on the side of protecting public health over financial considerations. When a basement backup occurs, the staff member responding should follow the Basement Backup Program procedures. Lateral backups, while the responsibility of the

property owner, should also be treated as serious problems. Care should be taken to provide advice to the property owner in such cases, but the property owner is ultimately the decision maker about what actions should be taken.

Response Activities

There are specific steps that should be followed once a notification is received that an overflow may be occurring. The following figure outlines actions that could be taken when the City receives notice that a possible overflow has or is occurring.



General Notification Procedure

When a Class 1 SSO occurs specific notification requirements are needed. In such cases the following Notification procedure should be followed and documented. Failure to comply with notification requirements is a violation of R317-801(USMP).

Agency Notification Requirements

Both the State of Utah Division of Water Quality and the local health department should be immediately notified when an overflow is occurring. Others that may require notification include local water suppliers, affected property owners and notification may

be required to Utah Division of Emergency Response and Remediation if hazardous materials are involved. The initial notification must be given within 24 hours. However, attempts should be made to notify them as soon as possible so they can observe the problem and the extent of the issue while the problem is happening. A notification form is provided to document notification activities. After an SSO has taken place and the cleanup has been done, a written report of the event should be submitted to the State DEQ within five days (unless waived). This report should be specific and should be inclusive of all work completed. If possible the report should also include a description of follow-up actions such as modeling or problem corrections that has or will take place.

Public Notification

When an SSO occurs and the extent of the overflow is significant and the damage cannot be contained, the public may be notified through proper communication channels. Normally the local health department will coordinate such notification. Should Cedar Hills need to provide notification it could include press releases to the local news agencies, publication in an area paper, phone communication, Cedar Hills website and leaflets delivered to home owners or citizens in the area of the SSO. Notification should be sufficient to insure that the public health is protected. When and if Federal laws are passed concerning notification requirements, these legal requirements are incorporated by reference in this document. In general, notification requirements should increase as the extent of the overflow increases.

Overflow Cleanup

When an overflow happens, care should be taken to clean up the environment to the extent feasible based on technology, good science and financial capabilities. Cleanup could include removal of contaminated water and soil saturated with wastewater and sanitary paper, disinfection of standing water with environmentally adequate chemicals or partitioning of the affected area from the public until natural soil microbes reduce the hazard. Cleanup is usually specific to the affected area and may differ from season to season. As such, this guide does not include specific details about cleanup. The responsible staff member in conjunction with the State DEQ, the local health department and the owner of real property should direct activities in such a manner that they are all satisfied with the overall outcomes. If, during the cleaning process, the responsible staff member believes the State or the County is requesting excessive actions, the City Manager should be contacted.

Corrective Action

All SSO's should be followed up with an analysis as to cause and possible corrective actions. An SSO which is the result of grease or root plug may be placed on the (hotspots) preventative maintenance list for more frequent cleaning. Serious or repetitive plugging problems may require the reconstruction of the sewer lines. An overflow that results from inadequate capacity should be followed by additional system modeling and either flow reduction or capacity increase. If a significant or unusual weather condition caused flooding which was introduced to the sanitary sewer system incorrectly, the corrective action may include working with other agencies to try and rectify the cross connection from the storm sewer to the sanitary sewer or from home drainage systems and sump pumps. Finally, should a problem be such that it is not anticipated to reoccur, no further action may be needed.