

Correct An Illegal Connection

It is suggested that you consult a licensed plumber to determine the most appropriate methods of removing a specific illegal connection.

The following are some possible solutions; each solution must be reviewed and approved by the City of Elmhurst Engineering Department:

1. The sump pipe could be run overland to a ditch or swale that could drain to another location. Also, a long flexible tube that can be moved around the yard to avoid discharge in only one portion of the yard can be used. The pipe cannot discharge onto a neighbor's property.
2. The sump pump can be run underground through a 4" or 6" diameter perforated PVC pipe, with holes at the bottom and backfilled with washed gravel. An overflow tube should be placed at the opposite end to allow the water to escape in the event that the volume of the pipe is exceeded. The pipe tube is located at a convenient area of the yard such as a garden. Another option could be to run it to a drywell.
3. Route the sump pump to a City storm sewer via a 6" pipe and tie into the back of an inlet or the crown of the mainline pipe by way of a core hole. No breaking out of the concrete pipe is allowed. If the homeowner is doing the work the City will make the tap. If the homeowner hires a contractor, the contractor is required to do all the work. In both cases, a permit and street deposit (if done by a contractor) will be required with proper inspections made by the Engineering Division.
4. Install a 6" diameter PVC storm sewer with drainage inlets to serve as a community backyard drain for a cluster of homes with sump pump connections. The City has an annual program to assist in this type of installation. It is a cost-sharing program with resident participation. Please contact the Elmhurst Department of Public Works for information. Connection to the City storm sewer may be made as outlined above.

Note- Caution must always be taken to prevent freezing in pipes. This could be done by placing a tee where the pipe exits the building. One branch could go underground and the other could be capped off or valved to pump into the yard during the winter. Another option is to have the 2" diameter sump pump tie into the larger 4" or 6" pipe at the house allowing for expansion and overflow. Pipes flowing overland should be kept no farther than 10 feet from the house in winter to avoid icy sidewalks.