

CITY OF WATSON

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Sump Pump Reminder

This is just a reminder that it is unlawful to pump clear water discharge into the City Wastewater system.

Please have your sump pumps ready for the upcoming spring thaw.

If we do not curb the clear water discharge into the City Wastewater system it could result in even higher Wastewater charges.

Please do your part.

4.205. Clear Water Discharges.

(1) It is unlawful to discharge or cause to be discharged into the sanitary sewer system, either directly or indirectly, any clear water discharge defined as storm water, natural precipitation, groundwater, or flow from roof runoff, surface runoff, subsurface drainage, down spouts, eave troughs, rainspouts, yard drains, sump pumps, foundation drains, yard fountains, ponds, swimming pools, cistern overflows or water discharged from any air conditioning unit or system.

(2) Clear water must be discharged to sewers specifically designed as storm sewers, or to a natural outlet approved by the city.

(3) It shall be unlawful for any person to make or maintain a connection between any conductor used to carry clear water discharge and the sanitary sewer system. Buildings and structures which require a sump pump system to discharge excess water from foundations shall have a permanently installed rigid discharge pipe which shall not at any time discharge water into the sanitary sewer system. The discharge pipe shall not have any connections for altering the path of discharge. The discharge pipe must either extend at least three feet

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outside the foundation wall and be directed toward the front or rear yard of the property or be directly connected to the storm sewer system. Discharge pipes that are directly connected to the storm sewer system must have a check valve. Industrial cooling water or unpolluted process waters may be discharged, on approval of the city, to a storm sewer or natural outlet, subject to approval and the issuance of a discharge permit by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.

(4) A surcharge in the amount specified in the city's fee schedule shall be imposed in the case of a property that is not in compliance with the clear water discharge requirements of this section. The surcharge shall be added to every subsequent sanitary sewer billing until the property is found to be in compliance as determined by the city. Should a property certified in compliance with this section be later found to have reconnected so that there is clear water discharge into the sanitary sewer system, the property owner shall be subject to the surcharge for all months between the last two inspections.

(5) The remedies provided in this section are cumulative and do not limit the right of the city to pursue any other available legal remedy, including, but not limited to, criminal prosecution, seeking an injunction ordering disconnection or allowing the city to correct the violation or obtaining an administrative search warrant.

(6) The city council may by resolution provide for waivers for hardships from the requirements of this section.

Thank you in advance for your support in this matter.

Watson City Council.