

System Overview

The Unified Government has a complex system of pipes and treatment facilities that transport and treat wastewater generated by over 150,000 residents. Our wastewater system includes

- 5 treatment plants
- 70 pump stations
- 1,200+ miles of sewer lines

Our system consists of both combined and separate sewer systems.



Integrated Overflow Control Plan Goals

- Protect human health, private property, and public safety
- Enhance service reliability
- Improve water quality



Unified Government of Wyandotte County /
Kansas City, Kansas
Integrated Overflow Control Plan
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INTEGRATED OVERFLOW CONTROL PLAN

Unified Government of Wyandotte County / Kansas City, Kansas



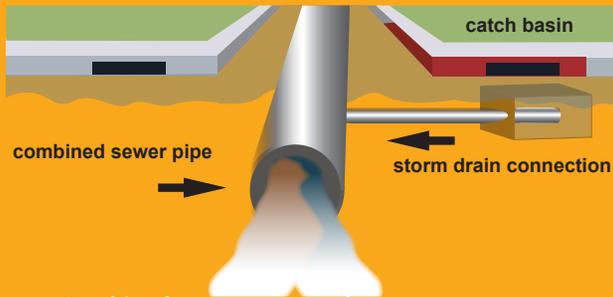
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What's the Problem?

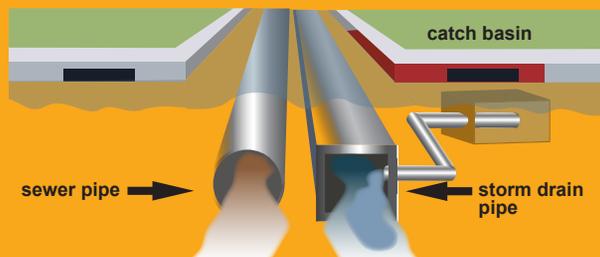
The Clean Water Act of 1972 requires reduction of combined sewer overflows and elimination of separate sewer overflows.

A **combined sewer system** is simply a single sewer system that carries both wastewater and rainwater within one pipe to a treatment plant. During heavy rainstorms, the combined sewer pipes overflow sending a mixture of wastewater and rainwater into a nearby stream or river.



Combined wastewater and stormwater may flow untreated to local waterbody during heavy rain storms

A **separate sewer system** consists of two pipes – one carries rainwater runoff to a nearby stream or river and the other transports wastewater to a treatment plant. Sometimes when it rains, this system overflows sending a mixture of rainwater and wastewater into our waterways.



to the wastewater treatment plant

to the local waterbody



Progress

Our wastewater system protects public health and the environment. Over the past 15 years, ratepayers significantly invested in upgrades to our sewer system. As a result, there are 18 fewer locations where combined sewage no longer overflows into our waterways and the total volume of overflow was reduced by 20%.

In March of 2013, the Unified Government entered an agreement with the federal government requiring more investment and further overflow reduction. The agreement required improvements to the existing system and the development of an Integrated Overflow Control Plan.



Recommended Plan

To prepare the Integrated Overflow Control Plan, we've studied the sewer system and identified problem areas. We found cracked and leaking clay pipe over 50 years old in many parts of the community in need of significant repair. We asked citizens where they would like to see dollars invested. The community indicated that the highest priority is to improve service reliability by fixing the existing system where it is most cost-effective.

The recommended 10-year, \$200 million plan targets resources on renewing wastewater pipes and facilities to make more progress towards meeting the goals of the Clean Water Act. Sewer ratepayers fund the work recommended in the plan.

Specifically, the Recommended Plan includes

- Investigate and repair existing sewer infrastructure across the community
- Upgrade technology throughout facilities to better monitor the system
- Construct a new wastewater treatment plant to substantially reduce overflows and accommodate new ratepayers
- Reduce rainwater getting into combined sewers by rehabilitating sewer pipes and installing green infrastructure
- Increase maintenance of existing sewer pipes and facilities

Unified Government will submit the recommended Integrated Overflow Control Plan to regulators by September 30, 2016.