



REPORTING SANITARY SEWER OVERFLOWS

IT IS ILLEGAL TO DISCHARGE SEWAGE INTO ANY PUBLIC AREA.

RMWD is responsible for mitigation and clean-up of all public sewer spills, and is responsible for reporting of private sewer spills. A public sewer spill, also called a sanitary sewer overflow (SSO), is the result of blockages in the lines owned and maintained by RMWD. A private sewer spill is a spill that is the result of blockages in the customer lateral.

If you see a sewer spill, either on public or private property, please take the following steps.

1. Cease from using additional water or flushing toilets until the spill and blockage are mitigated.
2. If a homeowner or business owner is experiencing a back-up or spill within their property, contact a plumber first to clear the drain. The problem cannot be allowed to continue so if the problem is not remedied by the plumber the same day, contact RMWD for information and possible assistance.
3. If safe to do so, contain the spill; if not, contact RMWD Collections staff.



If in doubt, contact the RMWD Collections staff.

All sewer spills identified by RMWD are reported to the Department of Environmental Health (DEH) and the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board (SDRWQCB), as well as other appropriate agencies.

Follow-up procedures for public spills may include a video inspection to assist in determining the cause and potential repair methods if there is a break in the line. If a spill is determined to be caused by private entities, RMWD will inform the private party of their responsibility to correct the situation.

If you still have questions, you may check the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) link, or contact the Collections Supervisor at (760) 789-1330.