



DEPARTMENT OF
**ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY,
SUSTAINABILITY & RISK**

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College Park, MD 20742
301.405.3960 TEL 301.314.9294 FAX

September 5, 2019

Maryland Department of the Environment
Water Management Administration
Compliance Program
1800 Washington Boulevard, Suite 420
Baltimore, MD 21230-1708

Re: Report of Discharge from Sanitary Sewer at the University of Maryland

To whom it may concern:

The purpose of this correspondence is to notify the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) of a discharge from the sanitary sewer system at the University of Maryland on September 4, 2019. This letter is sent in accordance with COMAR 26.08.10.05.

Location: University of Maryland, South Campus Dining Hall, 7093 Preinkert Dr., College Park, MD 20742; 38°98'27.4"N 76°94'39.1"W

Owner of sanitary sewer: University of Maryland & Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC).

Receiving water: Guilford Run.

Volume Discharged: Approximately 800 gallons

Description of overflow location: the overflow came from a sanitary sewer system manhole located in the walk way between the South Campus Dining Hall and the South Campus Commons 2.

Sewer type: gravity sanitary sewer system

Impact on waters of the State: Approximately 400 gallons entered the stormwater system via two inlets in the loading dock area of the South Campus Dining Hall. Approximately half of the discharge evaporated before entering the storm system. The impacted inlets are connected to Outfall 012, which discharges to Guilford Run.

Cause of overflow: blockage in pipe owned by Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC). Overflow occurred from conveyance system owned by UMD.

Date/time overflow began: 09/03/2019 – 5:00pm (approximately)

Date/time overflow stopped: 09/03/2019 – 6:15pm

Steps taken to prevent recurrence: perform preventative maintenance of sanitary sewer system; continue to closely monitor discharges in accordance with the University's NPDES permit and IDDE plan; order and maintain inventory of materials for sewage spill response.

Measures taken to mitigate impact: Initially, booms were placed at the impacted stormwater inlets to minimize the discharge of sewage. The University's Incident Response Unit (IRU) also requested that domestic water to the surrounding buildings be curtailed in order to reduce the volume of the sewage overflow. After request was made and communicated to maintenance staff, domestic water supply was secured at approximately 6:15 pm. The overflow from the manhole stopped shortly thereafter. University staff, with assistance from an on-call plumbing contractor, were able to remove the blockage in the WSSC sewer line and stop the overflow. Powdered lime was applied to disinfect any surfaces contacted by the sewage overflow.

Public notification method: Residents of the South Campus Commons 2 were notified via email about their domestic water being shut off. MDE Emergency Response was notified via a phone call on 9/03/2019 at approximately 7:11pm.

A photo log and map showing the approximate extent of impact are attached. Please feel free to contact me at 301-405-3163 or jbaer123@umd.edu if you have any questions or need any addition information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J. Baer', is centered on the page.

Jason L. Baer, REM
Assistant Director
Office of Environmental Affairs

University of Maryland Photo Log
9/03/2019 – Sewage Overflow at South Campus Dining Hall



Top Left: The overflowing manhole in walk way between South Campus Dining Hall and South Campus Commons 2.

Top Right: A map indicating where the overflowing manhole was, the direction of the flow path, and the stormwater inlets affected.

Bottom Left: One (1) of the two (2) stormwater inlets affected. Most of the standing water in the parking lot evaporated before entering the storm system.

Bottom Right: Two (2) of the two (2) stormwater inlets affected. Most of the standing water in the parking lot evaporated before entering the storm system.

