



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

Seneca Building  
4716 Pontiac Street, Suite 0103  
College Park, MD 20742  
301.405.3960 TEL 301.314.9294 FAX

April 6, 2018

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 discharge from the sanitary sewer system at the University of Maryland on April 2, 2018. This letter is sent in accordance with COMAR 26.08.10.05.

Location: University of Maryland, McKeldin Mall, 4302 Chapel Lane, College Park, MD 20742; 38°59'08.3"N 76°56'31.5"W

Owner of sanitary sewer: University of Maryland

Receiving water: unnamed tributary of Paint Branch Creek

Volume Discharged: 26,250 gallons (calculated estimate)

Description of overflow location: the overflow came from a sanitary sewer system manhole

Sewer type: separate sanitary sewer system

Impact on waters of the State: a portion of the overflow appears to have been discharged from Outfall 005 to the unnamed tributary of Paint Branch Creek.

Cause of overflow: pipe blockage or collapsed pipe.

Date/time overflow began: 4/2/2018 – 10:00pm

Date/time overflow stopped: 4/3/2018 – 3:30pm

Steps taken to prevent recurrence: perform preventative maintenance of storm 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: a portable pump was used to bypass the sewage from an upgradient manhole around the blocked sanitary sewer line to a downgradient sanitary sewer manhole; silt fence was installed around the nearest storm drain to prevent biosolids from entering the storm drain system; the affected area was blocked off to pedestrian traffic; lime was used to disinfect the contaminated ground surface and the soil that contacted biosolids was removed for disposal. Photos of the cleanup are included in the attached photo log.

Public notification method: the “UMD Alerts” system was used to notify campus students, faculty and staff. The message is attached.

Please feel free to contact me at 301-405-3163 or [jbaer123@umd.edu](mailto: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 below the word 'Sincerely,'.

Jason L. Baer, REM  
Assistant Director of Environmental Affairs

University of Maryland Photo Log  
4/2/2018 – Sewage Spill



Top left: looking south towards Woods Hall at the overflow site. In addition to a campus-wide notification via the “UMD Alerts” system, the contaminated area was blocked off with caution tape.

Top right: facing east on McKeldin Mall, silt fence installed to prevent biosolids from entering the storm drain system.

Bottom: looking east towards McKeldin Library, a fence was later installed around the area that contacted sewage in order to prevent pedestrians from contacting the contaminated ground. This fencing will be left in place for ten (10) days. All ground surfaces that contacted sewage were treated with lime.



University of Maryland Photo Log  
4/2/2018 – Sewage Spill



Top: looking northwest from Woods Hall, the ground cover that contacted biosolids was treated with lime to a pH of 12 and removed for disposal. The source of the sewage overflow was excavated to make the necessary repairs.

Left: facing north towards McKeldin Library, a pump was used to bypass sewage from an upgradient manhole around the blocked sanitary sewer line to a downgradient sanitary sewer line. A back-up pump was also on site.

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## UMD Advisory: Southeast Corner of McKeldin Mall Closed

1 message

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**UMD Alerts** <noreply@everbridge.net>

Tue, Apr 3, 2018 at 8:19 AM

Reply-To: UMD Alerts <conf-5ac3713bfd231058a0977d31-5ac37132edf2646c6f1f6d31@smtpic-ne.prd1.everbridge.net>



# University of Maryland Police Department

Southeast corner of McKeldin Mall closed due to unscheduled maintenance of a sewage pipe. Work crews are on site. Please avoid the impacted area. Class schedule and operations of the university are not affected.

### Safety Resources:

#### University of Maryland Police

Emergency Number - 301-405-3333 / #3333 from a mobile phone / 911

Non-Emergency Number - 301-405-3555

UMD Guardian (Mobile Campus Safety App)

[umpdnews.umd.edu/umdgardian](http://umpdnews.umd.edu/umdgardian)

#### Prince George's County Police

911 from mobile phone

Non-Emergency Number - 301-352-1200

UMD Police Walking Escort/Non-Emergency:

301-405-3555

#### NITE Ride

301-314-6483

<http://www.transportation.umd.edu/niteride.html>

Help Center (Peer Counseling & Crisis Intervention)

301-314-4357

<http://helpcenterumd.org>

#### Counseling Center

301-314-7651

<http://counseling.umd.edu/>

CARE (Confidential Services for Sexual Assault/Harassment/Rape)

301-741-3442

<http://www.health.umd.edu/care>

Health Center  
301-314-8180  
<http://www.health.umd.edu/>

Office of Civil Rights & Sexual Misconduct (Title IX)  
[TitleXcoordinator@umd.edu](mailto:TitleXcoordinator@umd.edu)  
[ocrsm.umd.edu](http://ocrsm.umd.edu)

UMD Alerts <https://alert.umd.edu>

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Sent by email and SMS (text) via UMD Alerts to UMD Students/Faculty/Staff

Sent by **University of Maryland Police Department**  
University of Maryland, College Park, MD 20742