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

February 12, 2020

Maryland Department of the Environment
Water & Science 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 February 08, 2020. This letter is sent in accordance with COMAR 26.08.10.05.

Location: University of Maryland, Leonardtown 238, 4608 Norwich Rd., College Park, MD 20742; 38°58'58.7"N 76°55'58.2"W

Owner of sanitary sewer: University of Maryland.

Receiving water: unnamed tributary of the Paint Branch via MS4 Outfall #021. The receiving Paint Branch is HUC Code #020700100202; Class I Waters – Water contact recreation and protection of non-tidal warm-water aquatic life; no shellfish harvest or public drinking water supply.

Volume Discharged: Approximately 3,500 gallons total, of which approximately 875 gallons entered a nearby stormwater inlet and 2,625 gallons infiltrated into the ground. The stormwater inlet discharges to an unnamed tributary of the Paint Branch via MS4 Outfall #021.

Description of overflow location: the overflow came from a sanitary sewer system manhole located in front of the residential hall Leonardtown 238. The overflow ran across a sidewalk and into the grass and across the hardscapes to the stormwater inlet. A portion of the flow entered a stormwater inlet.

Sewer type: gravity sanitary sewer system.

Impact on waters of the State: a portion of the overflow (approximately 875 gallons) entered the stormwater system via an inlet adjacent to Rossborough Lane. This inlet is connected to MS4 Outfall #021 and discharges to an unnamed tributary of the Paint Branch. There was no observed impact to the surface water body. No biosolids were released as a result of the overflow, only clear effluent discharged from the impacted manhole.

Cause of overflow: blockage in pipe owned by University of Maryland. The blockage appears to be the result of root mass entering the shallow sewer conveyance.

Date/time overflow began: 02/08/2020 – 03:10 pm (approximately)

Date/time overflow stopped: 02/08/2020 – 4:25 pm (approximately)

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: At approximately 4:25 pm, IRU dispatched a bypass pump from the overflowing manhole to the next available manhole approximately 175 ft downstream. At that point, the flow rates were consistently reduced during the initial 15 minutes after the bypass pump was deployed. A few minutes after, the manhole ceased overflowing. At approximately 5:00 pm, IRU started to broadcast 90 lbs of hydrated lime on affected grass landscape and sprayed down all affected hardscape with ratio 1/4 cup bleach per gallon water solution to disinfect the area.

Public notification method: UMD residential facilities emailed the Leonardtown residents, at 4:18 pm, of the sewage backup and requested them to not flush toilets, run showers, or pour liquids down the sinks in their apartments; UMD notified MDE of the incident, by phone, at 5: 37pm on 02/08/2020 with an incident report #102156; a copy of the 5-day report to MDE was posted on the UMD Department of Environmental Safety, Sustainability & Risk's stormwater management website:

(https://essr.umd.edu/environmental-affairs/stormwater-management)

Attached to this letter is the IRU report including a photo log and map showing the approximate extent of impact. 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,

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

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT
INCIDENT RESPONSE UNIT

Incident Report

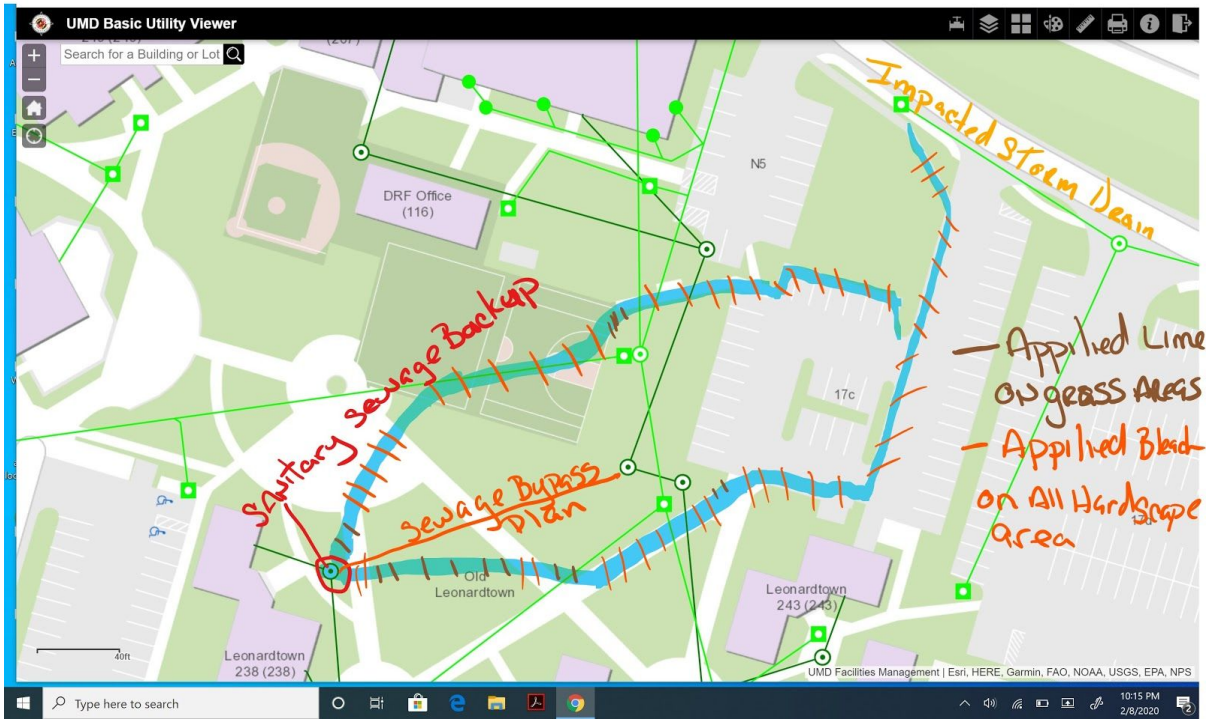
02/10/2020
Brian Cursio IRU8

Location Bldg. & Rm.: OLT #238 Apt. Exterior Northeast courtyard
Incident Description: Sanitary sewage backup wastewater on Northeast courtyard and nearby area.
Initial Report or Update: Initial Report
IRU Initial Action Taken: IR#8 (B.Cursio) received a call from DRF (Y.Jones) at 15:10 stating there was a sewage backup and wastewater coming out of inspection chamber cover onto grass landscape and hardscape out toward Rossborough Lane. At IR#8(B.Cursio) called CRC to created a WT for on duty PS#21(R.Knox) to respond to the sewage backup.At CRC stated they had called on duty PS#21(R.Knox) had dispatched to the scene. IR#8(B.Cursio) contacted IR#12 (S.Schulz) and asked that he respond as well. IRU arrived on site around 15:30 and met on duty PS#21(R.Knox). We found F410 inspection chamber had active wastewater backup onto grass landscape and hardscape.On duty PS#21(R.Knox) called PS#2 (D.Narth)to updated on the incident and called in an Hydro- jetting plumbing contractor to clear sewage backup.IR#8(B.Cursio) contracted IR#1(B,Trest) to notified him on the incident and to send out notifications to the both senior management of FM and DRF to keep them abreast of incident.

At 16:00 on duty PS#21 (R.Knox) received updated from PS#2 (D.Narth) that W,L.. Gary Plumbing service had notified and will begin to mobilized there 24 hour EM service crew to respond to sewage backup and there ETA it be should around 17:45 . AT 16:25 IR#12 &8 removed inspection chamber cover to send down submersible pump at F410 inspection chamber to pumped out into F407 inspection chamber at this time to help alleviate the sewage wastewater from further contaminated surrounding areas; At 17;00 IR#12 started to broadcast 90 lbs of hydrated lime on affected grass landscape and IR#8(B.Cursio) sprayed down all affected hardscape with ratio 1/4 cup bleach per gallon water solution. At 18:00 on duty PS#21 (R.Knox) and W.L.Gary EM service crew had arrived on scene..They begun to setup the hydro jetting apparatus after we pump down F410 inspection chamber with they observed the nearby tree root system had infected the inspection chamber and up the 4' inlet and down 4" sewer pipes to cause a reduction of water flow to cause the wastewater stoppage. At the service crew begun the hydro jetting in F410 inspection. After 1 hour the service crew was successful cleared stoppage and the wastewater was able to drained down inspection chamber. IRU asked multiple residents to flush their toilets several times to see the wastewater would continued flow out the inlet into the inspection chamber and down the outlet without backing up. After the test the wastewater had continued the drain through the system without backing up. At 20:00 the service crew round their equipment and left scene .IRU cleaned up the equipment and the premises and left scene All photo documentation was sent to IRU share drive under OLT#238 Apartment in Pic & Videos
IRU Field Observations:
IRU Notifications Made: IR#1(B.Trest), Notification Made to Env. Affairs. Jason Baer 1642,
Notes for After Action Report:
Work Tasks linked to this:
Equipment Placed on Site: None
Incident Pictures:

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

INCIDENT RESPONSE UNIT

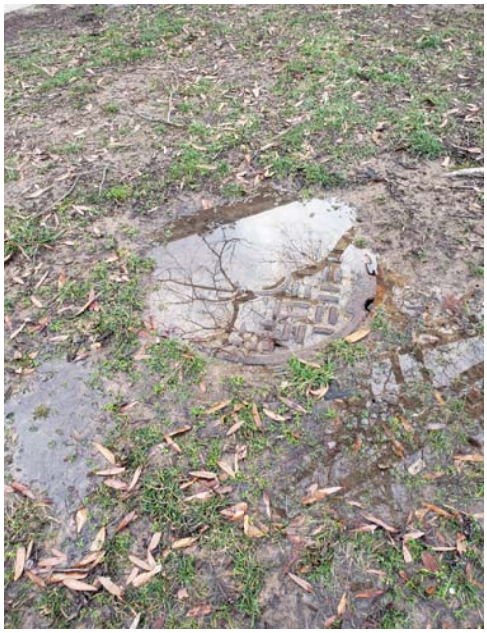













Search for a Building or Lot
DRF Office
purpose manhole bypass
Old
Leonardtown
238

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

Brian Richard Trest <btrest@umd.edu>

Update FACILITIES NOTIFICATION: Sewage Backup / Leonardtown 238-240

Residential Facilities <resfacilities@umd.edu> Sat, Feb 8, 2020 at 8:40 PM
To: Residential Facilities SHARED <resfacilities@umd.edu>
Bcc: btrest@umd.edu

FACILITIES NOTIFICATION

Sewage Backup Cleared

outside Leonardtown Buildings 238, 239, and 240

Update as of 8:30pm on Saturday, February 8, 2020

Dear Leonardtown 238, 239, and 240 residents:

The University's Facilities Management has cleared the blockage that caused the sewage backup outside Building 238. At this time, you can safely resume flushing toilets/running water down the drains. Facilities Management staff have also completed sanitizing the sidewalks, grounds, and basketball court that were impacted by the backup.

Thank you very much for your cooperation during this incident and we apologize for the inconvenience. If you have any questions or concerns, please reply to this email or contact our service center at 301-314-9675.

Sincerely,
Kelly Ridings
Residential Facilities

On Sat, Feb 8, 2020 at 4:18 PM Residential Facilities <resfacilities@umd.edu> wrote:

> **FACILITIES NOTIFICATION**
>
> **Sewage Backup**
>
> **outside Leonardtown Buildings 238, 239, and 240**
>
> **Update as of 4:15pm on Saturday, February 8, 2020**
>
> Dear Leonardtown 238, 239, and 240 residents:
>
> The University's Facilities Management has advised us of a sewage backup at a manhole outside Building 238. They are bringing a contractor in to clear the main underground sewer line, and at this time, no waste water is backing up into our buildings. In order to help contain the backup outside, we are asking for your cooperation: **please do not flush toilets, run showers, or pour liquids down the sinks in your apartment.** They anticipate having the sewer line cleared later this evening; we will update you when it is cleared and you can safely resume flushing toilets/running water down the drains.

Restrooms are available nearby at the Leonardtown Community Center, and Ritchie Coliseum is open until 10:00pm tonight for anyone wishing to take a shower. If you go to Ritchie, remember to bring your ID, a towel, and toiletries with you.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation in helping to protect your residence halls, and we apologize for any inconvenience. Please monitor your email for further updates from us.

Sincerely,

Christopher Moore
Residential Facilities
301-314-9675