



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

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March 8, 2022

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 (UMD) on March 6, 2022. This letter is sent in accordance with COMAR 26.08.10.05.

Location: University of Maryland, Chincoteague Hall, 7401 Preinkert Drive, College Park, MD 20742; 38°59'07.1"N 76°56'40.8"W

Owner of sanitary sewer: Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC)

Receiving water: unnamed tributary of the Paint Branch via Outfall #005. 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 900 gallons total, of which approximately 225 gallons entered a nearby stormwater inlet and the balance either infiltrated into the ground or pooled on the surrounding hardscapes. The stormwater inlet discharges to an unnamed tributary of the Paint Branch via Outfall #005.

Description of overflow location: the overflow came from a sanitary sewer system manhole located in front of Chincoteague hall. This section of sanitary sewer line is owned by the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission. The overflow ran across a sidewalk and into the grass. A portion of the flow entered a stormwater inlet, until the overflow was able to be bypassed using a 3" gas powered trash pump and 250' of discharge bypass hose.

Sewer type: gravity sanitary sewer system.

Impact on waters of the State: A portion of the overflow (approximately 225 gallons) entered the stormwater system via an inlet east of McKeldin Library. This inlet is connected to MS4 Outfall #005 and discharges to an unnamed tributary of the Paint Branch. There was no observed impact to the surface water body. There was a small amount of biosolids released as a result of the overflow, however, only clear effluent reached to stormwater inlet. The biosolids were removed from the impacted area.

Cause of overflow: A blockage in the sewer line.

Date/time overflow began: 03/06/2022 – 09:30 pm (approximately)

Date/time overflow stopped: 03/07/2022 – 01:55 am (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. UMD operations department has scheduled for the line to be scoped and the findings will be discussed with WSSC, who owns the sewer line.

Measures taken to mitigate impact: IRU was contacted by UMD Customer Response Center after receiving a call from UMPD about an overflowing sewer manhole at 11:18 pm. IRU deployed to the site and requested the Pipe Services send out a representative to evaluate the area immediately. Upon arrival, IRU worked to establish a bypass pump system. The bypass was installed and operational by approximately 1:55 am. At approximately 2:39 am, IRU met with the Pipe Services department and contractor support from JP Sewerooter to assess what they believed could be the cause of the overflow. At that point, the flow had already ceased and the area was taped off from the public. Approximately 50 minutes later, JP Sewerooter cleared the blockage. To disinfect the impacted hardscape, IRU applied approximately 4 gallons of a 25% bleach solution, as well as approximately 25 lbs of agricultural lime pellets to the affected grass landscape.

Public notification method: UMD notified MDE of the incident, by phone, at 07:51 am on 03/07/2022 to the voicemail of Evelyn Stavrou at the MDE Hagerstown Office; 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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J. Baer', with a stylized flourish at the end.

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



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INCIDENT RESPONSE UNIT

Incident Report

03/07/2022

Brian Trest IRU1

Location Bldg. & Rm.: McKeldin Mall at Chincoteague Hall

Incident Description: Sewage Overflow from MH Outside of Chincoteague Hall

Initial Report or Update: Initial Report

IRU Initial Action Taken: IRU 3 (Seegobin) Received a call regarding overflowing water from a man hole lid from the CRC that was reported by UMPD at 2318. IRU 3 responded and identified an overflowing sanitary MH with an observed flow of 5 GPM, with light solids running onto a landscaped area and across hardscape surfaces. At 2336, IRU 3 reported the incident to IRU 1 (Trest). IRU 3 requested notification be made to plumbing shop through CRC. A decrease in flow was observed at 0010.

At 0015, IRU 5&10 (Johnson and O'Keefe) arrived on scene for the beginning of their shift and to assist IRU 3. Work began to establish a bypass, to stop the flow of sewage to the storm system. Multiple trips were made to gather materials and equipment.

IRU 1 arrived on scene at 0130 and assisted with deploying sewage response trailer and 3" gas powered trash pump and 250' of discharge bypass hose. Bypass was in place and operational at 0155. No further discharge was observed after bypass was installed.

IRU Field Observations: IRU 5&10 began sanitizing all hardscaped surfaces with a diluted bleach solution, 1gal of bleach was used total. IRU 10&1 broadcasted 25lbs. of agricultural lime pellets across all impacted landscaped surfaces.

At 0239, Piped Services manager Dan Narh arrived with contractor support from JP Sewerooter and began assessing the situation. The clog was between MHs G109 and G305. JP Sewerooter was able to bust the clog with a trailer mounted jetting machine from the down stream MH (G305) at 0330. IRU began demobilizing all equipment and sanitizing all areas impacted.

We do not know the exact time the overflow started but the reported time was 2318 with a flow stoppage point of 0155. An estimate of 900 gals. of overflow occurred with a lesser amount entering storm inlet east of McKeldin Library. A large portion of the discharge spread across the landscaped surfaces and was absorbed into the ground.

IRU Notifications Made: IRU 1 will forward report to FM Leadership and ESSR Environmental affairs.

Notes for After Action Report:

Work Tasks linked to this: WT-10581631 IR, WT-10581633 PL

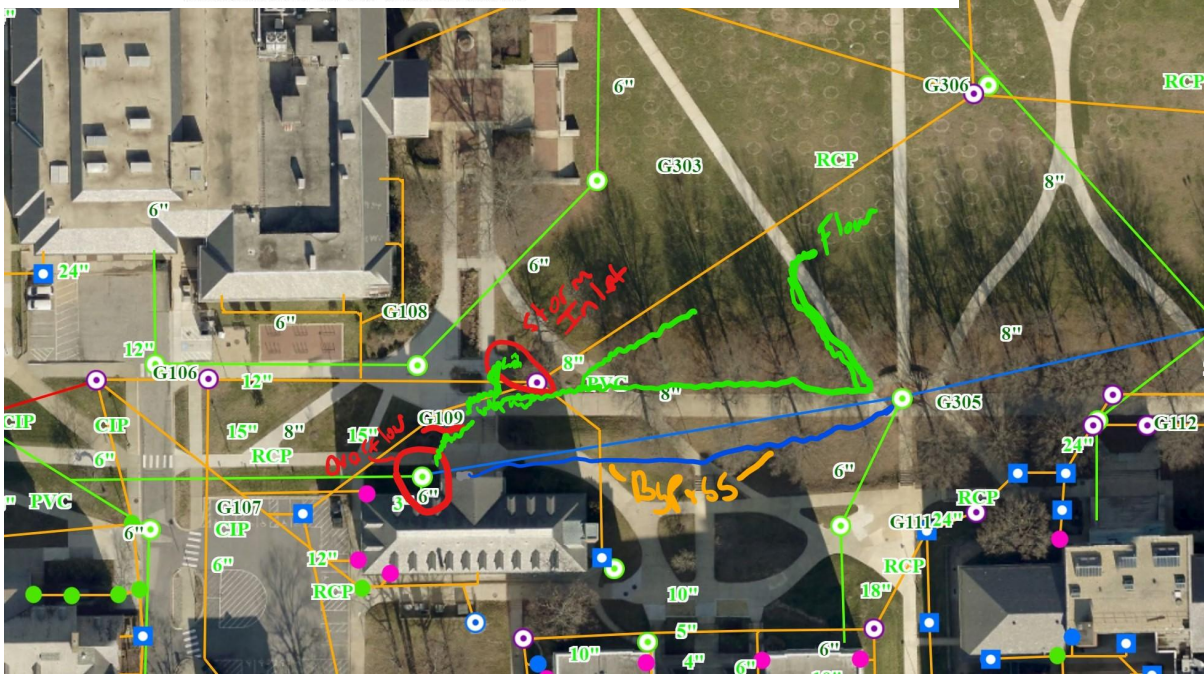
Equipment Placed on Site: N/A

Incident Pictures:



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