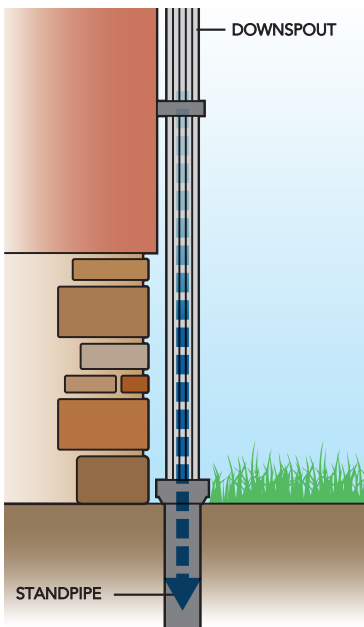


Downspout Disconnection

You can reduce combined sewer overflow (CSO) and help clean the waterways by disconnecting your downspout!

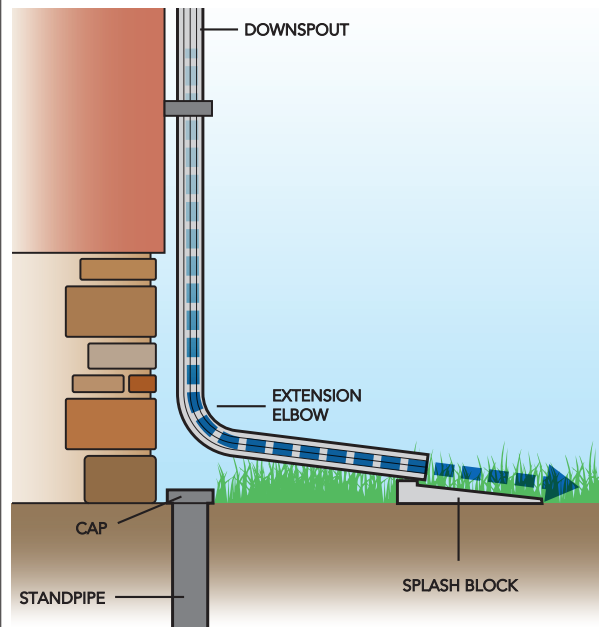


In many older cities, portions of the sewer system carry both sewage and stormwater in a combined sewer system. During storms, a combined sewer system can be overwhelmed, and sewage and stormwater can overflow into our local waterways. This overflow is called combined sewer overflow (CSO). CSOs release pollutants and can be harmful to the environment. **Downspouts connected to the combined sewer system add to the CSO problem.**



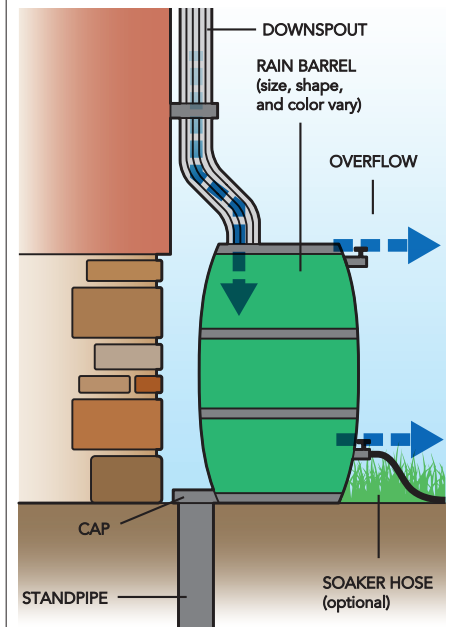
Downspout Connected to the Sewer System –

Downspouts connected directly to the combined sewer system contribute to CSOs.



Downspout Disconnected from the Sewer System –

Downspout disconnection reduces CSOs. The process involves cutting the downspout, attaching an elbow and extension to direct the water to an adjacent pervious area, and capping the standpipe.



Downspout Connected to the Rain Barrel –

Downspouts can be connected to a rain barrel so that stormwater is collected and stored for non-potable uses (i.e., exterior washing, gardening).