

SANITARY SEWER OVERFLOW NOTICE OF CESSATION
(May 1, 2023, 5:58 PM)

To: List of Required Public Notification Recipients

Please be advised that the discharge of untreated sanitary sewage from the Amesbury sewer system, also referred to as a sanitary sewer overflow (SSO), ended at 6:00 pm on 5/01/23. As previously reported, the SSO occurred at a sewer manhole in the vicinity of the following address: 77 Macy Street, Amesbury MA. The SSO was first discovered at 2:00 am on 5/1/23 and stopped at 6:00 pm on 5/1/23, lasting for 16 hours. Based on visual observation, the total estimated overflow volume is approximately 30,000 gallons.

At this time, we have determined the cause of the SSO to be the result of wet weather and/or high groundwater conditions, insufficient capacity in system. Due to the discharge of untreated sanitary sewage into a catch basin to receiving water (Powwow River), remedial measures have been implemented to clean-up the affected areas. However, as previously noted, the following precautionary measures should be taken by the public:

- Avoid contact with these water bodies for 48 hours after the discharge or overflow ceases due to increased health risks from bacteria and other pollutants. See website (<http://amesburyma.gov/285/Wastewater-Treatment-Facility>) for more information on whether specific resource areas, such as bathing beaches are affected.
- Pay close attention to any signage, drums, barricades, and other devices restricting access to the area impacted by the SSO discharge until remediation of the site is complete.
- Await further updates every eight hours if the SSO discharge is still ongoing after this initial notice has been issued. In this case, a final notice will also be issued within two hours after the discharge ends or is projected to end.

Should you have any questions or require additional information, please call the Amesbury WWTP at (978) 388-1912.

Gary Field
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Amesbury Wastewater Treatment Plant
NPDES Permit No. MA 0101745