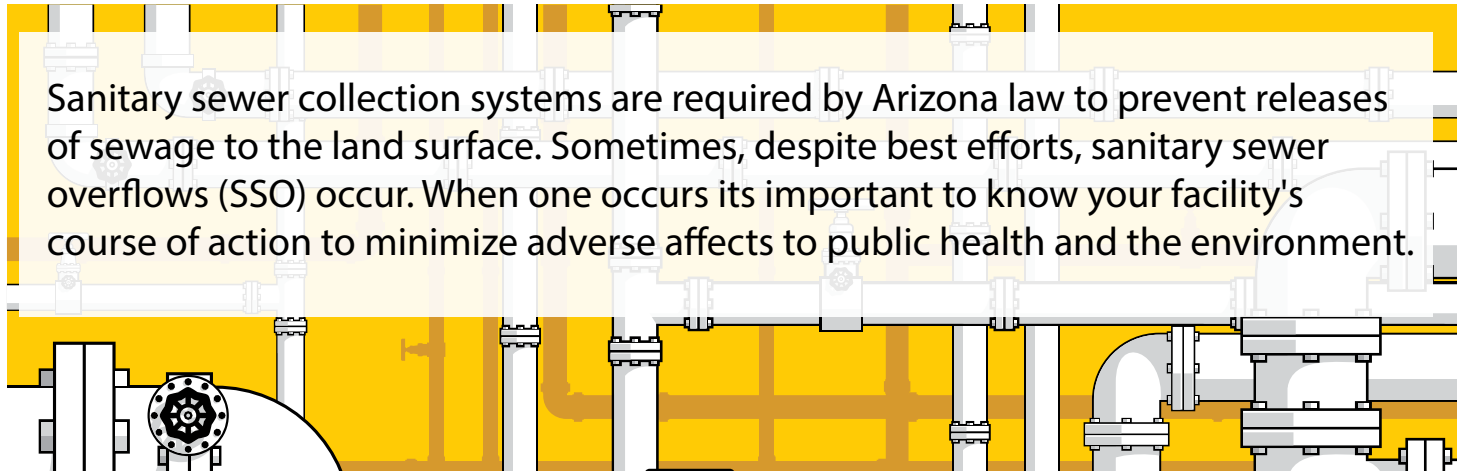


Guidance for Responding to Sanitary Sewer Overflows

Sanitary sewer collection systems are required by Arizona law to prevent releases of sewage to the land surface. Sometimes, despite best efforts, sanitary sewer overflows (SSO) occur. When one occurs it's important to know your facility's course of action to minimize adverse effects to public health and the environment.



Pumping and Bypass Operations

1. Set up signs, barricades and/or barrels for traffic control and public safety. Secure the area to restrict access of the site by members of the public.
2. Reroute traffic as necessary, deploying traffic control measures.
3. Set up bypassing equipment and pump from the upstream manhole to the downstream manhole. Monitor continuously/periodically as needed.
4. Determine the location of the break or collapse and make necessary repairs.
5. Prior to restoring the sewer line to full capacity clean or flush any debris that may have entered and accumulated in the sewer line downstream and upstream from the break.

Clean-Up and Disinfection

Secure overflow site to prevent contact by members of the public until the site has been thoroughly cleaned and disinfected. Notify and coordinate with private property owners, as needed, to gain access for cleanup and securing the area.

Collect all signs of sewage and sewage related materials by hand or with the use of rakes, brooms, shovels, hand-picker tools, and/or vacuum equipment. Collected solids and debris shall be properly disposed. The immediate area shall be inspected to ensure that no visual residue remains, including solids, paper, and rags.

Vacuum up all ponded wastewater and return to the sanitary sewer or wastewater treatment plant.

Disinfect areas that were contaminated from the overflow using a disinfection solution of household bleach dilute 10:1 with water. An appropriate buffer zone shall be maintained between disinfected areas and surface waters.

Disinfected areas should be allowed to dry and the process should be repeated as necessary. If flushing with potable water and/or disinfectant is necessary and ultimately performed, the wash down water must be collected to the extent practicable and returned to the sanitary sewer or wastewater treatment plant.

An inspection of the site should be completed a week after cleanup activities are completed to verify that all materials were removed and to ensure there have been no seepage to the surface that would warrant additional cleanup. Once cleanup is verified, warning materials may be removed from the site.

For translations or other communications aids, please email the Title VI Coordinator at idb@azdeq.gov | Para traducciones u otras ayudas de comunicación, envíe un correo electrónico al Coordinador del Título VI al idb@azdeq.gov.