



SNYDERVILLE BASIN

**WATER RECLAMATION DISTRICT**

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## **ILLEGAL ACTIVITY NOTICE**

The purpose of this emergency notice is to remind all plumbers, contractors, water and flood cleanup companies, and other businesses that it is illegal to install any sump pump, french drain, floor drain, downspout or other system that pumps or disposes of groundwater or stormwater into the wastewater (sewer) system. Any groundwater or stormwater must be diverted outside or into the stormwater system. The disposal of groundwater or stormwater into the wastewater system may result in fines, penalties, criminal charges and civil liability.

The Snyderville Basin Water Reclamation District has seen a massive increase in the amount of water in its sewer system in recent days. Based on the District's monitoring, the increase is primarily the result of temporary and permanent sump pumps or basement drains that are pumping groundwater into the District's sewer system. This is illegal and even a small number of sump pumps can dispose of enough water to quickly overwhelm the District's collection system.

The District anticipates that this problem will only get worse as groundwater saturation and runoff increase. As a result, the District anticipates we will experience a number of localized backups caused by the excessive water being illegally pumped into the wastewater system. The District has monitoring devices in place, and in the event of a localized backup, the District will aggressively pursue fines, penalties and civil damages against any party that installed an illegal system or was illegally disposing of groundwater or stormwater into the District's wastewater system.

In addition, the increase in water has a significant impact on the District's treatment facilities. The treatment facilities are currently running at maximum volume capacity, and the significant increase in clean water into the system disrupts micro-organisms that the District's treatment process utilizes to clean wastewater.

**For a limited time, the District may reimburse property owners up to \$1,500 to cover the cost of disconnecting sump pumps. In addition, the District will not pursue fines or penalties against parties that voluntarily report an illegal connection to the District and work to quickly remedy the illegal connection. For additional details, please contact the District at 435-649-7993.**