

What happens when your

SEWER



Treatment Plant gets **FULL?**

Sewer overflows impact our families and community.

Combined sewer systems are designed to collect rainwater runoff, domestic sewage, and industrial wastewater in the same pipe. Most of the time, these systems transport all of their wastewater to a sewage treatment plant, where it is treated and then discharged to a water body. During periods of heavy rainfall or snowmelt, however, the wastewater volume in a combined sewer system can exceed the capacity of the sewer system or treatment plant. For this reason, combined sewer systems are designed to overflow occasionally (reported incidents in 2005 – 276 and 2004 – 264) and discharge excess untreated wastewater directly to nearby streams, rivers, or other water bodies. These discharges are a major water pollution concern. Human health can be affected by these discharges through contamination of drinking water sources, fish and shellfish, and recreational water.

The good news is your municipal governments have been increasing infrastructure spending over the last five years, but their job isn't finished. They need to make sewer overflow a top priority in 2007 and beyond.

Contact your municipal government representatives and let them know you feel this is an issue.

Heavy Construction Association
of Regional Niagara

HCARN

"People Building Communities"



Go to hcarn.com for more information about this important issue before you vote on Nov. 13th