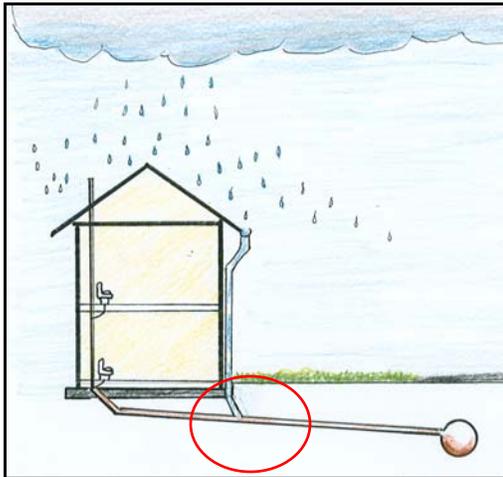


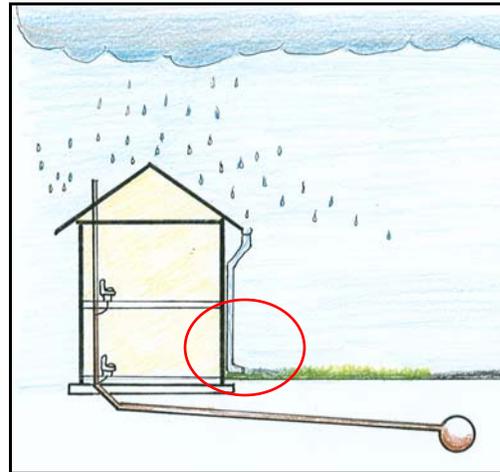


Downspout Disconnections

Allowing rain to drain to lawns, gardens



Before downspout disconnect.



After downspout disconnect.

Purpose: In many parts of South Hadley, downspouts are connected directly to the sanitary sewer system. These illegal connections add relatively clean stormwater to wastewater, often overwhelming the system's carrying and treatment capacity. Sewage overflows to nearby rivers are an unfortunate result of these connections. Disconnecting downspouts from the sewer system, required by South Hadley's Sewer Use Rules and Regulations, allows roof water to drain to lawns and gardens.

How to Disconnect: You can schedule the Town of South Hadley's contracted plumber to come do the downspout disconnect work at no cost to you. Fill out the Stormwater Management Incentives program application available at: http://southhadleyma.virtualltownhall.net/Pages/SouthHadleyMA_DPW/control/water or call (413) 538-5040 to get a copy of the application. When the plumber comes to your home, he/she will cut the roof drain pipe near the ground and cap the standpipe to the sanitary sewer. The bottom of the downspout will then be retrofitted with an elbow and an extension so that stormwater can now drain to lawn or garden areas. The plumber will match existing materials as closely as possible. Property owners who do not choose to allow the Town's contracted plumber to perform the work, must disconnect their downspouts at their own expense.



Disconnecting a downspout involves three steps: cut the roof drain pipe, cap the sewer standpipe, and retrofit the downspout with an elbow.

Three-part image above courtesy of: City of Toronto.