Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)	
Task: Sanitary Sewer Overflow Containment-Rubber Mat	
SOP Number: WWC - 01	**Effective Date:** 01 MAY 07 Revised 22 May 08

Task:

Protect the public's health and safety and minimize the impact to the environment. Satisfy all regulatory agencies requirements and the Waste Discharge Requirement (WDR).

Performance Standard:

- Knowledge of the collection system to prevent the discharge of sewage from reaching nearby surface waters.
- Ability to determine the correct tools and methods to be used to contain the sewage discharge.
- Ability to safely limit public contact with sewage flow.
- Ability to recover and return discharged flow back into the system.

Safety & Other Cautions:

- Traffic signs, cones, delineators, barricades, arrow board, and lights as required.
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- Slip and fall danger is increased when working with sewage. Be aware of slippery surfaces and slopes
- Keep public out of the spill area
- Gas monitor for checking atmospheric conditions prior to removing MH lids.

Tools & Equipment Needed:

- Rubber boots, latex gloves, leather gloves, coveralls, traffic vest, rain gear and other PPE as required.
- Caution tape
- Rubber mats, sand bags, spill berm, hose, shovels, manhole hook, gas monitor
- Vactor truck
- Camera

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SEQUENTIAL STEPS IN PERFORMING THE TASK / PROCEDURE

1. Prior to starting task, conduct a tailgate safety meeting to discuss safety precautions, review procedures, and assign responsibilities to each person on the crew.

2. Survey the scene looking for any water on the surface and confirm it is sewage. Determine the source of the flow, and contact the necessary Wastewater Collection personnel, to contain the flow of sewage. Keep all traffic out of the area.

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3. Follow the path of the sewage on the surface to determine where the nearest storm drain inlet is located, or nearest point of contact with any surface water.

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4. After accessing both the source of the spill and potential discharge points, contain the SSO using the appropriate techniques. Determine if the SSO is Category 1 or 2 and notify Superintendent or Supervisor accordingly.

5. Establish required traffic control to divert vehicle and pedestrian traffic around the spill, and keep the area clear for equipment necessary to facilitate the cleanup.

6. On paved surfaces, attempt containment by placing rubber mats over the drain inlet at the storm drain. Smooth the surface of the mat to prevent flow from entering underneath it.

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7. Secure mats in place by using sandbags, dirt, or other heavy objects at the corners of the mat to keep it in place.

8. Once the blockage has been relieved, measure the depth and the area of the water that has built up around the drain inlet in order to help figure the volume of the spill that occurred. Record this information on the Field Spill Report form.

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9. Use Vactor to remove any water or material that has "ponded" at the drain inlet. Keep the inlet covered until all evidence of sewage has been captured, including any wash down water.

10. Use containment berm, dirt or sand to build dams to minimize the velocity when spill is coming from steep grade.

11. When possible, divert flow to a downstream manhole to return sewage flow back into the system. This can be accomplished using containment berm, dirt, or sandbags.

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12. If possible, direct flow to a natural low area to help contain, and minimize the effects on the environment.

13. Once the area has been cleaned, and containment equipment picked up, complete all pertinent information on the field spill report and turn in with all information to Supervisor.