

Help us protect Tasmanian waterways and parklands

Keep stormwater out of sewer

We live in one of the most beautiful parts of the world and our environment is particularly close to our hearts. Tasmania is home to some of the most stunning waterways and parklands and it is important that we all do our bit to protect the environment.

Stormwater inflow and infiltration

Our sewerage network is not designed to manage the inflow and infiltration of stormwater during rainfall.

Inflow is where stormwater enters the sewerage network, generally via private plumbing that is incorrectly connected to the sewer system.

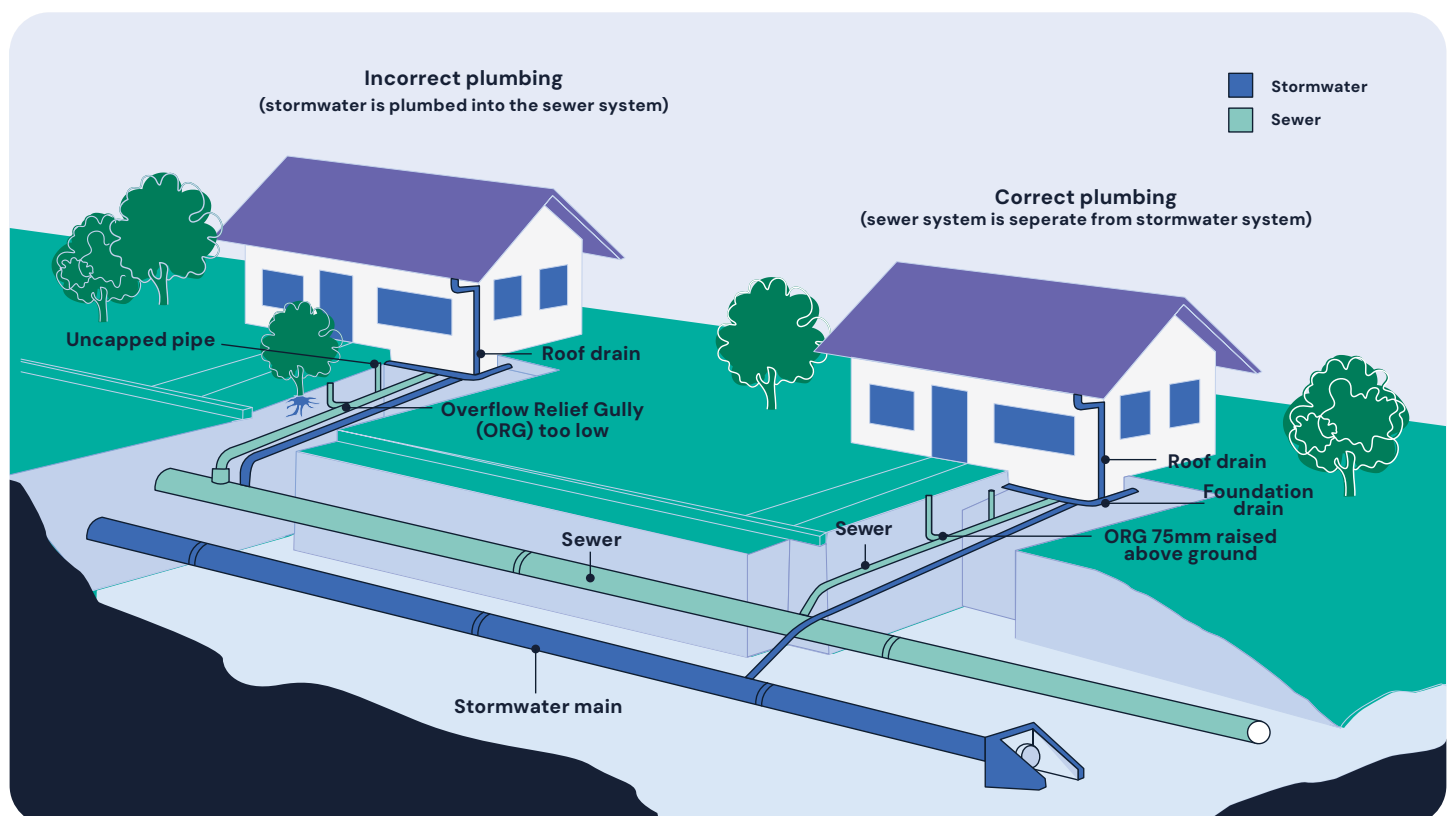
Infiltration is stormwater entering the sewerage network, generally by seeping through cracked, or unsealed underground infrastructure.

The effects of inflow and infiltration

When the amount of stormwater entering the sewerage network exceeds the network's capacity, there is potential for the following:

- overflows to creeks, rivers and parklands
- increased risks to the health of our waterways and local environment
- increased sewage pumping and treatment

Possible sources of inflow and infiltration on your property



Keep stormwater out of sewer

How you can help

We all have a responsibility to minimise sewer overflows by being aware of, and fixing, incorrect connections on our properties. We will be checking your downpipe is connected to the stormwater system, not the sewer network.

If an incorrect connection is identified you should:

- Contact your local council for advice on connecting to the stormwater system.
- Contact a licensed plumber to fix any stormwater cross-connections or sewer defects.
- Ensure your property's Overflow Relief Gully (ORG) is raised above ground level. Contact a licensed plumber for advice before raising an ORG. If it is raised too high it can cause problems on your property.

What TasWater is doing to help

TasWater is inspecting sewerage infrastructure in areas where sewage overflows occur regularly, impacting the local environment.

Our crews will also work to identify and rectify any leaks and cracks in TasWater infrastructure.

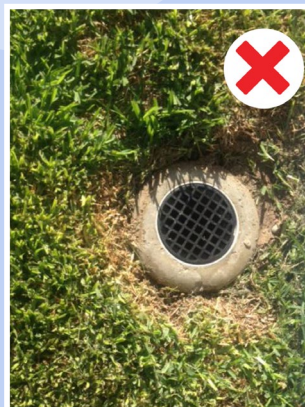
We will notify property owners of any defects identified in their privately owned infrastructure and provide further information on your responsibility to rectify the issue.

Check your ORG

Check your Overflow Relief Gully (ORG) is not covered or blocked and the grate is loosely fitted.

In the event of a sewer blockage, the cover of the ORG should be able to either pop off or pop upwards to release excess pressure and direct sewage away from your home.

ORG too low



ORG at correct height



For more information

Scan the QR code to visit our website and learn more about inflow and infiltration.

