

By stopping storm-water from entering your gully you are:

- Reducing **sewage** overflows,
- Protecting community health,
- Keeping our waterways clean
- Saving the community money

For more information, contact —

HAWKESBURY CITY COUNCIL

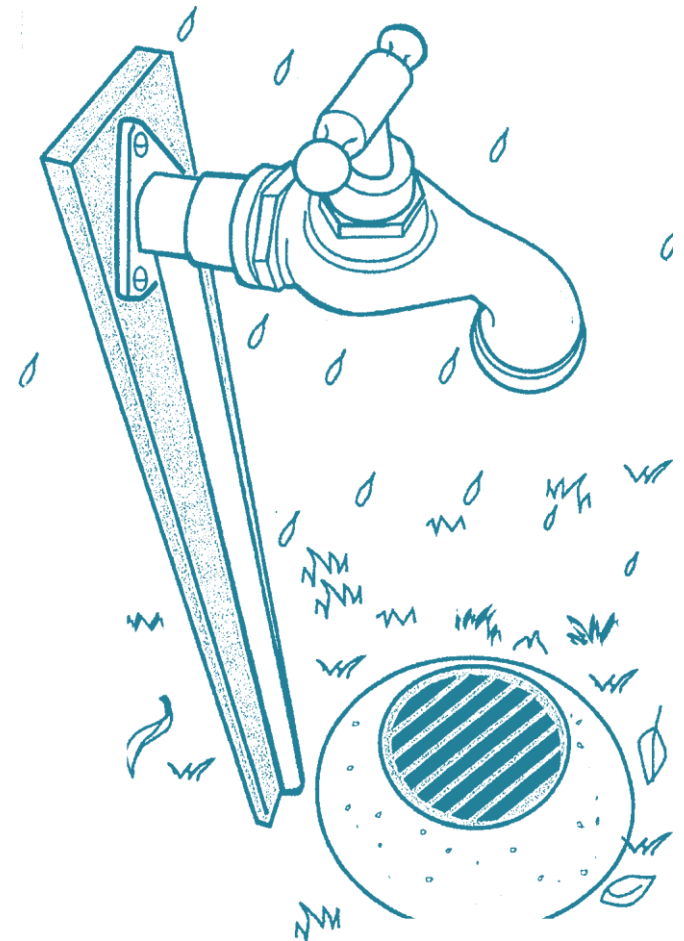
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KEEPING STORM WATER OUT OF YOUR GULLY



GULLIES AND STORM WATER

It is important to stop storm-water from entering gullies. Storm-water can overload the sewerage system, causing it to spill into our waterways and pollute the environment. It also creates difficulties for people who live further along the system where overflows occur.

The problem is most obvious during periods of high rainfall when storm-water inflow can cause surcharging of manholes and polluted water escapes into the environment.

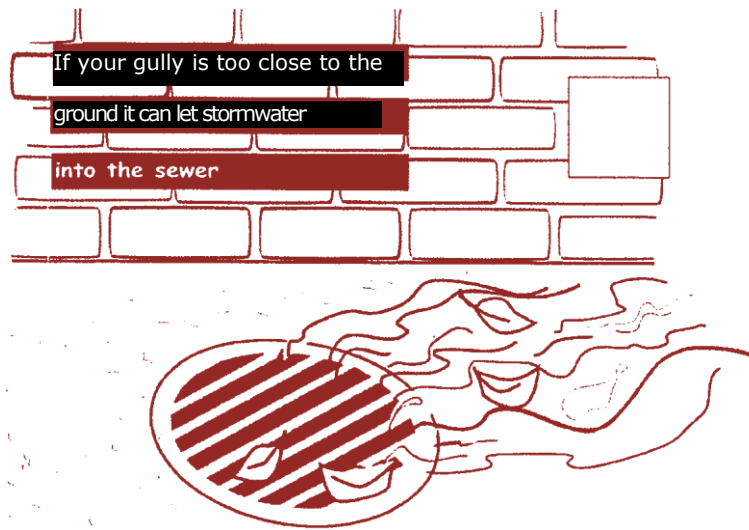
It costs Council and the community many thousands of dollars to fight the problems caused by storm-water entering the sewerage system.

WHAT IS AN OVERFLOW GULLY?

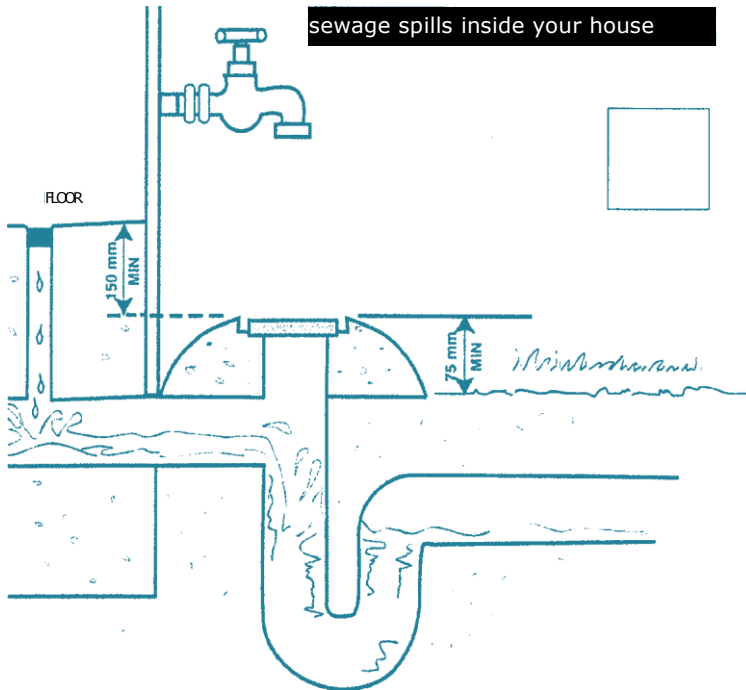
Overflow gullies stop sewage from spilling inside your house if pipes get blocked. Instead, sewage is released through the gully into your yard.

The gully is a vertical pipe which rises from the sewer buried near your house. It has a loose-fitting grate which stops things such as sticks and leaves from getting in.

A gully is not a drain. Gullies should never be used for the disposal of storm-water.



Overflow gullies reduce the chance of blocked pipes causing sewage spills inside your house



DAMAGED AND LOW-LYING GULLIES

If the gully opening is damaged or too close to the ground, nearby storm-water will flow into the sewer through the gully.

Storm-water going into one gully mightn't seem like much of a problem. But every time it rains, storm-water from many gullies builds up to place a big strain on the sewerage system

Low-lying gullies usually occur when the surrounding ground level is raised during landscaping or construction of footpaths. Gullies can also be damaged during these activities

Damaged or low-lying gullies should be fixed by a licensed plumber. If the gully is too low, the plumber will probably raise the level of the gully opening to stop storm-water from draining into it. Damaged gullies must be repaired or replaced.

GULLY REQUIREMENTS

A gully opening should be at least 75mm above the ground to stop storm-water from entering the sewerage system. The top of the gully should also be no *less* than 150mm below the lowest fixture within the building, e.g., floor waste; otherwise the gully may not provide enough protection against sewerage spills inside the building.

These are only basic requirements for an overflow gully. For other requirements, contact a licensed plumber.

Correct gullies have an opening which is at least 75mm above ground level

