

## PUBLIC NOTIFICATION

On May 21<sup>st</sup> 2024, The sanitary sewer collection system for the City of Le Center was bypassed in 2 locations. Bypasses are the result of high volume, including rainfall-induced infiltration and inflow (I/I). The collection system was not able to convey the additional storm water to the wastewater treatment facility and untreated wastewater was released to the storm water collection system and to Le Sueur Creek on the north end of town.

Approximately 31,400 gallons were released during the 2.8 inch rain event with 2.4 inches falling within 30 min.

Contact with untreated wastewater should be avoided due to potential health impacts related to waterborne pathogens.

The City of Le Center recently completed its Park Avenue project in 2022. Since 2004, 30,742 liner feet of mainline sewer and 16,502 liner feet of home services have been replaced. The City currently has a plan to reconstruct Cordova Avenue in approximately 6 years. Implementing this plan of sanitary sewer replacement will further reduce I/I and eliminate the occurrence of future sanitary sewer releases. Successful implementation of this program requires community support. Elimination of illegal connections such as foundation drains, roof gutter drains and French drains that are connected to the sanitary sewer is paramount. Foundation drains, Roof gutter drains and French drains need to be connected to the Storm Sewer. Most of the homes that report wet basements due to storms have illegal connections to the sanitary sewer. If you don't have a sump pump that pumps out to the street, the storm sewer or backyard you probably have an illegal connection to the sanitary sewer. If your sump pump pumps to your wash tub or any other plumbing in the home, you probably have an illegal connection.