

# Storm Versus Sanitary

## What's the Difference and Why Does It Matter

### Where Storm Sewer Water Originates

As the name implies, storm water is the result of **rainfall, snow**, or other **runoff**, primarily outside of homes and businesses. Drains are positioned along curbs or other low-lying areas.

### Where Sanitary Sewer Water Originates

Sanitary sewer water – or wastewater- originates inside homes and businesses, from **toilets, showers, tubs, sinks**, and other **appliances**. Wastewater then travels through a series of underground pipes.

### Where Storm Sewer Water Ends Up

Storm sewer water enters the underground drain system and flows to **rivers, lakes**, and other **bodies of water**. Storm sewer water enters our natural waterways without passing through wastewater treatment processes. Therefore, it is very important that **water only** – no chemicals, cleaners, or paint – **enters the storm sewer** system.

### Where Sanitary Sewer Water Ends Up

Once wastewater enters the sanitary sewer system, it ultimately flows to a **wastewater treatment facility** via a series of underground pipes. The water is then **filtered, treated**, and **discharged** in accordance with federal and state regulations. Sanitary sewer is intended **only for biodegradable** items; never put grease, coffee grounds, “flushable” wipes, paper towels, or other non-biodegradable items down the drain.

### Who Is Responsible For Storm Sewer

The **City of Easley** is responsible for the control and flow of **stormwater**. If you have any questions, please call 864-855-7916 or email [stormwater@cityofeasley.com](mailto:stormwater@cityofeasley.com).

### Who Is Responsible For Sanitary Sewer

**Easley Combined Utilities** is responsible for the repair and maintenance of sanitary sewer main lines, as well as the treatment of wastewater. Internal plumbing and the service line from a property to the sewer main is the **customer's responsibility**. If you have any questions, please call 864-859-4013 or email [customerservice@easleyutilities.com](mailto:customerservice@easleyutilities.com).