

Acknowledgements and useful links:

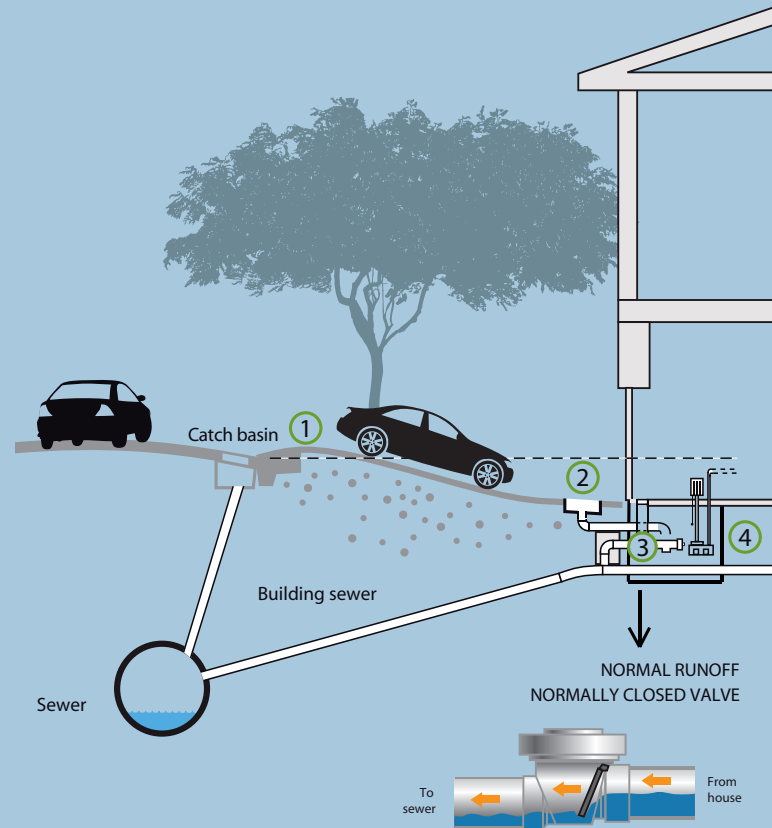
Régie du bâtiment du Québec (RBQ)
rbq.gouv.qc.ca

Corporation des maîtres mécaniciens en tuyauterie du Québec (CMMTQ)
cmmtq.org

Simple Actions to Take Outdoors

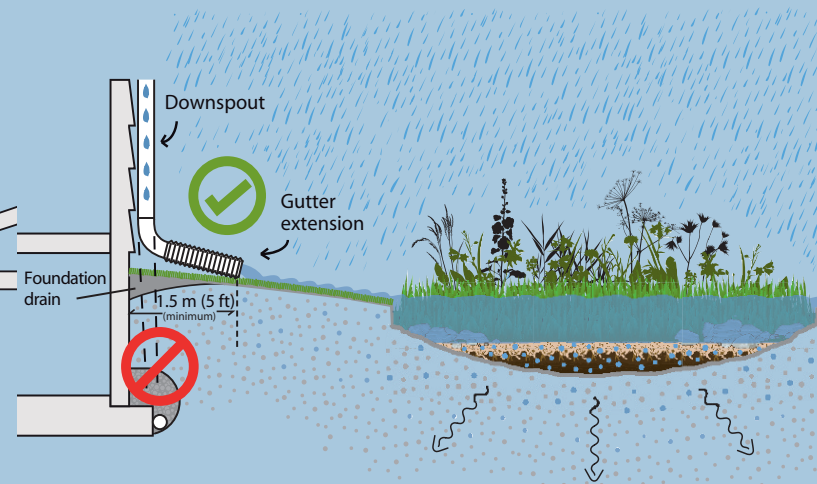
Solutions for a driveway sloping toward your house

1. Build an upward slope between the public roadway and your driveway.
2. At the bottom of the garage slope, install a properly working drain or a sump of sufficient dimensions.
3. Install a branch line backwater valve (normally closed valve) on the drain of the sump.
4. Install a sump equipped with a pump to push the water back outside.



If you have a sloping roof, disconnect your gutters from the sewage system.

- In this way, you will be able to:
- Protect the foundation of your house.
 - Redirect the rainwater in order to preserve your landscaping.



Set up a rain garden!

Once your gutters have been disconnected, divert the rainwater runoff from the roof by installing an inexpensive downspout extension or deflector. Rainwater must flow at least 1.5 m (5 ft) away from the foundation. (Bylaw 2008-47)*

Under the Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal's Bylaw 2008-47 on water treatment:

"When water runoff from the roof is captured by a gutter system (...), this water must be directed along the surface of the ground and at least 1.5 m (5 ft) away from a building, while preventing it from flowing toward any foundation drain."

SEWER BACKUP DUE TO HEAVY RAIN



Installation of backwater valves and other simple actions

Further information on what you can do in order to protect your home against sewer backups may be found on our website at:

ville.montreal.qc.ca/eaudemontreal



Studio de design graphique, Ville de Montréal, 000405-3970 (04-2010)

Montréal 

Faced with climate change as we are nowadays, heavy rainstorms are increasingly frequent. During these downpours, large amounts of water flowing into the sewage system in record time may cause sewer backup.

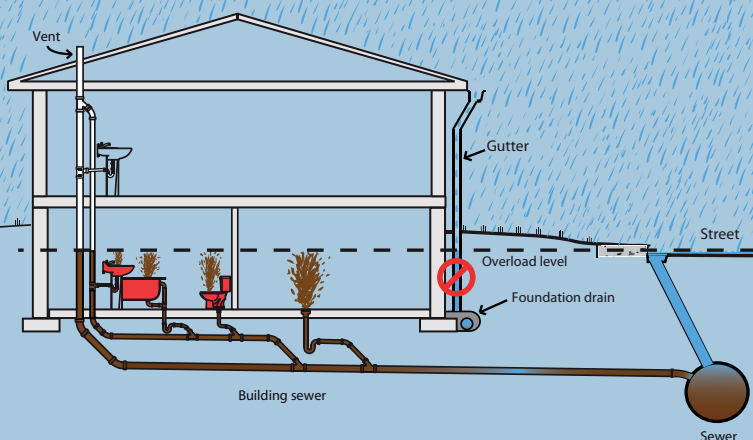
Ville de Montréal is sensitive to the issues that are raised by this problem. In order to cut down on the number of sewer backups, the City is constantly striving to increase the retention capacity of the sewage system and improve the condition of its infrastructures.

Simple Actions to Take Indoors

Single-family home with sloping roof

SEWER BACKUP DUE TO HEAVY RAIN

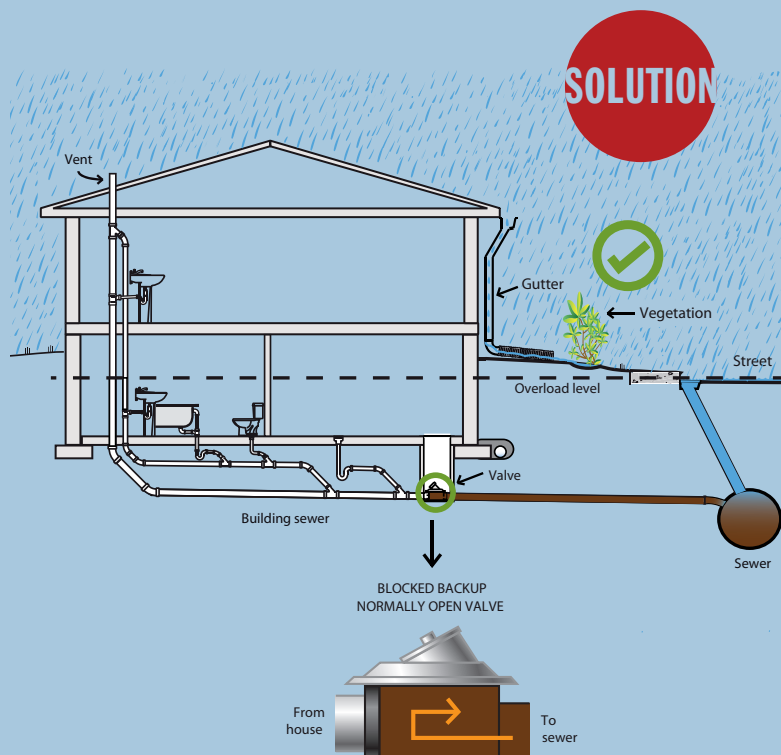
In times of heavy rain, plumbing fixtures located below street level must be protected against the risks of sewer backup.



If your gutters are poorly connected in carrying the water runoff from the roof toward the sewer which is already overloaded due to a heavy rainstorm, you are more at risk of a sewer backup.

INSTALL A VALVE

A mainline backwater valve (*normally open valve*), installed on the building drain, is designed to prevent wastewater from backing up into your home. In case of a backflow, this normally open valve closes and prevents the wastewater from backing up.



Please note: Since certain conditions are specified under Chapter III (Plumbing) of the Québec Building Code, it is highly recommended that you seek advice from a plumber who is a member of the CMMTQ in order to obtain information about the type of valve suited to your house as well as about installation and maintenance.

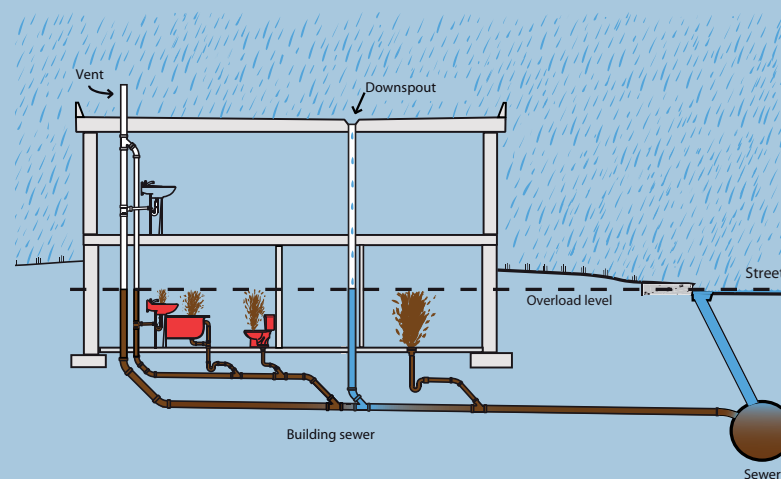
In all cases, your valve must be easily accessible and annual maintenance should be carried out to make sure it is in good working order.

Simple Actions to Take Indoors

All types of buildings with a flat roof

SEWER BACKUP DUE TO HEAVY RAIN

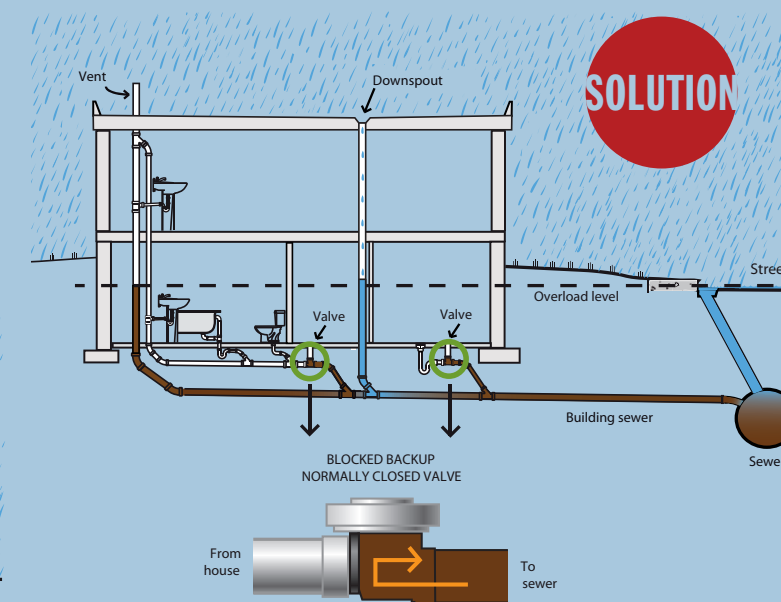
With a flat roof, plumbing fixtures located below street level must be protected from sewer backup risks by means of a branch line backwater valve (*normally closed valve*). There are two installation options in this case: either one single valve on the branch serving all plumbing fixtures connected to that branch OR one valve on each of the fixture drains.



Buildings with a flat roof don't have any outdoor gutters. Instead, they have downspouts, which carry the water directly to the sewer and therefore risk flooding it in times of heavy rain. And that's the potential cause of a sewer backup.

INSTALL A VALVE

The branch line backwater valve (*normally closed valve*) is designed to prevent wastewater from backing up into your home. The flap opens only if wastewater is flowing toward the sewer. In case of a backflow, the water runs in the opposite direction and is blocked by the valve flap, preventing the water from backing up.



In the case of a floor drain

A squeeze-in valve: In case you can't install a branch line backwater valve (*normally closed valve*), a squeeze-in valve might be considered.

Please note: Since certain conditions are specified under Chapter III (Plumbing) of the Québec Building Code, it is highly recommended that you seek advice from a plumber who is a member of the CMMTQ in order to obtain information about the type of valve suited to your house as well as about installation and maintenance. In all cases, your valve must be easily accessible and annual maintenance should be carried out to make sure it is in good working order.