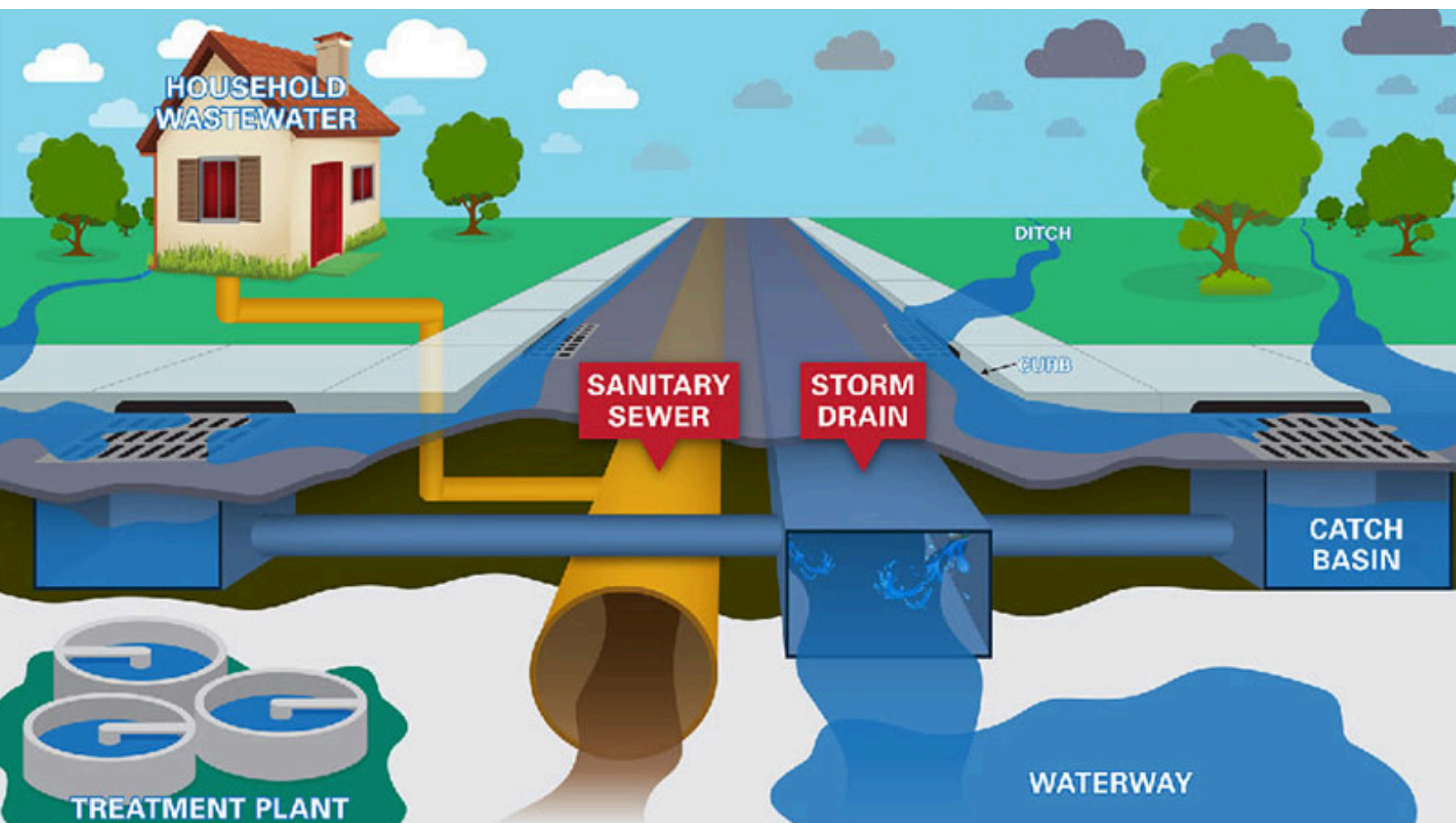


Stormwater Reader

Sanitary Sewer VS. Storm Sewer

The sanitary sewer system is the system inside of our homes and businesses. Every time we flush the toilet, run the dishwasher, or take a shower, that wastewater flows through the sanitary sewer system. In Carrollton, this wastewater flows through the sanitary sewer system to a wastewater treatment plant. The wastewater treatment plant treats or cleans the water before releasing the clean water back into our surface waters (creeks, lakes, rivers). **The storm sewer (drain) system is completely separate.** The storm drain system removes rainwater from streets and parking lots to prevent flooding. Rain water flows into the storm inlets (holes in the side of the street or parking lot) and is discharged directly into our surface waters. The water that enters the storm drain system does NOT receive any kind of treatment. Therefore, whatever the rain picks up from our parking lots, streets, or grass, goes directly into our surface waters! Pet waste, motor oil, fertilizer, dirt and many other items will get picked up by rainwater and discharged into our nearest pond, creek, lake or river. Yuck! Of course the sanitary sewer system can impact our storm sewer system. If the sanitary sewer gets clogged then sewage will flow on the ground and into our storm sewer system and our waterways! Always contact Environmental Services at 972-466-5727 if you observe or think you observe an illicit discharge or spill! We will gladly go out and investigate all concerns.



cityofcarrollton.com/stormwater

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