

Your yard is connected to the river!

- A 1,500 square foot home can redirect 25,000 gallons of water each year away from the sewer system by disconnecting downspouts and redirecting storm water to vegetated areas.
- Redirecting this storm water could save a community \$25 per year per house by not sending it to waste water treatment plants.
- Disconnected, properly directed downspouts also help to reduce storm water runoff that causes local streams to flood.
- Grading landscaping away from the house can reduce water leaking into your basement.
- Redirecting storm water from your roof can reduce tap water used for landscape needs, saving money each year.
- A neighborhood of 100 homes can redirect 2.5 million gallons of water each year away from the sewer system by disconnecting downspouts and redirecting storm water to vegetated areas.

Here are some questions to ask your Stormwater Division:

- How should I plug my underground downspout connection?
- How far away from my home should my downspout extension be?
- How far away from my property line should my downspout extension be?
- Are any innovative methods available to handle storm water from roofs, such as rain barrels?

Homeowners can make a difference in preserving streams!



Jefferson County Stormwater Division
725 Maple Street
Hillsboro MO 63050

Phone: 636-797-6228
Email: stormwater@jeffcomo.org

Managing Gutter Runoff

You can make a difference.



Please keep our watersheds clean

Why proper roof runoff is important

Downspouts carry stormwater from your roof away from your house. Directing stormwater from paved areas and to vegetated areas gives water the chance to enter the ground, instead of running into sanitary sewers or storm drains.

By keeping stormwater out of the sanitary or storm sewers:

- You can reduce sewage overflows into the nearest stream.
- You can reduce flooding of streams.
- You can reduce basement flooding from sanitary sewer backups.
- You can reduce basement flooding from leaking downspout connections.
- You can reduce water use for landscaping, saving you money.

Undeveloped Areas

- Large vegetated areas
- Slow runoff
- Few flooding events
- Minimal erosion



As areas become urbanized, the amount of permeable ground cover is reduced, and less stormwater soaks into the ground. The resulting stormwater runoff causes large increases in river flow and flooding. River banks erode and habitat for fish and wildlife is damaged.

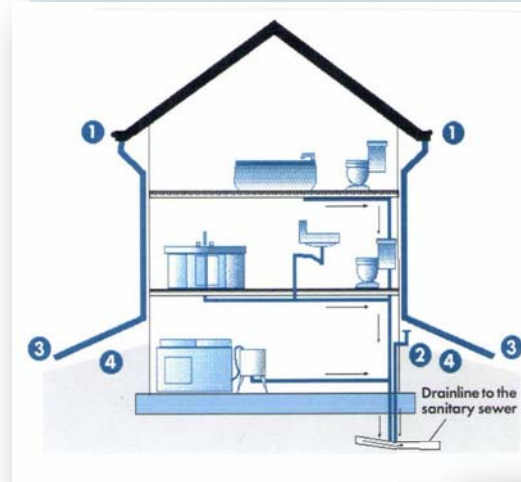
Developed Areas

- Impervious surfaces
- Rapid runoff
- Increased flooding
- Erosion of river bank



Incorrect Roof Drainage

- Lack of gutters at bottom edge of roof.
- Downspouts that drain directly into the sanitary sewer line.
- Downspouts that drain straight down and do not direct water away from the house.
- Grading in the yard that directs water toward the house.



Rain Gutters should be installed at the lower edge of the roof line of the house to collect stormwater and direct it to downspouts.

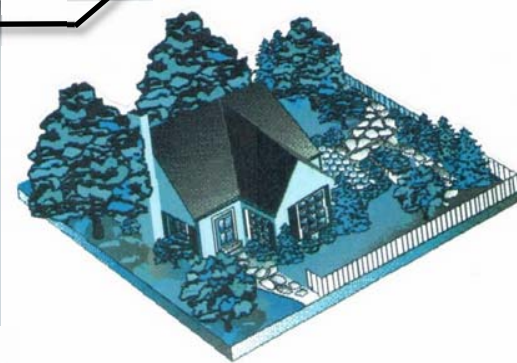
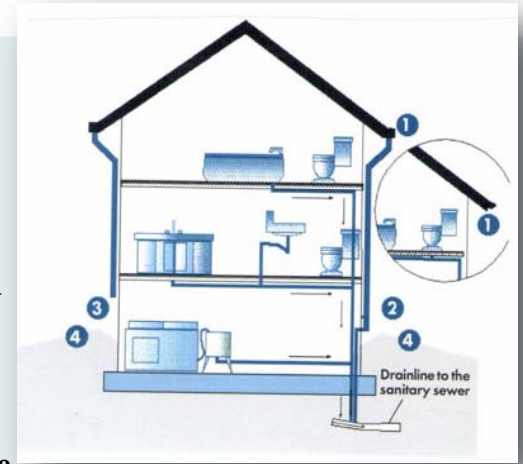


If downspouts are connected to the sewer like this, disconnect them by following these easy steps.

- Cut the downspout.
- Plug the underground downspout connection.

Correct Roof Drainage

- Gutters on the bottom edges of your roof
- A plug in the sanitary sewer line where the down spout had been connected.
- Downspout extensions that drain roof water away from your house.
- Grading that provides gradual slope away from the house.



C. Decide where you want your storm water to go. Direct it away from your house and more than 5 feet away from your neighbor's house onto vegetated areas, in a swale or to a French drain—to get water into the ground.

D. Add elbow, extension and splash block.

- Insert downspout into elbow.
- Attach extension by fitting elbow inside the extension.
- Secure the elbow and extension with sheet metal screws.
- To prevent erosion where water drains, place a splash block at the end of the downspout extension.

