

DURHAM



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CITY OF MEDICINE

CITY OF DURHAM
Department of Water Management
Water & Sewer Maintenance Division
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News Release

For Immediate Release: October 6, 2017

City of Durham Contains Sewer Spill at 5300 Block of Highgate Drive

Durham, N.C. — The City of Durham Department of Water Management reports that approximately 900 gallons of untreated wastewater were discharged into Third Ford Creek tributary on October 6, 2017 from a sewer cleanout at 5317 Highgate Drive.

The sewer cleanout was found running over at approximately 10:00 a.m. on October 6, 2017. The overflow was caused by a grease blockage. Crews cleared the blockage, dammed, pumped, and flushed the creek, and the overflow ended at approximately 11:30 a.m. on October 6, 2017. The surrounding area has been remediated and there are no immediately visible adverse environmental impacts or hazards to persons or property.

The City of Durham's Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG) outreach program provides education on the proper disposal of grease and other materials. Only water, human waste, and toilet paper are permitted to be discharged into the sewer system. FOG program staff will take appropriate enforcement action when necessary. Additionally, Water & Sewer Maintenance crews proactively inspect and clean sewer lines throughout the collection system to help prevent blockages.

The N.C. Department of Environmental Quality Division of Water Resources was notified of the event on October 6, 2017 as required by state regulations/law. For more information contact Junior Mobley, Superintendent of Water & Sewer Maintenance.