



Institute for Catastrophic  
Loss Reduction

Building resilient communities

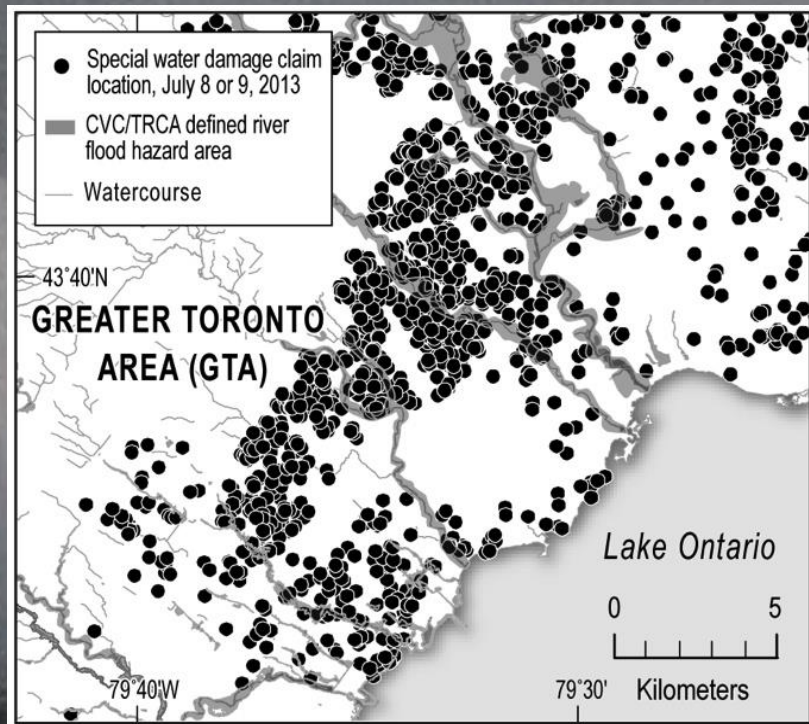
Institut de prévention  
des sinistres catastrophiques

Bâtir des communautés résilientes

# Mitigating Urban/Basement Flood Risk: Household-scale considerations



Dan Sandink, *Director of Research*  
CCRF June 2018 – Halifax




~\$1 billion in insured losses (IBC)

~60% of total losses from basement flooding in homes (sewer backup)

(CatIQ)




# Information sources


 Institute for Catastrophic Loss Reduction  
Building resilient communities


**Designed for Safer Living™**


**Handbook for reducing  
Basement flooding**

Designed for Safer Living™ is a program endorsed by Canada's insurers to promote disaster-resilient homes.




 Institute for Catastrophic Loss Reduction  
Institut de Prévention des Sinistres Catastrophiques






**DURHAM REGION  
CLIMATE RESILIENCE STANDARD FOR NEW HOUSES**

February 2018  
Draft for consultation


 **CSA Group**


**7800-18**  
National Standard of Canada




**Guideline on basement flood protection  
and risk reduction**

BALLOT DRAFT – NOT FOR FURTHER DISTRIBUTION  
ÉBAUCHE : TOUTE DISTRIBUTION ANTICIPÉE



 **Standards Council of Canada**  
Conseil canadien des normes

 Institute for Catastrophic Loss Reduction  
Building resilient communities

**Addressing Critical Information Gaps: Practical Guidance for  
Private-Side Drainage Systems to Reduce Basement Flood Risk**

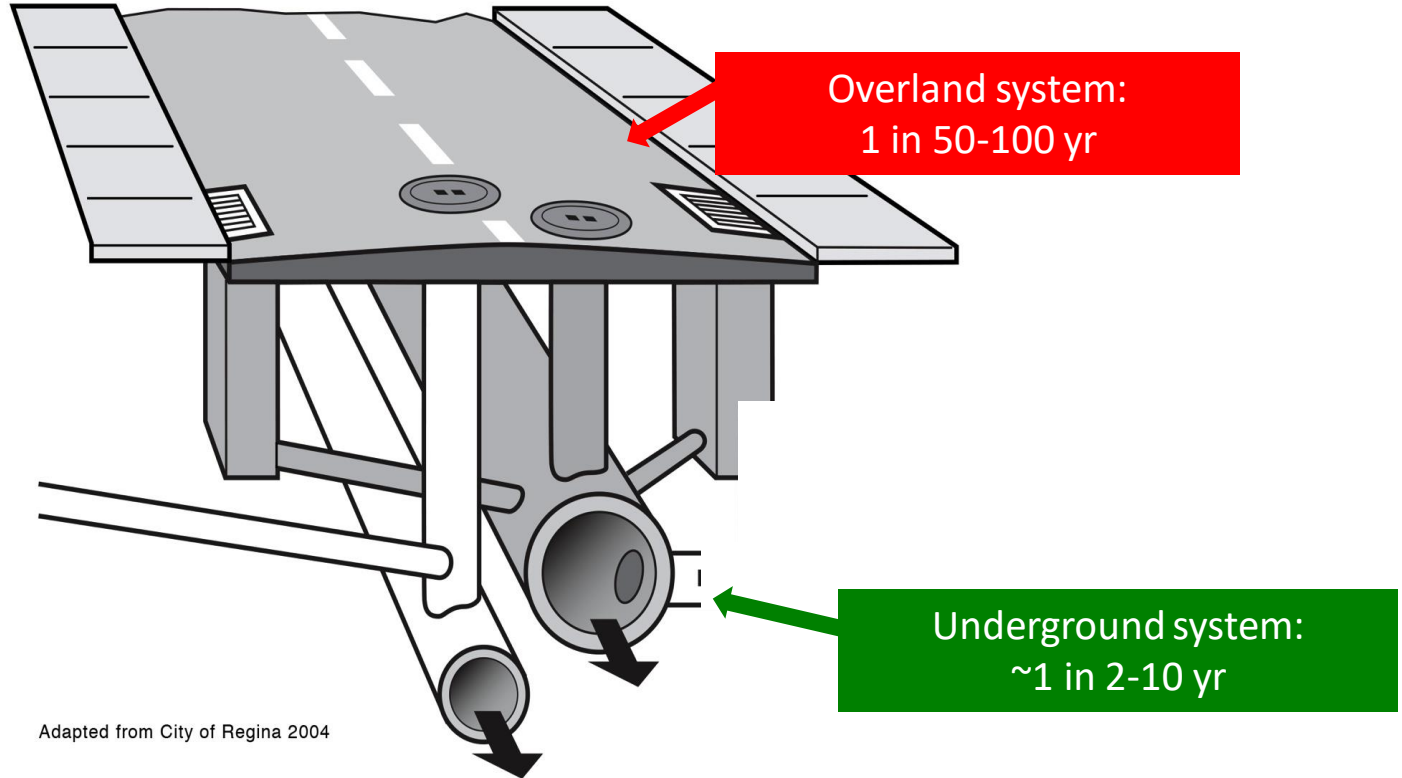
Draft 2  
March 28, 2018

Submitted to the National Research Council of Canada

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Barbara Robinson, Norton Engineering Inc.  
Paul Okrutney, 30 FE

# Major, minor systems

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Adapted from City of Regina 2004





# SWM standards

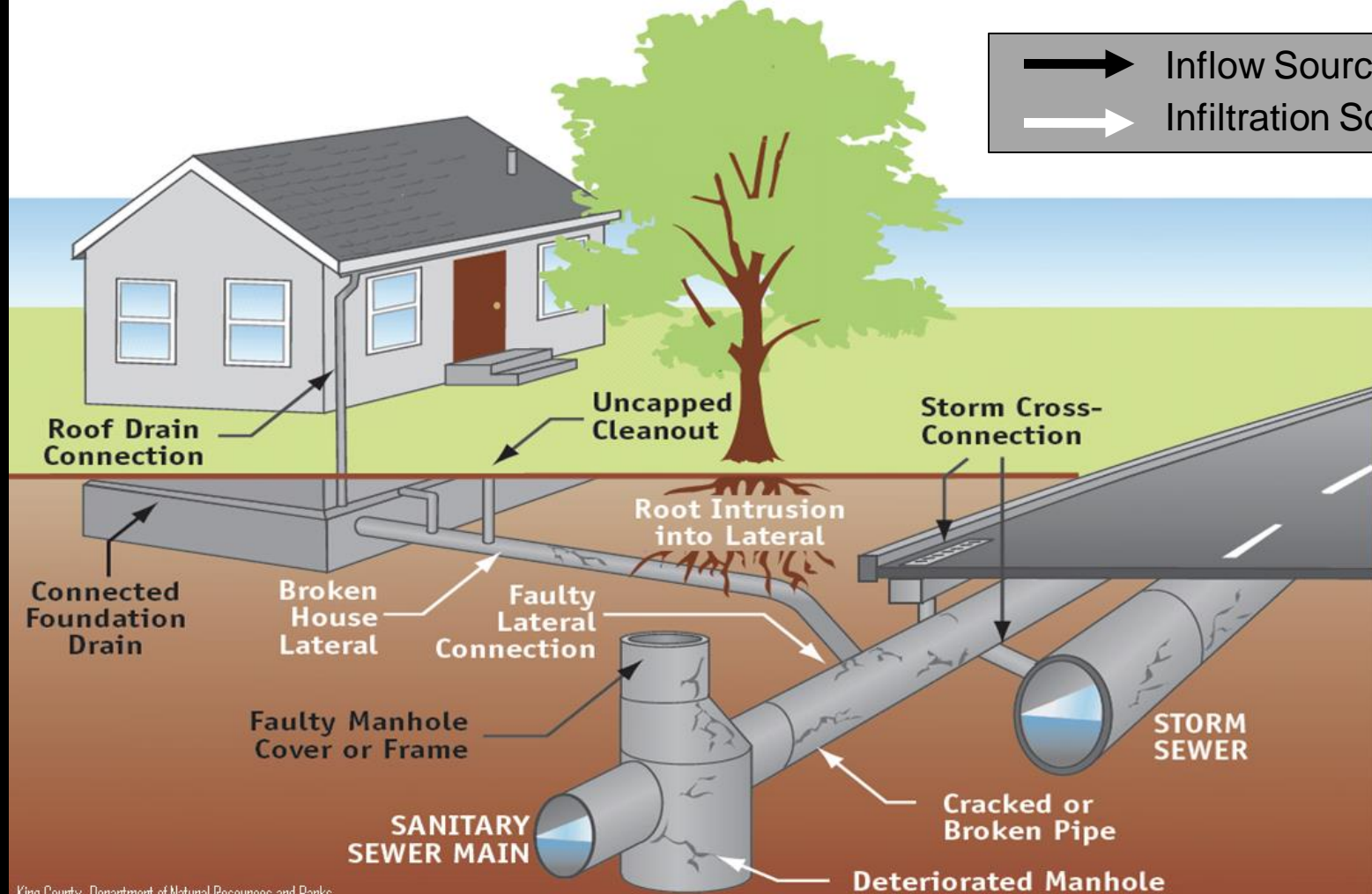
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- Pre-~1970s
  - 2 to 10 (minor system)
- Post-~1970s, 1980s
  - Major and minor
  - 50 to 100 year
  - Regional storms



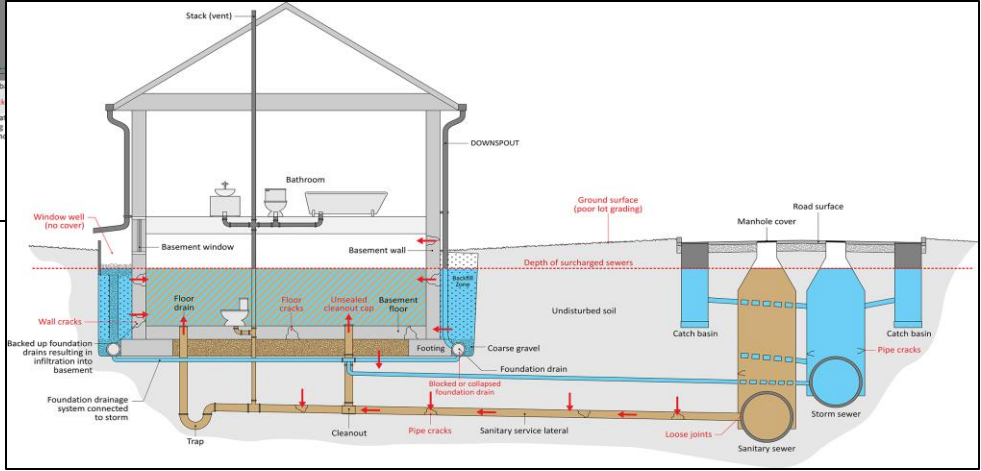
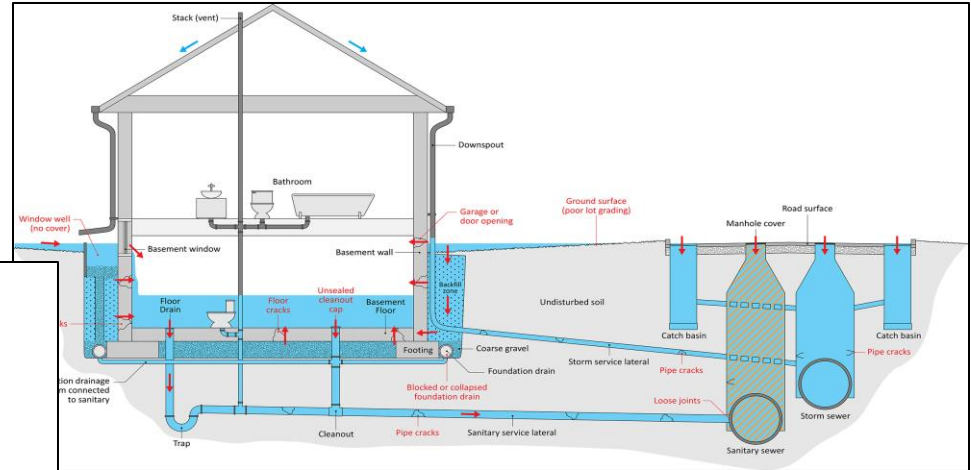
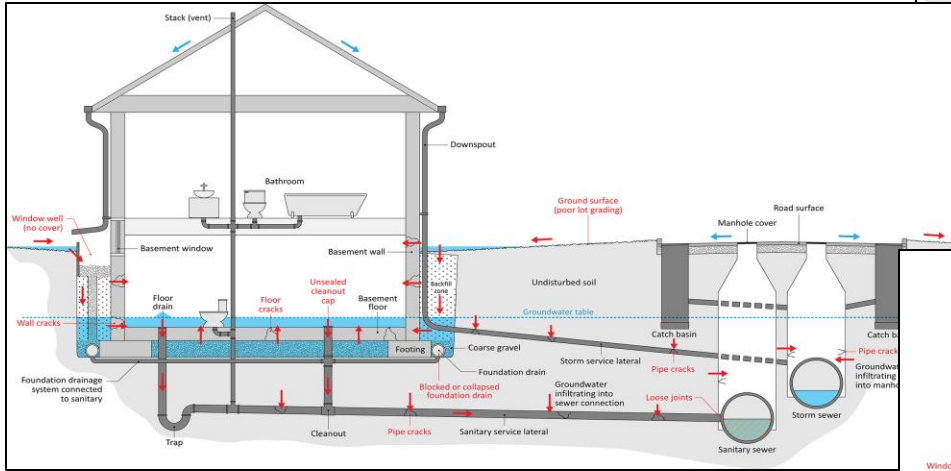
~73% of the City of  
Mississauga has no SW  
quantity control

65% of GTA

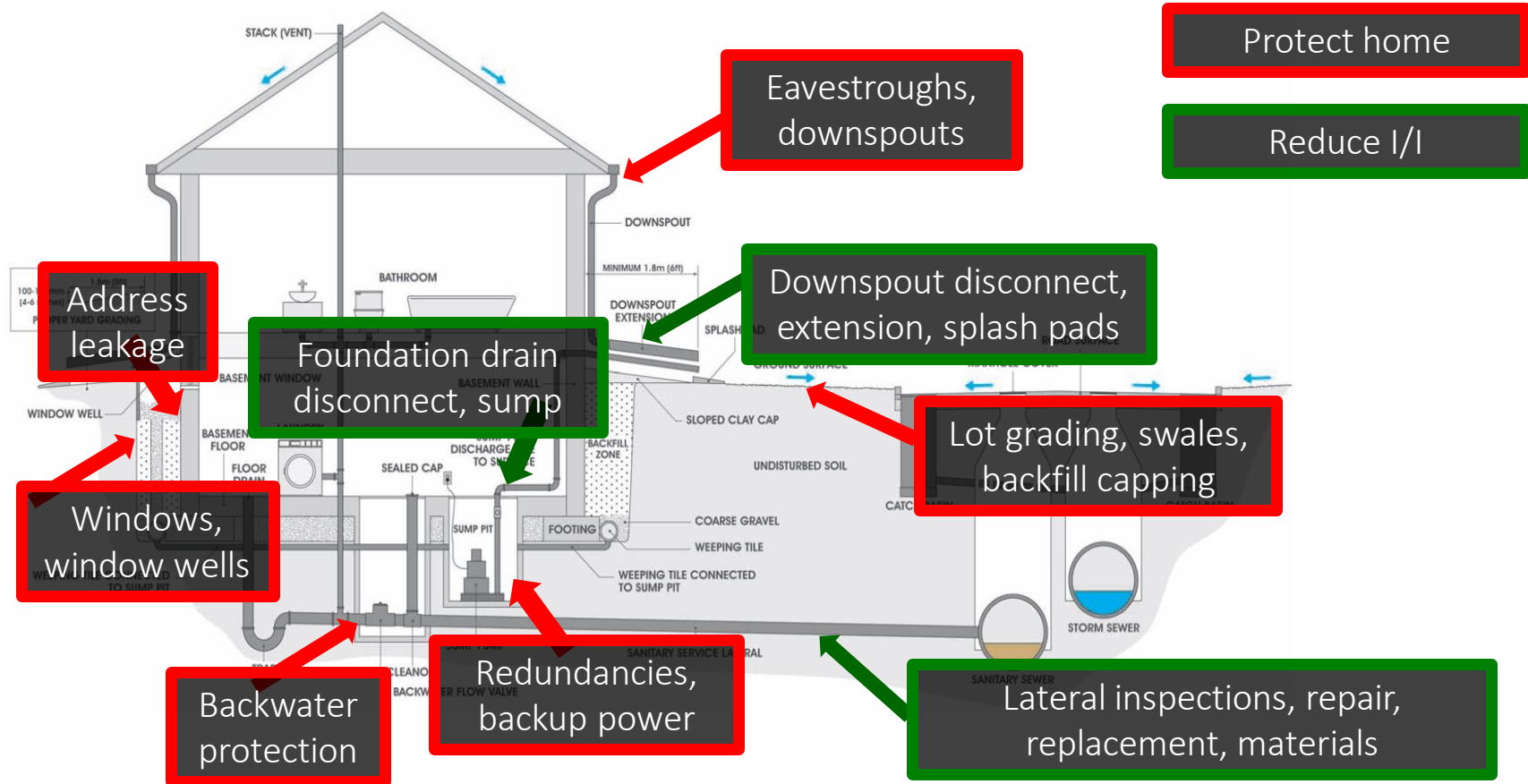




# Common flood types



# Private-side protection, I/I (examples - physical)



# Behavioural (examples)

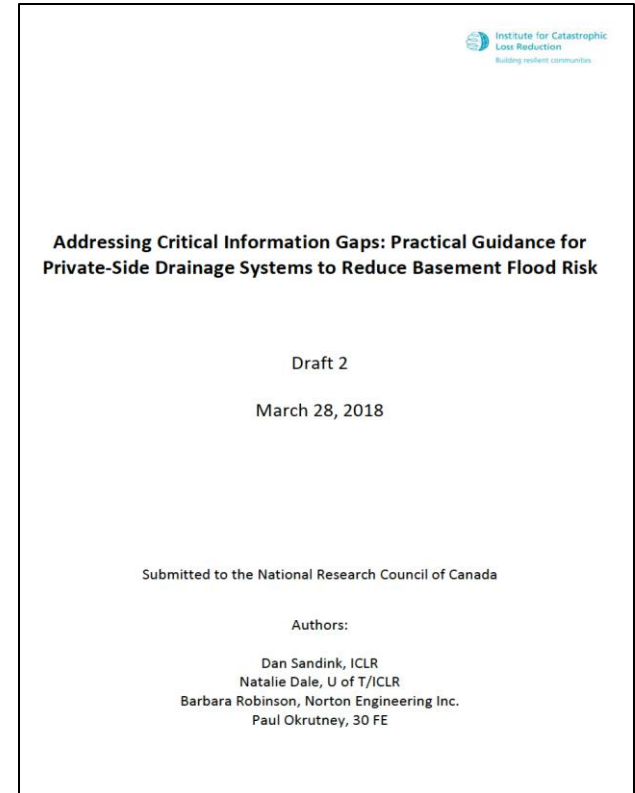
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- Information hierarchy
- Recording and reporting of relevant information during, after event
- Drainage investigations, CCTVing, etc.
- Insurance coverage issues
- Routine testing and maintenance
- Routine use of plumbing, etc.



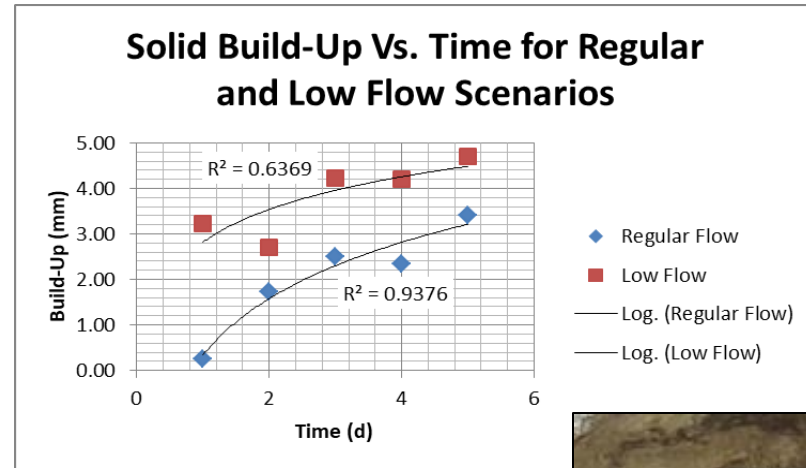
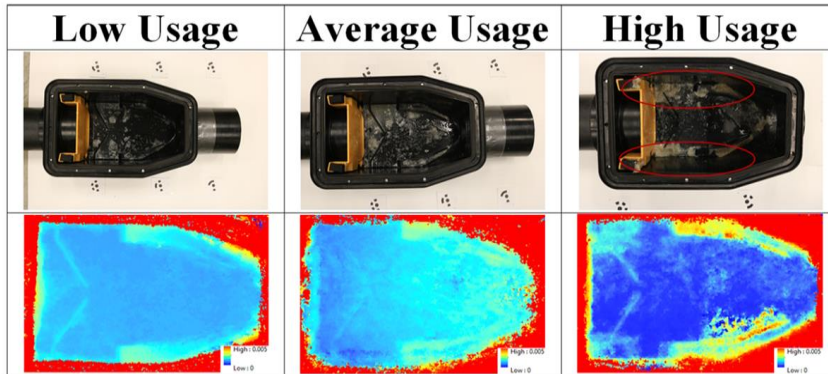
# Unknowns

- Lifespans, effective maintenance for:
  - BWVs
  - Sump pumps and backup systems
  - Foundation drainage systems
  - Sewer lateral connections
- How will site-scale LIDs interact with drainage systems (e.g., FD, leaky laterals?)
- Construction, installation quality & inspection issues



# Unknowns: BWV performance

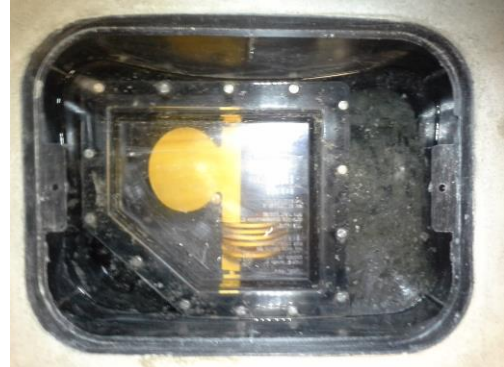
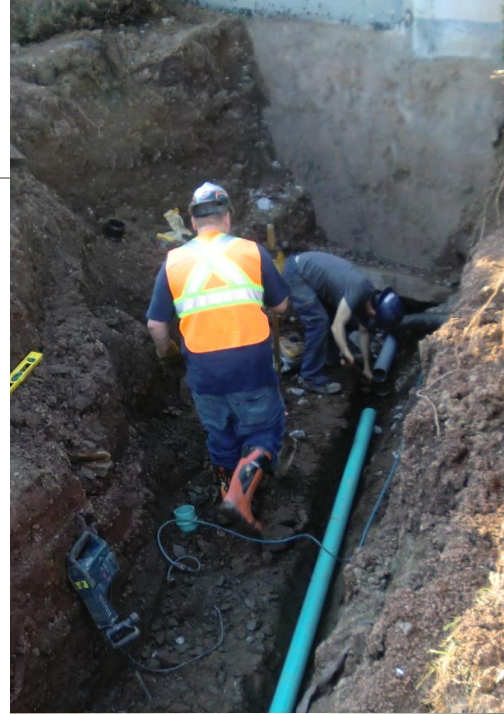
## Fullport Valve Solid Deposition over Five Days



# Considerations...

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- Effective retrofits often iterative, complex, expensive
- Uptake of voluntary programs, subsidies (typically) very low
- Poor installations may create new flood hazards:
  - What actually caused flooding?
  - Groundwater
  - “Lost” backwater valves, transfer of ownership issues
  - Poor operation may enhance flood hazards (e.g., draining groundwater via backwater valves)



Thank you!

Basement flood educational  
resources, videos, websites:  
[www.iclr.org](http://www.iclr.org)

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