

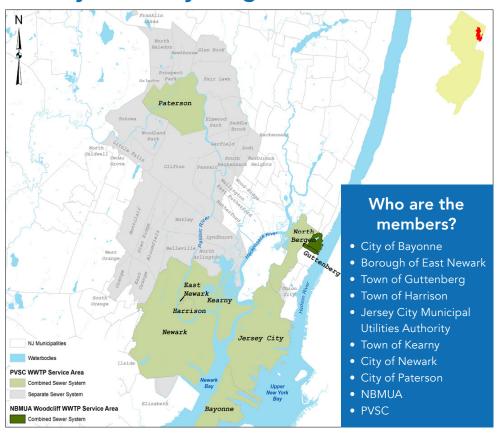
Fact Sheet

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What is The Clean Waterways, Healthy Neighborhoods Initiative?

Clean Waterways, Healthy
Neighborhoods is a collaboration
of the entities who own and
operate combined sewer
systems within the Passaic Valley
Sewerage Commission (PVSC)
and North Bergen Municipal
Utilities Authority (NBMUA)
service areas. The collaboration
also includes members of
the public, environmental
groups, economic and business
organizations, recreational water
users and members of academia.

The initiative serves as a platform for members and residents of the service area to provide meaningful input on the planning and selection of infrastructure solutions that will reduce the water quality impacts of combined sewer overflows (CSOs) on area receiving waters.



We Need Your Input!

The mitigation of CSO impacts is anticipated to costs upwards of millions of dollars. We need public input on which CSO control technologies should be implemented. See below for the various ways to get involved!





Why are combined sewers an issue?

In a combined sewer system, stormwater runoff, domestic sewage, and industrial wastewater are collected and combined in a single pipe network. During dry weather conditions, that combined flow is conveyed to the treatment facility for treatment prior to discharge to a water body.

During rain events, because of the addition of stormwater, the combined flow can exceed the capacity of the conveyance system or wastewater treatment facilities. When this occurs, these systems are designed to discharge the excess combined storm and wastewater to local waterways through a permitted CSO outfall.



This wastewater contains disease-causing organisms.

The combined sewer systems within the PVSC and the NBMUA Sewer Districts have a total of 114 CSO discharge locations and service a population of approximately 1.5 million residents and businesses.

How will we begin to mitigate the effects of CSOs?

CSO mitigation begins with the development of a Long Term Control Plan (LTCP). The purpose of an LTCP is to evaluate and select effective CSO control technologies that can treat, reduce or eliminate CSO discharges. LTCPs are created to meet water quality standards, prioritize the protection of environmentally sensitive areas, meet public health goals and identify the most cost-effective manner to regulate CSOs. Since CSOs have local impacts, the final control technologies will be selected at

the municipal level by the permit holder (Permittee) of the combined sewer system. However, LTCP preparation is being coordinated throughout the region, as some portions of sewer systems are connected.

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection must approve and will incorporate the final selected control technologies into the next round of CSO permit(s) in July 2020.

Which mitigation measures are the Permittees evaluating?

The following CSO control technologies are currently being evaluated as a part of the LTCP Process:

- Optimizing operations for delivering flow to wastewater treatment plants
- Upgrading treatment facilities to allow for more wet weather flow treatment, which may require additional conveyance capacity
- Providing storage for excess volume until conveyance and plant capacity recovers, such as through tanks and tunnels
- Providing satellite treatment facilities
- Reducing flows to collection systems through separate sewers or source controls and green infrastructure

Regional infrastructure CSO control technologies, which require collaboration between two or more permittees and/or municipalities, are also being evaluated. Where appropriate, regional solutions have the benefit of achieving economies of scale for cost and construction disruption.

To evaluate the performance of a control technology or set of control technologies, mathematical models that predict the number of yearly CSO overflows and volume of water released from outfalls after implementation is being used.





What's next?

During second half of 2019 and the first half of 2020, permittees will select the final set of CSO controls for inclusion into their respective LTCPs. The final selection of alternatives will be based on the projected performance of the selected control(s), impacts on water quality and the permittee's financial capability.