Case Study Category: MPWW

Case Study Title: Successful Sewer System Evaluation Survey Practices in the Town of Blacksburg, VA

Utility Name: Town of Blacksburg

Case Study Abstract: The Town of Blacksburg, Virginia was having significant problems due to rain-derived inflow and infiltration (RDII) during storm events which was increasing flows to the gravity interceptors and pump stations to near capacity. The extraneous flows were adding unnecessary stress to the system components, and Phase I of the Sanitary Sewer Study was initiated as a way to decrease the RDII and ensure that Blacksburg remained a zero overflow community, avoiding the restrictions and costs that are brought on by Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSOs). Phase I of the study included an overall assessment of the system based on both current and future needs, ranking the sewer sheds through visual manhole inspections, wet weather inspections, smoke testing and Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) inspections. Phase I included the rehabilitation of the highest priority pipes, but Phase II was the primary phase for identification and prioritization of the pipes to be renewed. The goal of this project is to reduce the amount of inflow and infiltration (I/I) leaking into the system which will also reduce the amount of storage required at the Cedar Run Pump Station to contain overflows during storm events.

Case Study Link: http://www.waterid.org/content/successful-sewer-system-evaluation-survey-practices-town-blacksburg-va