



# CITY OF BATAVIA

## SUMP PUMP BASIC FAQ

### Sump Pump Discharge Regulations

1. See **section 11-5-2**: Storm-Water management in the City of Batavia code for sump pump specifications and guidelines.
2. **Installation**- Sump pumps **must** be drained through a junction box connected to storm sewer if available. If no connection is available you may discharge your sump drainage onto the ground of the property no closer than ten (10) feet from neighboring property and at minimum two (2) feet from the building where the sump pump has been installed until a connection is available, at which time you will be required to connect.
3. **Violations**- No water from sump pump should be discharged so that it creates icing on roads or walkways, creates damage to roads or property or forms ponds of standing or flowing water on property, adjoining properties or streets.
4. **Corrective Action**- If such conditions exist or is illegally created, the Building Official will require the property owner responsible for discharging the water to install an underground lateral or surface discharge connection, if possible, or discharge the water in a manner as not to interfere with adjacent property.

### Who needs a sump pump?

A sump pump is typically installed in homes or buildings where a basement is present to pump out any infiltration or ground water that has seeped towards the foundation.

### Where can I find a sump pump?

Sump pumps may be purchased at local hardware or home supply stores.

### What can lead to sump pump failure?

A Sump pump's failure is most often caused by a switch problem. When the float rod shifts inside the sump tank or is obstructed by debris the switch may not operate properly. It is necessary to make sure that the pump switch and float rod can move freely to ensure the pump is working properly.

### How can I check to see if my sump pump is working?

Begin by opening the lid and checking for any debris. After removing any debris check that the pump is working properly by adding enough water to lift the float rod and start the pump. Turn the pump on and off a few times and listen and watch for proper drainage. It is important to also make sure that the outlet site is not plugged or frozen shut.

### Do I need a back up battery for my sump pump?

Yes, it is important to have a back up battery for your sump pump due to power outages that may occur during severe weather.

