



Avoiding Rainwater Nuisances to Neighbors or Sidewalks

Spring rain is on the way. In preparation, here are a few reminders about sump pumps and down spouts.

All sump pump and downspout outlets must be located a minimum of ten feet from the property line. In addition, the discharge cannot cause a nuisance to your neighbors. Even if the discharge is located properly it cannot overburden your neighbor's yard or create a nuisance in the public right-of-way.

Please make sure the water released from your sump pump or downspouts does not create standing puddles or result in algae on the sidewalk or street; these things can create a slip hazard. The best way to handle rainwater or sump pump discharge is to keep it as far back from, and directed away from, the sidewalk and street as much as possible.

There are additional ways to handle sump and rain water discharge, especially for frequently occurring issues. If there is a city storm sewer or subdrain located near your home you may connect your sump pump discharge to the city storm; obtain a right-of-way permit before starting work. Downspouts cannot be connected to the city subdrains, but there are still options—such as a rain garden, French drain, or rain barrel—where rainwater can be diverted or absorbed.

Find more information about practices you can implement at www.cedarfalls.com/1542/Residents-Businesses.