



Water and Waste Department • Service des eaux et des déchets

We invite you or a representative of your organization to attend the City of Winnipeg's first Combined Sewer Overflow Master Plan Symposium.

Join us to learn more about Combined Sewer Overflows (CSOs) and to share your views on managing the effects of CSOs in an environmentally sound, sustainable and cost-effective manner.

2015 Symposium - Managing the Effects of Combined Sewer Overflows

Date	Thursday, March 5, 2015
Event time	5:30 – 7:30 pm (registration at 5:00 pm)
Location	Millennium Library – Carol Shields Auditorium (2nd floor), 251 Donald St. Refreshments provided

This event kicks off a multi-year public engagement process that will:

- help ensure that key choices and decisions made about CSOs meet all provincial licence requirements, and
- help us do our part to protect the long-term health of our rivers and lakes.

An Opportunity to Contribute to our CSO Master Plan

You will have an opportunity to hear various perspectives on managing the effects of CSOs from an expert speaker panel. There will also be small group breakout sessions so you can share your thoughts.

Please join other business leaders, non-governmental organizations, government officials and the public for this important discussion. Together we can create a cost-effective strategy that will protect our rivers and lakes for generations to come.

How to register for the symposium

You can register:

- online at wwdengage.winnipeg.ca/cso-mp
- by phoning 311

Space is limited, so please register early.

You can also join the conversation online at wwdengage.winnipeg.ca/cso-mp

Our CSO Master Plan Timeline

As part of the requirements for the Environment Act Licence No. 3042 issued by the Province, we must submit:

- a preliminary proposal evaluating CSO control limits by December 31, 2015, and
- a final CSO Master Plan by December 31, 2017, for controlling CSOs to the defined limits.

An Introduction to Combined Sewer Overflows

A combined sewer is a single pipe system, built between the 1880's and 1960's, that collects wastewater from homes and businesses, and rainfall runoff and snow melt.

During dry weather, all flow in the combined sewers is carried to the sewage treatment plants.

During periods of heavy rain or snowmelt, the additional volume in combined sewers can exceed the capacity of the sewer system. During these occasions, combined sewer systems are designed to overflow and discharge the excess directly to the river without reaching the sewage treatment plant. On average, CSOs happen an average of 22 times per year at each outfall. When a CSO occurs, it releases diluted sewage into the river, but it also helps prevent sewer backups that could result in serious damage to property.

While combined sewers aren't ideal today, they were the standard all over the continent for decades.

The goal for most cities is to reduce the number of CSOs. This is a significant and costly undertaking with many factors to consider.

More information

Visit our website at wwdengage.winnipeg.ca/cso-mp for:

- an interactive animation about combined sewer overflows,
- more information on the symposium, and
- more details about combined sewer overflows.