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# News Release

For Immediate Release: July 9, 2018

## **City of Durham Contains Sewer Spill at 4200 Block of Swarthmore Road**

DURHAM, N.C. – The City of Durham Department of Water Management reports that on July 8, 2018, approximately 810 gallons of wastewater overflowed into an unnamed tributary of New Hope Creek from private sewer cleanouts at 4201 and 4211 Swarthmore Road.

The overflow occurred at approximately 10:15 a.m. and was caused by grease blockages, which were cleared, and the overflow ended at 1:00 p.m. The surrounding area has been remediated and there are no immediately visible adverse environmental impacts or hazards to persons or property.

The City of Durham's Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG) outreach program provides education on the proper disposal of grease and other materials. Only water, human waste, and toilet paper are permitted to be discharged into the sewer system. FOG program staff will take appropriate enforcement action when necessary. Additionally, Water & Sewer Maintenance crews proactively inspect and clean sewer lines throughout the collection system to help prevent blockages.

The N.C. Department of Environmental Quality Division of Water Resources was notified of the event on July 8, 2018 as required by state regulations/law. For more information, contact Junior Mobley, Superintendent of Water & Sewer Maintenance.

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