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# News Release

For Immediate Release: May 16, 2018

## City of Durham Contains Sewer Spill at 115 N. Duke Street

DURHAM, N.C. – The City of Durham Department of Water Management reports that on May 14, 2018 approximately 27,625 gallons of untreated wastewater were discharged at 115 N. Duke Street into South Ellerbe Creek.

The sewer was found overflowing at approximately 11:35 p.m. The overflow was caused by a grease blockage in the sewer main, which was cleared at approximately 6 p.m. on May 15. 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 May 16, 2018 as required by state regulations/law. For more information, contact Junior Mobley, Superintendent of Water & Sewer Maintenance.

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