According to estimates, 50% of the overflow problem is linked to improperly connected roof and driveway drains and deteriorating house laterals (pipes from the home to the municipal sewer system), which allow the direct inflow of stormwater into the system.

Many communities now test for improper or poor connections with a dye that traces the path of storm water from drains and rain spouts.

Homeowners are responsible for repairing improper or deteriorated connections. New technologies can make parts of the repair possible without digging up a homeowner’s property.