

Oak Grove Awarded \$300,000 for New Manhole Covers

May 8, 2024



Originally posted by [The News Star](#) on May 7, 2021.

The Town of Oak Grove Water/Sewer Department was awarded a \$300,000 loan with 100% forgiveness from the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality to install throughout the Town of Oak Grove.

Oak Grove Mayor Adam Holland announced the loan with a news release Friday.

“This is another great announcement for our community,” Holland said. “This will eliminate several hundred thousand gallons of water from getting into our sewer system during rain events, thus potentially eliminating issues with sewer backup problems during storms for many residents.”

The Sewer Sentry manhole cover system has been deployed in communities around the region that experience issues with storm water infiltration of the sewer system. The Sewer Sentry prevents sanitary sewer overflow problems by reducing inflow during rainstorms while reducing the system’s exposure to corrosive gases.

A typical one-hole manhole cover lets in approximately four gallons of water per minute when covered by ½ inch of water. This product, with its raised hole, gasket and snorkel in ditch installations, will eliminate approximately 95% of the inflow as the only water entering will be what is coming directly into the hole.

The Town of Oak Grove has approximately 300 manholes which equals around 1,200 gallons per minute of storm water infiltration.

“Sewer Sentry Inserts have greatly reduced the inflow into the gravity systems where they have been installed,” Ouachita Parish Police Jury Engineer Kevin Crosby said. “By reducing the inflow there are several benefits that will be realized over the lifetime of the sewer system such as reduction of electrical cost, wear and tear on the pump stations, increase capacity for future development and reduction of overflow.”



The Sewer Sentry prevents sanitary sewer overflow problems by dramatically reducing inflow during rainstorms while reducing the systems exposure to corrosive gases.

Once ordered and received it will take approximately three months to install the devices.

The next steps in the process will include the Town Council passing an ordinance authorizing Mayor to accept the loan, approval from the Louisiana Bond Commission, and the DEQ approving the engineering plans.

With this loan/grant the total awarded to the Town of Oak Grove so far in 2021 is \$1.15 million.