

Consumer Counselor

Insurance Information for Michigan Consumers Water and Sewer Backup Coverage

Water and sewer backup coverage is not automatically covered under a homeowners or renters insurance policy. As such, you should talk to your insurance agent about adding this important coverage to your homeowners or renters policy.

Why Do I Need Water and Sewer Backup Coverage?

You may consider purchasing this coverage if you have a finished basement or have personal property in your basement. The cost for this coverage is relatively low compared to the overall protection it provides in the event of a loss.

Water and sewer backup coverage provides coverage in the event of:

- The backup of water through a sewer or drain.
- Water that overflows from a sump, including the backup of water caused by the mechanical breakdown of a sump pump.

Levels of Water and Sewer Backup Coverage

Water and sewer backup coverage will only pay up to the maximum amount of coverage you have selected. Insurers may sell water and sewer backup coverage in the following ways:

- Up to a specified limit identified by the insurer.
- As a percentage of the dwelling coverage under your homeowners policy.

If your insurer does not offer the level of coverage needed to fully insure your property for water and sewer backup coverage, you may consider consulting with a different insurer.

What's Not Covered

It is important to read and understand the terms of your insurance coverage, including the exclusions. Water and sewer backup coverage typically does not cover:

- Loss due to a flood.
- Repair or replacement of a broken sump pump.
- Lack of maintenance or wear and tear of your sump pump.

If you have questions about water and sewer backup coverage, the Michigan Department of Insurance and Financial Services (DIFS) can help. Contact DIFS toll free at 877-999-6442 or email DIFSInfo@michigan.gov for more information.

About DIFS

The mission of the DIFS is to ensure access to safe and secure insurance and financial services fundamental for the opportunity, security and success of Michigan residents, while fostering economic growth and sustainability in both industries. In addition, the Department provides consumer protection, outreach, and financial literacy and education services to Michigan citizens. For more information, please contact DIFS at 877-999-6442 or visit www.michigan.gov/DIFS.

