

Spencer, Iowa, to spend \$32M repairing sewer system

Jan. 29 -- Spencer, Iowa, will spend approximately \$32 million to repair its sewer system under an administrative agreement with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The agreement sets a schedule for the city to complete the separation of its combined sewers, which can overflow after heavy rains or snows and allow untreated sewage to flow into waterways. Many municipalities still have combined systems, which carry storm water and sewage. Remnants of the nation's early infrastructure, more than 700 U.S. communities, primarily older ones, still use such systems.

Spencer must submit a study evaluating its sewer system to the EPA by August and complete all projects needed to separate the systems by Dec. 31, 2028.

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