

Sewage Spill Reported Due to Road Work

Written by Steve Frank
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One more bit of fallout from work from the now gone original contractor on the US 321 project in Blowing Rock, a sewage spill occurred Wednesday, blamed on damage to a manhole done by Taylor-Murphy. The Town of Blowing Rock release says that, "during work associated with the Highway 321 widening project, the Town of Blowing Rock experienced a sanitary sewer overflow which resulted in approximately 58,500 gallons of untreated wastewater being released into the Middle Fork of the South Fork of the New River on June 12, 2013. The cause of the overflow was due to debris in the line which occurred when the manhole at which the overflow occurred had been damaged by Taylor-Murphy. This damage allowed debris to enter into the Town's sanitary sewer system causing a blockage which resulted in the overflow. The blockage has been removed and remedial actions have been taken. No fish kill has been reported in conjunction with this overflow." The release goes on to say that the Division of Water Quality was notified and will be reviewing the matter. North Carolina General Statute 143-215.1C requires municipalities who operate waste handling systems to issue public announcements when a spill of 1,000 gallons or more reaches surface waters.