

A storm cell dumped a massive amount of rain this afternoon on Parma, specifically in the southwestern part of the city. The torrential downpour caused residential basement flooding and made several streets impassable.

The city understands this is truly frustrating for homeowners – although that is a small consolation for those dealing with flood damage.

Crews from the Service Garage and the county are actively responding to flooding issues, and city workers will be out throughout the weekend to collect flood-damaged property that is placed out for pickup. Residents can call the Service Department at 440-885-8184 to leave an address for collection.

Further, if you are a resident experiencing sewage backup, contact the Cuyahoga County Sewer Department at 1-800-683-2689. Leave a message, and the supervisor will contact you.

What's truly frustrating about this situation is that there is no quick fix to what is a regional problem. Locally, we're trying to attack this problem systematically. We have invested millions of dollars each year into improving and maintaining our sewers. We've spent millions more on projects such as upgrading our detention basins, as well as reconstructing and replacing catch basins and headwalls.

The Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District is working to understand the reasons behind the flooding in Parma and in other communities so those issues can be addressed properly. We're also working to examine the cause of the flooding today to understand whether there are short-term remedies available to us.