SEWER **SOCIOLOGY**

Independence day

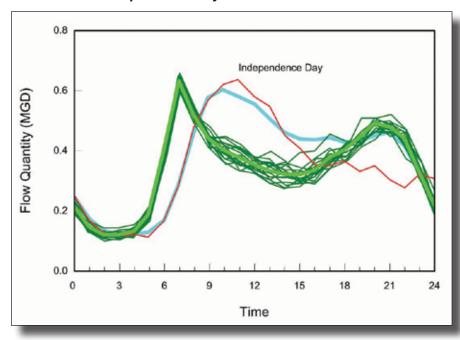
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sew'-er so-ci-ol'o-gy, the science of society, social institutions, and social relationships viewed through the eyes of a sewer; specifically, the systematic study of the development, structure, interaction, and collective sewer use of organized groups of human beings.

Most sewer flows are characterized by repeatable diurnal patterns that vary across weekdays, weekends, and holidays. Differences in land use also are apparent, and distractions and disruptions of daily life often can be observed.

his month, we celebrate
Independence Day through the
eyes of a sewer.
Holidays are welcome
diversions from everyday life and provide
time to celebrate and relax with family and
friends. These diversions are reflected in
sewer use patterns. To a sewer sociologist,
a holiday looks much like a weekend.
However, characteristic differences are

Sewer use on Independence Day



observed that make each holiday unique. Let's take a look at Independence Day.

The figure shows a composite hydrograph of sewer use from a residential area in Southern California. Weekdays are shown in green, and weekends are shown in blue. Independence Day is shown in red.

Although this holiday occurred on a weekday, sewer use followed a typical weekend pattern until early evening when many residents departed to watch local fireworks displays or participate in other holiday celebrations.

Happy Independence Day.

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