

Catch Basin VS Area Drain:

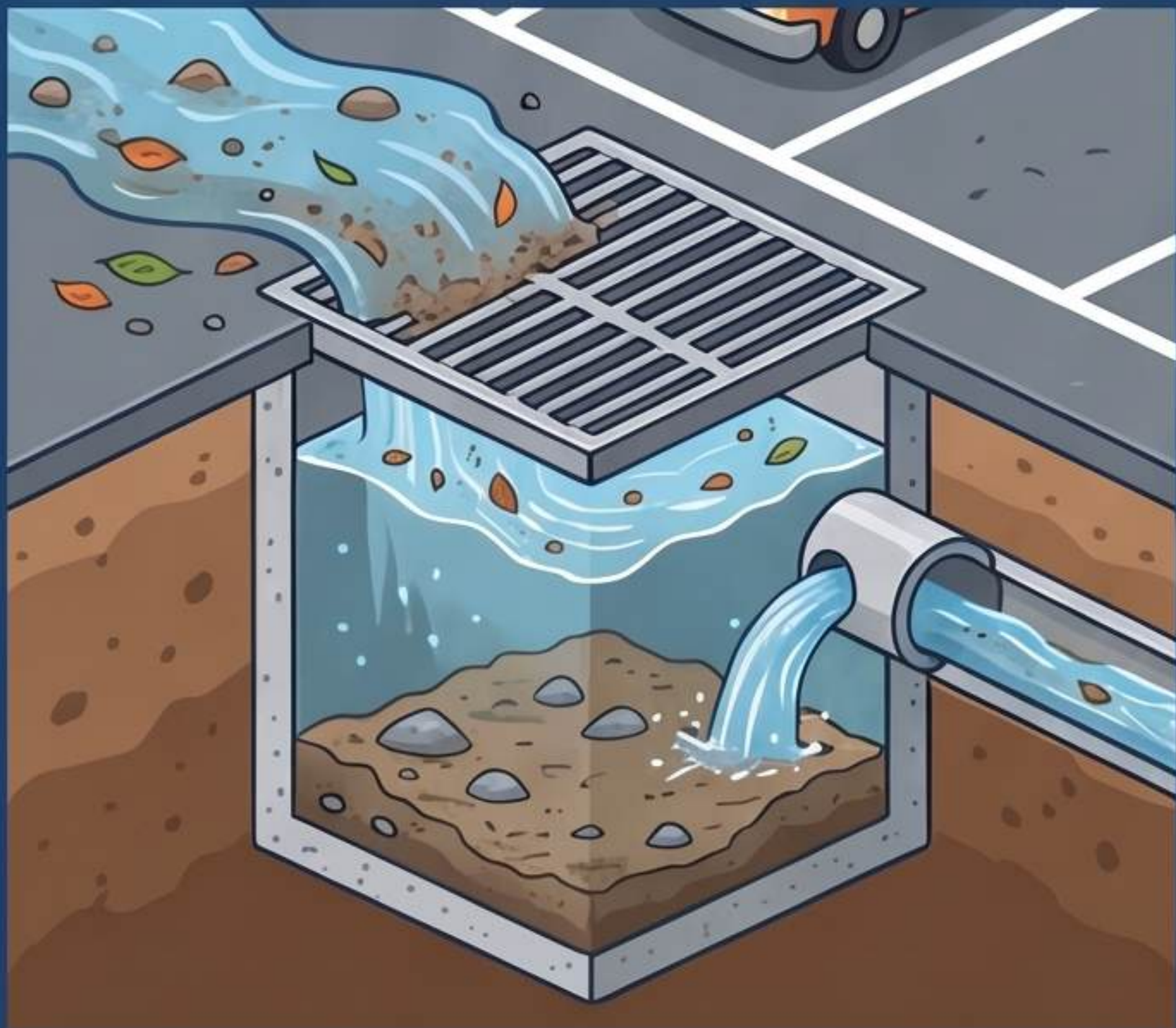
Knowing the Difference for Better Maintenance



While both systems manage surface water, catch basins act as heavy-duty sediment traps for larger areas, whereas area drains are smaller units designed for localized water removal. Choosing the wrong maintenance approach can lead to flooding and costly infrastructure damage.

CATCH BASIN

Catch Basins: The Heavy-Duty Collectors



Large underground chambers designed to trap sediment and debris before water enters pipes.



Traffic and Volume Dictate Use: Basins handle high-volume vehicle areas.

Primary Purpose



Collects water AND sediment

Common Location



Parking lots and loading docks

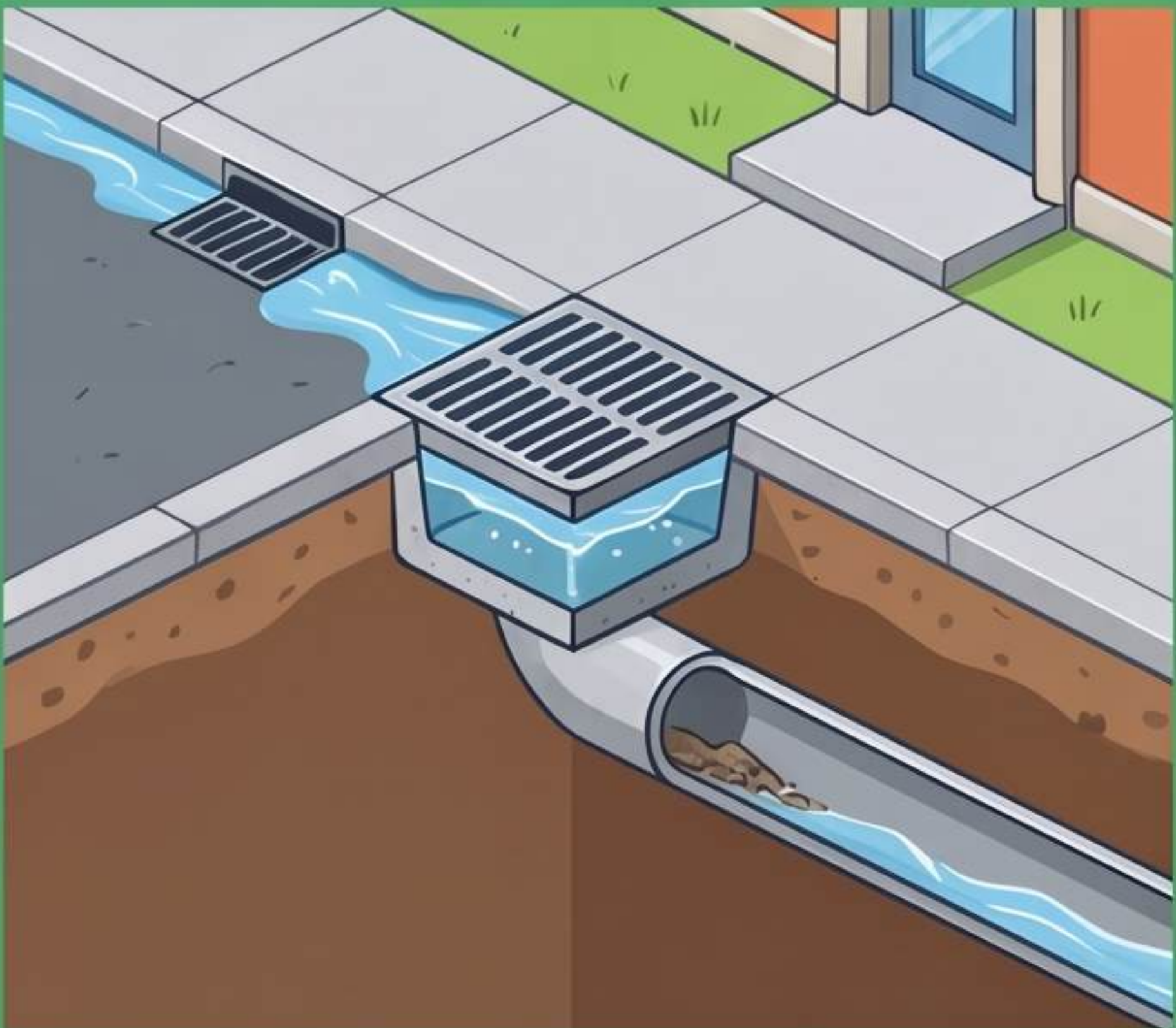
Debris Capacity



High
(Deep collection chamber)

AREA DRAIN

Area Drains: The Surface Water Movers



Smaller, shallow drains intended to quickly move water away from specific pedestrian locations.



Traffic and Volume Dictate Use: Drains serve low-volume pedestrian zones like walkways.

Primary Purpose



Collects surface water only

Common Location



Sidewalks and building entrances

Debris Capacity



Low
(Shallow collection point)

Maintenance & Cleaning Protocols

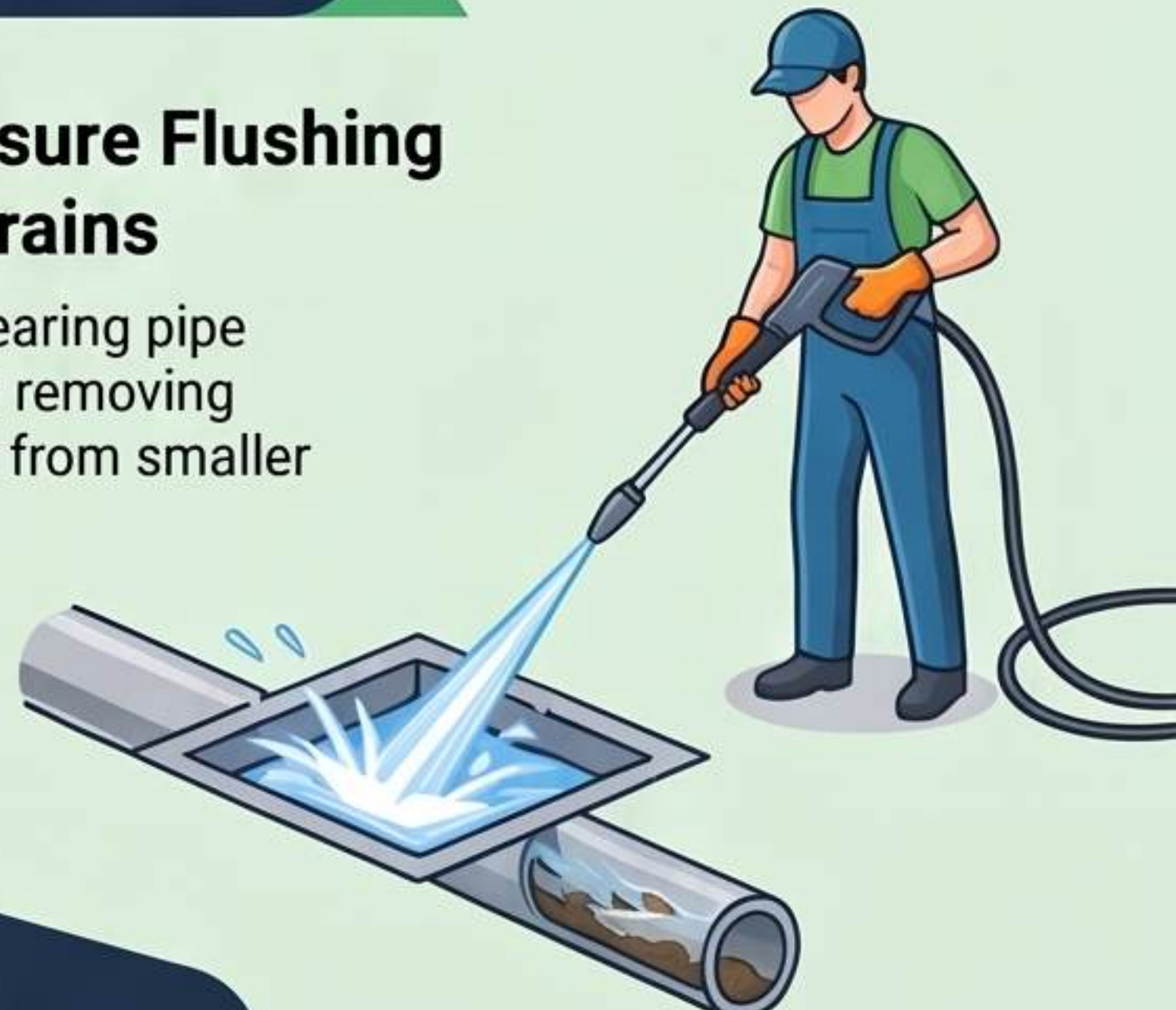
Vacuum Cleaning for Catch Basins

Requires specialized power vacuuming to remove heavy sludge and gravel from deep chambers.



High-Pressure Flushing for Area Drains

Focuses on clearing pipe blockages and removing surface debris from smaller openings.



Preventative vs Emergency Drain Care

Routine cleaning prevents standing water, pests, foul odours and expensive building water intrusion.