

ILLICIT DISCHARGE

WHAT IS AN ILLICIT DISCHARGE?

Any discharge to a storm drain that is not composed entirely of stormwater.

An illicit discharge can be the result of:

- ◆ Runoff collecting pollutants on the way to storm drains.
- ◆ Emptying or dumping of non-stormwater substances directly into a storm drain.
- ◆ An illicit connection (any connection of wastewater, such as from a bathroom or a washing machine) into the stormwater drainage system.
- ◆ An accidental spill or leak of a harmful substance.

COMMON ILLICIT DISCHARGES

- ◆ Sanitary wastewater
- ◆ Vehicle fluids
- ◆ Household cleaners and chemicals
- ◆ Soapy wash water
- ◆ Paints
- ◆ Dirt, mulch and grass clippings
- ◆ Pesticides, fertilizers and weed killers
- ◆ Restaurant grease and cooking oil
- ◆ Pet wastes
- ◆ Lawn and yard waste/debris

HOW CAN I HELP?

- ◆ Keep storm drains clear of trash and debris.
- ◆ Wash your car at a car wash.
- ◆ Pick up after your pets.
- ◆ Increase your garden area and decrease your lawn area. Plant with native plants!
- ◆ Mulch grass clippings and leaves into your yard.
- ◆ Limit pesticide use.