

ILLICIT DISCHARGE

WHAT IS IT?

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) defines illicit discharges as “any discharge to the storm sewer system that is not composed entirely of stormwater.” These substances can either enter our waterways through direct connections or indirect connections.

Examples:

- ❌ Sanitary Wastewater
- ❌ Septic Tank Effluent
- ❌ Car Wash Wastewater
- ❌ Motor Oil/Automotive Fluids
- ❌ Laundry Wastewater
- ❌ Household/Yard Chemicals
- ❌ Leaves & Yard Waste
- ❌ Eroded Soils
- ❌ Pet Waste



PREVENTION TIPS

10 things YOU can do to prevent stormwater runoff pollution:

- ✔ Use fertilizers sparingly & sweep up driveways, sidewalks, & roads.
- ✔ Never dump anything down storm drains.
- ✔ Vegetate bare spots in your yard.
- ✔ Compost your yard waste.
- ✔ Avoid pesticides; learn about Integrated Pest Management.
- ✔ Direct downspouts away from paved surfaces.
- ✔ Take your car to the car wash instead of washing it in the driveway.
- ✔ Check car for leaks and recycle motor oil.
- ✔ Pick up after your pet.
- ✔ Have your septic tank pumped and system inspected regularly.



HOW TO REPORT ILLICIT DISCHARGE

It is always good to monitor the stormwater inlets near your property. If you see someone dumping, please call the Bethlehem Township Office at 610-814-6400, a non-emergency police line or 911.

1. What to report: substances entering a storm drain, ‘funny’ color or soap suds, chemicals spilled on the highway, an odor, or sediment from unknown source entering waterway.
2. If possible, please keep record of date and time and specific location of spill.
3. Take a photo.

